

# Data Warehouse Testing Services

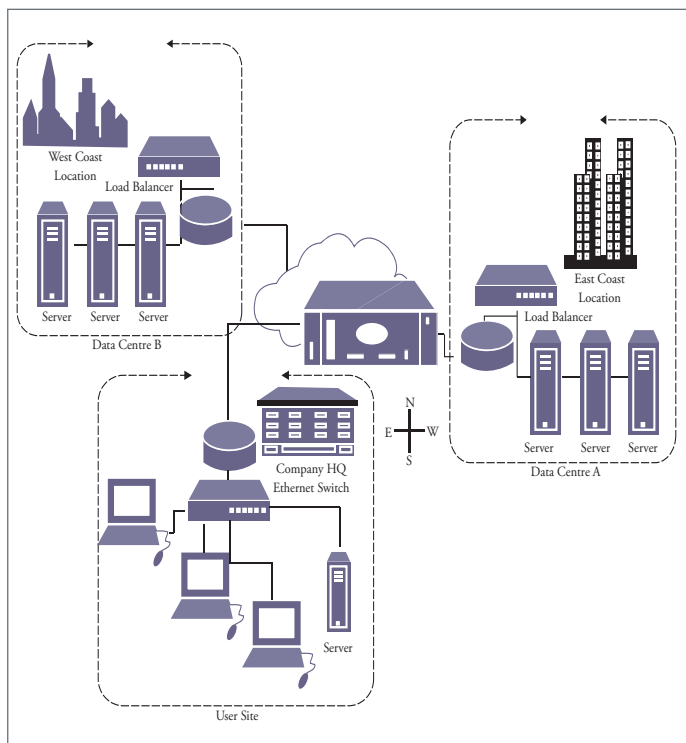
## About Elite Testing Consultants

Elite Testing Consultants (ETC) is a private limited company originally founded in 2001. ETC provides a full range of analysis and testing solutions, for public and private organisations across the whole of the financial sector. ETC has a history of providing testing consulting services with an excellent customer track record in the UK market.

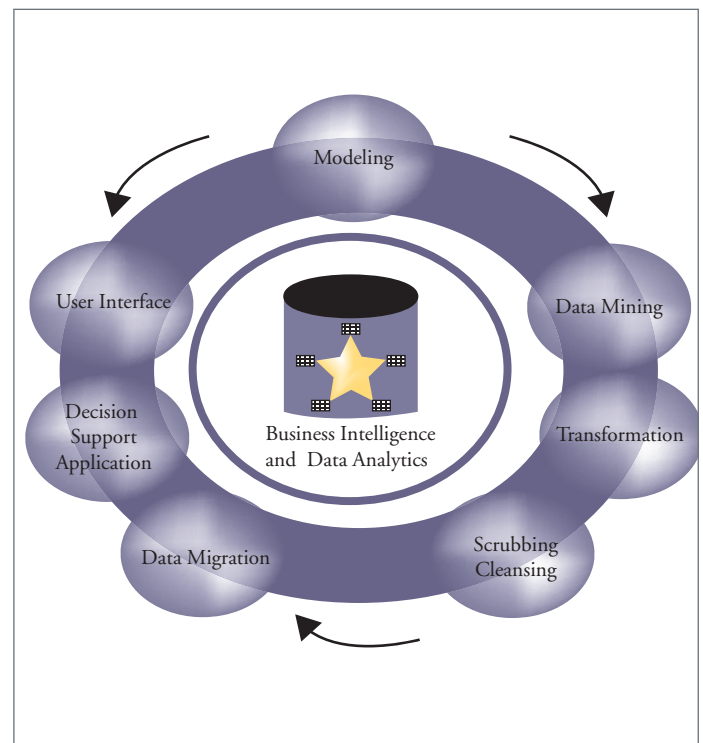
ETC specialises in providing solution oriented testing services using high quality consultants with technical and business knowledge in any financial sector

ETC specialises in Data Migration and Data Warehouse testing.

## Data Migration Testing Services



## Data Warehouse Testing Expertise



## Business Scenario

As today's decisions in the business world become more real-time, the systems that support those decisions need to meet this requirement. It is only natural that a Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence system help support the decision making process of an organisation.

Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence applications are designed to meet customer needs in relation to real-time data. This is achieved through analysing vast quantities of data over time, determining how best to meet customer requirements and identifying potentially fraudulent, illegal or suspicious activity.

Our testing solution is designed to overcome the 10 top challenges in data warehouse testing:

- 1 **Leaving out the users.** Business users are the reason the Data Warehouse exists. Lack of user involvement during the testing phase of system development denies critical expertise during system delivery.
- 2 **Testing reports – not data.** Testing the system's reports is not enough. Generating accurate reports is only possible if the underlying data is accurate.
- 3 **Extract, transform and load (ETL).** Testing should be a priority. Reconciliation of Warehouse Data with Source System Data is critical in ensuring business users are confident all information is accurate, according to business requirements and mapping rules.
- 4 **Underestimating the testing workload.** Through the use of ETL tools, a minimal amount of code may be written for the testing phase. But this can be very misleading in terms of gauging time.  
  
The amount of code cannot predict the number of data issues that testing will uncover.
- 5 **Failing to set realistic expectations.** While data validation tests can be very thorough, they typically cannot address every possible data issue that will occur.
- 6 **Fast-tracking** The initial load of a data warehouse is a very time-consuming process. Make sure there is a certain level of comfort with the quality of data being loaded into the warehouse before investing several days, in some cases weeks, executing ETL processes.
- 7 **Underestimating the ETL process.** Make sure that the ETL load processing time fits within the existing batch window.

- 8 **Choosing the right testers.** The impulse to cut costs is strong, especially in the final delivery phase. A common mistake is to delegate testing responsibilities to resources with limited technology and business experience.
- 9 **Avoiding proper sign-off.** The paper trail is a bit like the police force. Everyone avoids it until it is needed. Get sign-offs on all phases of testing or stop the project.
- 10 **Sufficient cut of test data.** Use subsets of production test data for all tests, especially system and user acceptance testing.

“Not only did Elite provide us with an alternative testing strategy, which reduced cost & testing time while increasing accuracy, but also brought business acumen and analysis skills to the table”

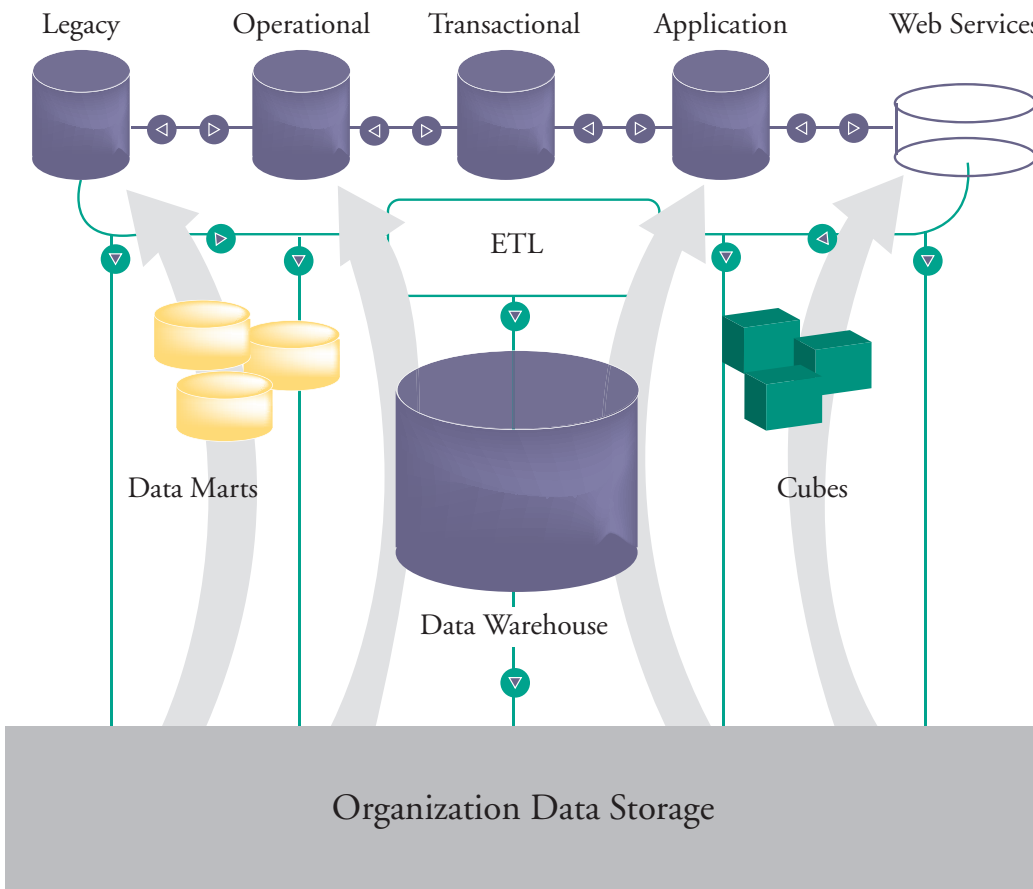
*Client Testimonial*

The full testing solution provided includes:

- Test management
- Test strategy and planning
- Test specification and documentation
- Test execution and results recording
- Defect and incident logging
- Test automation
- Quality assurance

The types of testing that ETC can provide:

- System testing
- Integration testing and security testing
- User acceptance testing and usability testing
- Regression testing and automation



## Case Study: A Leading Insurance Company in the UK

### Requirement:

ETC was given responsibility for analysis and testing activities on a delivery of an Oracle Data Warehouse (Datamart). The source systems encompassed all client products including life products, pensions, annuities and investments.

### Challenge:

- Lack of skill set for testing Data Migration and Data Warehouse
- Data integration and data conversion in chaos
- Lack of packaged solution and framework
- QA to measure the quality of migrated data from source system
- Identifying and defining the quality parameters for data fields and comparison
- Measuring test performance
- Test environment set up and maintenance

### Solution:

- Understanding the data warehousing and migration requirements while developing a test strategy
- Deploying specialists for developing the test plan, test case design and test environment set up
- Built a re-usable test delivery process which included a standard test documentation procedure and a clear defect management process to manage test incidents early
- Decreased testing time by automated data testing using a framework based upon Mercury's Quick Test Professional
- Implemented manual test environment change control procedures and formalised the approach to configuration management and release control
- Ensured test incidents were found early and hence decreased the cost of development re-work and project overrun
- Reduced the number of post deployment defects through thorough testing and hence increased the quality of the live system

## Case Study: A Leading Insurance Company in the UK (*Cont*)

### Benefits:

- Framework for data definition, quality parameters, data integration and migration
- Selection of appropriate tools and utility scripts for automation
- Highly skilled resources & effective test management
- Reduced cost
- Improved visibility to client management through effective reporting