

SERVICES OVERVIEW

House of Brick offers cloud and virtualized architecture optimization, high availability and disaster recovery strategies, application re-platforming and data migration, and license compliance consulting.

For more than 20 years, House of Brick has helped clients architect their database infrastructure while optimizing their vendor license spend, keeping compliance at the forefront. As the consulting division of OpsCompass, we focus on architecture, license strategy, performance, virtualization, and cloud computing for business-critical Oracle, SQL Server, PostgreSQL, and MySQL applications. House of Brick specializes in working with customers to reduce their total cost of ownership by optimizing architecture in order to minimize license cost. We pioneered the development of best practices for migrating mission critical Oracle and SQL Server applications utilizing virtualization, and open source technologies. Our consultants serve as thought leaders, and are frequently invited to speak at industry conferences.



LICENSE SERVICES

Challenges Addressed:

- Answer questions and attend to concerns triggered by Oracle statements around license risks (related to the cloud or virtualization)
- Provide license and architecture strategy for running Oracle and SQL Server in the cloud or on VMware
- Remove license roadblocks for cloud or VMware related migrations
- Determine compliance gap between license entitlement and actual usage
- Discover any overspending on licensing, or an inability to monetize reductions in product usage
- Mitigate concerns from an audit (or the threat of one) by Oracle License Management Services

Offerings – Oracle and SQL Server

- License and Architecture Workshop (3 – 4 days)
- License and Architecture Compliance and Optimization Assessment (3 – 4 weeks)
- Oracle Unlimited License Agreement (ULA) Strategy Assessment (3 – 4 weeks)
- Audit Readiness Assessment (1 – 2 weeks)
- Audit Defense (varies)

MANAGED LICENSED SUPPORT SERVICES

Challenges Addressed:

- Manage bundled, license services (long-term)
- Provide ongoing, proactive monitoring and support to ensure compliance
- Ensure priority resource availability and responsiveness

Offerings – Oracle, On-premise, and Cloud

- Initial educational workshop and ongoing annual educational updates
- Unlimited support for Oracle audit defense
- Annual license review/internal compliance assessment
- Automated monitoring of Oracle usage
- Monthly report detailing usage and compliance
- Unlimited support for negotiations with Oracle including:
 - o Renewal
 - o License purchase

CLOUD SERVICES

Challenges Addressed:

- Recommend changes to license strategy when moving from on-premises to cloud
- Establish right-sizing for a cloud environment
- Translate on-premises HA and DR strategies to cloud strategies
- Provide migration, performance-tuning, and cost optimization best practices
- Determine feasibility/readiness for a move to the cloud and/or an open source platform

Offerings – AWS, Oracle, and SQL Server

- Cloud Database Architecture and Licensing Workshop (3 – 4 days)
- Cloud Database Readiness Assessment (2 weeks)
- Cloud Database Proof-of-Concept (2 weeks)
- Cloud Database Pilot (2 – 3 weeks)
- Cloud Database Migration (varies)
 - o Amazon EC2
 - o Amazon RDS
 - o From Oracle to SQL Server, PostgreSQL, or MySQL

VIRTUALIZATION SERVICES

Challenges Addressed:

- Establish changes to license strategy when moving from physical to virtual
- Manage sizing/growth of VMware hosts and VMs
- Translate physical HA and DR strategies to VMware
- Share best practices for performance and license optimization
- Determine changes needed for migrating from legacy RISC UNIX to x86/VMware/Linux

Offerings - Oracle and SQL Server

- VMware Architecture and Best Practices (2 weeks)
- VMware Pilot (2 – 3 weeks)
- VMware Migration (varies)
- Performance Health Check and Tuning (2 – 3 weeks)



MANAGED CONSULTING SERVICES

Challenges Addressed:

- Assist with DBA staffing problems
- Supplement staff, if the cost of a full-time DBA cannot be justified, or a senior DBA is only needed for certain tasks
- Provide day-to-day support so DBAs can focus on strategic initiatives
- Offload after-hours support, and enable staff to focus on business hours support
- Deliver proactive support that focuses on root cause analysis and prevention

“While we rely heavily on our highly talented internal team, the deep pool of exceptional resources that HoB brings to bear provides a great breadth of expertise to our resource arsenal. We have a very powerful, robust, and intelligent team supporting our critical operating environments.”

*– Craig Beaudry
CIO, Travis Credit Union*

Offerings – Oracle, SQL Server, On-premise, and Cloud

- 24/7 support by the House of Brick on-call team
- Access to web-based ticketing and case management system
- Guaranteed availability of resources
- Regular conference calls with a dedicated account manager
- Report detailing monthly activity
- Proactive monitoring that connects with web-based ticketing and case management system
- Typical support activities include:
 - o Database upgrades and patching
 - o Storage management
 - o Critical alert response
 - o Oracle and Microsoft support ticket management
 - o Proactive performance analysis and health checks
 - o Backup verification and testing
 - o DR planning and testing
 - o Test restores and cloning of test/dev from production (as needed)

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