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[Xero](#), a maker of small business cloud accounting software, has completed its transition to Amazon Web Services (AWS), marking one of the largest data migrations into the AWS cloud infrastructure environment across Australia and New Zealand. With more than 862,000 subscribers globally, Xero recorded more than \$1 trillion over 450 million ingoing and outgoing transactions in 12 months, signifying just how large the Xero data set has become.

The migration, which took just over two years to be architected and executed, saw more than 59 billion records, 3,000 apps and 120 databases securely transitioned to the AWS platform. Over that time, Xero added nearly half a million new customers.

As Xero scales to serve millions of customers, rebuilding the infrastructure behind the

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small businesses flourish,” Xero Chief Platform and Product Officer, Duncan Ritchie said.

“It is a huge achievement to get through this massive transition. We expect all business software vendors to re-platform over the next few years so they too may take advantage of the commoditized innovation services in the larger public cloud platforms.”

Faster innovation

The migration to AWS sets Xero up to accelerate innovation and capitalize on machine learning, which Xero believes will redefine accounting in future years. The smart application of machine learning technology enables Xero to leverage the more than 1.4 petabytes of data, which is the equivalent of about 60,000 Blu-Ray movies, being stored and do something powerful: automate core accounting functionalities and enable business owners to work more efficiently.

Xero can leverage the considerable investment AWS has made in platform services to build and deploy software with shorter delivery timeframes. By using the on-demand computing power of AWS, Xero can release new software more rapidly, and experiment with these features in ways that were not possible on its older platform.

Scale to a million customers

As Xero works towards its goal of reaching a million customers, we needed to scale our platform globally to provide customers with a fast, secure and easily accessible cloud platform they can access anytime, from any device connected to the internet. AWS provided us with significant potential to continually improve the underlying technologies that help Xero function.

“The move to AWS enables Xero to economically scale to meet the needs of

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the Year, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise International Business Award winner. And, a recent survey by Smithink found 47 percent of Australian accountants preferred to use Xero as their core cloud accounting service.”

No infrastructure required; lower cost to serve

The evolution and expansion of cloud computing globally has enabled companies like Xero to grow and go global from any part of the world. There's no mass infrastructure required and Xero has proven its ability to grow in key markets, while having a product that's used in 180 countries around the world.

“Under the hood, we actually have an increasing number of services that work together to deliver a customer experience. A key driver of our decision to move to AWS was to move technology decisions down into the hands of small autonomous groups of developers, and to allow greater experimentation with technology, allowing Xero to solve customer problems faster,” Ritchie said.

Without legacy systems, and enabled by a comprehensive migration to the public cloud via AWS, the Xero platform will be able to capitalize on global scale and incremental product growth to deliver innovative services.

“We know that the faster we can deliver true innovation to our community of small businesses, accountants and bookkeepers, the more deeply they can feel the impact as it grows and integrates itself into everyday life. This ability has been supercharged with the move to AWS, and we can't wait for the year ahead,” Ritchie said.

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