



# **Atlantic Automation**

**THE DATABASE COMPANY**





# Atlantic Automation

Founded in 1989, we have been working in database design and implementation since then. We do not take on work we cannot do, or pretend to have expertise where we do not have it. Honesty, Integrity, Experience and Expertise. That is us. Indeed, one of our experts wrote his first computer programme in 1966 on an Elliot Automation 803 mainframe. Now that is experience in IT! Others are less “long in the tooth” but we only employ graduate staff who are Chartered IT Professionals (CITP). If we have to out-source work for U.I. design, then we make sure that the developers working on our client’s code are also CITP or CEng. We do not employ the “self-taught” or amateurs and we guarantee our quality.

*Talk to us. Asking questions is free.*

## Database Design and Implementation

Atlantic Automation specialise in databases. It is what we do. We can design build any (or all) of the following components:

System Component	Our Support
<b>Relational databases</b>	We design using ERWin (from C.A.), the market leading design tool. You get not only the database but the ER diagram and a full data dictionary. Sensitive fields will be designed as encrypted data.
<b>Operation Data Stores</b>	Used for feeding systems like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tableau</li><li>• MicroStrategy</li><li>• ClickView</li></ul> All fully documented and supported.
<b>Staging databases</b>	Used for consolidation of data and for cleaning. As with the main databases all our work comes with full documentation as standard.
<b>Data warehouses and marts</b>	OLAP systems. We design and build the systems, and build suitable MDX queries for accessing the data. All fully documented.
<b>ETL</b>	Extract Transform and Load. We design and manage this for you. We can code this using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Microsoft SSIS</li><li>• Informatica</li><li>• Business Objects</li><li>• Cognos</li><li>• Attunity</li></ul>
<b>Big Data</b>	One word. <b>Hadoop!</b> Normally we will also build in an interface to your relational system using “Sqoop” and we try to ensure that our big data implementations do not require Java specialists to design the queries.
<b>Reporting Systems</b>	Not much point in having data if you can’t query it. We support, and code up, the following systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Microsoft Reporting Services (SSRS)</li><li>• Microsoft Power BI</li><li>• Microsoft Power Pivot (server and Excel extensions)</li><li>• Tableau</li><li>• ClickView</li><li>• MicroStrategy</li></ul>

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## Encrypting Sensitive Data

Personally Identifiable Information (PII data) must be encrypted. It is the law and is not optional. Unfortunately, many suppliers seem to have conveniently “forgotten” this (as in don’t know how), leaving clients very very exposed (both criminal sanctions and civil action).

Any system we build for you will be fully and securely encrypted. We do not charge extra, because we are simply complying with the law. Normally we will encrypt to military standards.

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## Data Quality

In just about all organisations the quality of data “coming in” to a system is liable to be error-prone. Bad data means bad answers. Fortunately, most of the major database providers now have “out of the box” services for applying cleaning rules to data (e.g. Microsoft Data Quality Services, DQS) - providing you know how to use the service! We are experts, and of course we document what we did, and how we did it.

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## Resilience and Disaster Recovery

System resilience is the capacity to resist and recover from a problem without intervention. It is not quite the same as disaster recovery (DR). That assumes the complete loss of the primary system and the automatic fail-over to a secondary system. Deciding on a resilience and DR strategy requires careful thought and analysis. We have genuine experts in the field.

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## Cloud Computing

Moving a “presence” into cloud computing has tremendous infrastructure benefits, but also presents significant challenges. Perhaps the most major is to keep personally identifiable information (PII data) of E.U. citizens within the E.U. It is not optional. Hosting PII data in a foreign country (even a friendly country like the U.S.A.) is simply illegal under E.U. law. For practical purposes that rules out the major players of Microsoft, Apple and Google.

Atlantic Automation have enormous experience in this field. If we design your presence, then it will definitely conform to:

- UK Government G-Cloud rules and legislation. The new rules (from November 2015) are compulsory (by Act), and mean that for many public-sector clients “the Cloud” is just not possible. We can build alternative solutions that are fully compliant.
- FCA rules as set out in the Financial Services and Markets Act (FSMA)
- Compliance with the E.U. European Cloud Initiative for the so-called Digital Single Market.

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## “Always On” Designs

If your business needs a 100% “up time” for its IT systems, then some form of “always-on” design is going to be vital. There are numerous options:

Design Type	Approximate Recovery Time (R.T.O.)
Local cluster	~ 40 seconds
Split-site cluster	~ 3 minutes
Always-on availability groups	~ 800 milli-seconds
Resilient Cloud	Immediate
Virtual machine with automatic re-start	~ 3 minutes

The “trick” when designing and building these systems is experience. We have been doing this since 1989. We know how to do it!

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## User Interface Design and Implementation

We are not a user-interface company. We know where our strengths are, and those are all “behind the scenes” (back-end). That does not mean we cannot help with your user-interface needs. We have maintained (for some time) strong links with a sister company. They specialise in user-interface designs and web designs. Like us, they know where their strengths are. We do their databases, they do our user-interfaces.

With this collaboration (quality is guaranteed by us, under our ISO certification) we can produce interfaces in:

- Microsoft .NET/MVC
- Ruby on Rails
- PHP

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## Updating and Transforming Legacy Systems

Many companies have legacy databases. These range from slightly out of date ORACLE systems (that will port over with no problems at all) to pre-2000 SQL Servers (more of a problem). There may be Microsoft Access systems, FileMaker Pro databases, IRIS or SAGE accounts, huge numbers of unconsolidated Excel spreadsheets. Basically, anything that has ever been “out there”. We have even consolidated a system written in Ashton-Tate’s dbase II on a CP/M operating system from 1981! If we can consolidate and port those data (and we actually did it) then we can certainly solve your legacy problems.

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## Fixing Your Existing Problems

Any of these seem familiar?

- Your existing supplier was not encrypting personal data?
- The DR (disaster recovery) solution was not as good as they said?
- Been left with huge amounts of legacy data on no-longer-supported-systems?
- Paid a load of money for consultancy and not received what you hoped for?

You are not alone. Around 30% of the work we do is repairing mistakes and omissions from other (mainly small local) suppliers.

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## Legal Problems

If you find that legal issues with data or databases have embroiled your organisation we can definitely help to clear things up. We can supply genuine experts, qualified (and able) to report to The Technology Court (the branch of the High Court dealing with IT), and to advise your company - should that be necessary. Our experts will “take the stand” (many others are “not keen”). Reports we write are clear, concise and carry the weight of real international experts.

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## Talk to Us

We are very easy to talk to, and talking is free

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