

# Brightfield, HRTech: A Race to Beat License Renewal

*Designing a solution that utilizes internal team's skill set, on-time and within budget.*



Cost optimization and accelerated go-to-market for workforce intelligence

**\$500,000  
in license  
savings**

Achieved annual savings of  
\$500K in Oracle licensing cost

**Zero  
Downtime**

Zero downtime during  
deployments greatly improved  
client experience and usability

**Accelerated  
Go-to-Market**

New microservice architecture  
(vs. monolith) significantly  
accelerates Brightfield's time to  
market for new features

Technology-related licensing fees eat up a significant amount of a company's budget these days. Licensing costs for 30 popular software tools **top \$1 billion per year alone**; add to that database and other licensing fees for a significant line item in the accounting books.

Brightfield, an artificial intelligence and big data analytics company that optimizes contract labor and performance for employers and staffing firms, wanted to reduce its database licensing fees. The company was rapidly approaching the renewal date for its Oracle licenses for multiple on-prem databases, which topped \$500,000.

Migrating to a cloud-based solution would not only reduce costs but also give them more control over the company data and streamline the database maintenance process.

## About Brightfield

Founded in 2006, Brightfield specialized in providing data, intelligence, and consulting services for extended workforce management. Its mission revolved around using state-of-the-art technology and practices to help global enterprises build the processes and infrastructures required to run procure-to-pay programs. Brightfield bowed out of consulting services in 2014 with the advent of its Talent Data Exchange, which is a subscription-based AI service that has been trained on the transactional data of more than 500 companies with annual spending ranging from \$50 million to more than \$3 billion.

## Challenge

Brightfield had made a big investment in Oracle as both a database vendor and hosting provider. It wanted to reduce licensing costs and move to open-source technology but did not have the internal experts to do that effectively. Brightfield's technology team was made up of only developers who did not have experience or knowledge about infrastructure, AWS, or cloud management.

Its existing solution was a monolith, the database size was large (over 15TB), and the workload was highly transactional, which complicated migration planning. Although the code was well structured, Brightfield couldn't release features independently. If the company made any changes, its entire product had to be tested and released, which resulted in errors and unwanted downtime.

## Solution

Brightfield contacted [IO Connect Services](#) to help it migrate to AWS before its Oracle licenses needed to be renewed. The team at IO Connect started at that renewal deadline and worked backwards to ensure its new solution would be completed on time without complications.

Then, the IO Connect team identified the best opportunities to break down the application into containers during migration, add functionality, and select the appropriate AWS tools to complete the project. The IO Connect team ran several automated tests and determined what needed to be done to transform data types to ensure the migration occurred smoothly. Once the migration was completed, Brightfield was able to consume its database as a service through a managed service provider (MSP), which eliminated the need for a database administrator.

## Results

First and foremost, the migration to AWS was completed on-time, before the Oracle license renewal deadline, and within budget.

Since the new system uses containers instead of a monolith, Brightfield can now accelerate its go-to-market time for future releases. Not only does AWS reduce the time it takes to test new functionality, but overall downtime decreases because the entire service is no longer affected by individual updates.

By using an MSP to operate and maintain the new solution, Brightfield can build its AWS skills internally at their own pace and spend more time on data analysis. For example, the company can save even more money by storing less frequently used data in less expensive storage containers, bringing it into premium storage only as needed.

As a serverless system, Brightfield can pay as it uses the system instead of a flat licensing fee. Using an MSP eliminates the cost of hiring a database administrator. Most importantly, switching to AWS has meant an increase in capabilities for scalability, performance, and fault tolerance, resulting in a high-quality product for its customer base.

### About IO Connect Services



IO Connect Services is a company specializing in Information Technology Consultancy Services. All our team members have one thing in common: our enthusiasm for technology and our passion for customer service excellence. We provide services in all North America, LATAM and Europe. Our headquarters are in NYC metropolitan area, and we also have offices in Guadalajara, Mexico and Madrid, Spain.