Moving from PeopleSoft to Oracle Cloud Applications

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For the past 25 years, Oracle's PeopleSoft on-premise applications have provided organizations with reliable functionality for mission-critical transactions in finance, procurement, human resources, payroll, and student information systems. However, the pace of innovation in PeopleSoft has slowed considerably due to Oracle's emphasis on its Cloud Applications solution. Recognized as a Leader by Gartner in 2020, Oracle Cloud Applications (Financials Cloud, Budgeting Cloud, HCM Cloud, Student Cloud) are "Software-as-a-Service" (SaaS) solutions from Oracle. This means hardware is no longer required and access is device-independent and highly secure. In addition, the solution places a high emphasis on user experience and advanced reporting with new features and capabilities delivered quarterly. Oracle has intelligently developed the Cloud Applications platform by incorporating all the best features and functionality from E-Business Suite and PeopleSoft with innovative functionality, such as Accounts Payable Automation and dashboards, built from the ground up. **Once an organization decides to move to Oracle Cloud Applications the questions becomes how it can move in an efficient and cost-effective manner.**

Introduction

New software installations typically involve a labor-intensive and costly approach over an extended timeline. For customers currently using Oracle's PeopleSoft, Sierra-Cedar realized this traditional method does not need to apply when moving to Oracle Cloud Applications. Why? **Because the move is from Oracle to Oracle. Same concepts, but a more modern, robust SaaS solution**. Therefore, Sierra-Cedar created **Transition *to Cloud*,** a new approach for PeopleSoft clients to move to Oracle Cloud Applications. It involves pre-mapped business processes, functional configurations, and data migration tools to accelerate the move and provide efficiencies with respect to time and effort. Sierra-Cedar built this fast-track concept using our deep experience gained from delivering more than 2,500 PeopleSoft projects as well as 60+ Cloud Application projects over the past 25 years.

How it works

The PeopleSoft Transition to the Cloud approach starts with a Project Initiation Briefcase consisting of scripts that detect custom objects and configuration elections in PeopleSoft as well as prebuilt business process mapping tools. The briefcase is Sierra-Cedar's method to gain efficiencies during the initiation of the project. Next steps involve a Migration Toolkit that transports configuration and transaction data into Oracle Cloud while integrations are re-established. The tools rapidly create the Oracle Cloud Applications environment and provide customers with ample time to validate data and processes and then get trained on the new functionality.
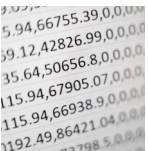
What about reports and interfaces?

Reports and interfaces are analyzed and either rebuilt (from batch integration to real-time), re-established (keeping as-is), or redesigned in the Cloud Applications. Sierra-Cedar's pre-existing library of reports and integrations help accelerate the process. **These integrations include connecting the Oracle Cloud system with PeopleSoft Campus Solutions system**.

What about customizations?

We run our prebuilt detection scripts to catalog and analyze the PeopleSoft custom objects (forms, routines, additions to the schema) before the project starts. The project team then determines the disposition for each PeopleSoft customization by either mapping newly available functionality or utilizing the configuration and personalization tools within the Cloud Applications.

What about data?

Sierra-Cedar's Migration Toolkit significantly reduces the overall data conversion effort with its pre-built extraction scripts, cleansing routines, load utilities, and validation tools. In addition, we will assign a Data Conversion Concierge to record and repeat the data cleansing and validation steps throughout the journey to free up the client participants to focus on more value-added activities.

What about testing?

Sierra-Cedar's Project Initiation Briefcase and Migration Toolkit includes pre-built tools, testing routines, and templates which allow significantly faster validation of the cloud environment than manual methods. Clients may elect to use that saved time to execute more test cycles.

Bottom line

Sierra-Cedar's **PeopleSoft Transition to Cloud** approach to move organizations from PeopleSoft to Oracle Cloud Applications yields significant efficiencies through reduced efforts and shorter timelines without compromising quality. The result is a cost-effective Cloud Application instance that is rapidly made available so adequate time is allocated for the client to perform verification and refinement through conference room piloting, data validation, training, and "go-live."

Why Sierra-Cedar

For more than 25 years, Sierra-Cedar has provided consulting and managed services related to Oracle Applications. Our industry-focused consultants average 13 years of higher education experience. **We special-ize in Higher Education and have worked with more than 370 colleges and universities to complete more than 1,500 projects dating back to 1998. Each project is focused on client satisfaction and excellence in delivery.**

Next Steps

Learn more about Sierra-Cedar's PeopleSoft Transition to the Cloud approach to moving PeopleSoft to Oracle Cloud Applications by signing up for a **complimentary Discovery Workshop**. This workshop will include high-level discovery, details of Sierra-Cedar's experience and solutions, a conceptual roadmap, and testimonials from Sierra-Cedar clients that have implemented Oracle Cloud Applications. This workshop can be conducted via a web conference. To schedule a Discovery Workshop, please email us at **Contact@Sierra-Cedar.com** .

Words from our clients

"Florida A&M University (FAMU) chose Oracle's Student Financial Planning (SFP) application as a proactive approach to utilize technology for positive change to better serve our students. Sierra-Cedar collaborated with FAMU to reexamine business processes that would allow our Financial Aid team to allocate more time to advise students and parents rather than running manual processes. We have simplified the Financial Aid experience for our students with the SFP Student Portal allowing them to focus on academic success with the goal of graduating in 4 years."

"Going live on Oracle Cloud Applications in January 2020 allowed Lucas County to continue doing business without missing a beat during the COVID-19 pandemic. Oracle Cloud Applications enables us to work efficiently and timely from any location. Decision makers are able to receive real-time accurate data to make the best decisions possible during this crisis, which has been a blessing. We thank Sierra-Cedar for its dedication, hard work, and professionalism in helping us complete our Oracle Cloud Applications conversion on time and on budget."

Dr. William Hudson
Vice President for Student Affairs
Florida A&M University

Tony Stechschulte
Director of Accounting
Lucas County, Ohio