

# Global Pharma Supply Chain Leader Modernizes to Next-Generation Archiving Platform Replacing Legacy IBM Optim

## Company Profile

A global leader in the pharmaceutical supply chain operates as a critical link between healthcare innovators and delivery providers. With annual revenue exceeding \$200 billion and ranked among the top 50 companies in the Fortune 500, this organization employs over 40,000 people worldwide. Their core mission centers on improving lives by facilitating market access to therapies while ensuring secure, reliable delivery of pharmaceuticals and healthcare products to care providers globally.

## ➔ The IBM Optim Challenge

### Legacy Platform Limitations

After years of reliance on IBM Optim for application archiving, the organization's IT leadership identified critical limitations that necessitated a platform transition:

- ✓ **Performance Constraints:** The existing Optim implementation struggled to handle growing data volumes
- ✓ **Limited Business Access:** Archiving capabilities were restricted primarily to Legal IT, creating bottlenecks
- ✓ **Accessing archived:** Data was restricted due to withdrawal from market of Optim Connect
- ✓ **Maintenance Complexity:** Managing the legacy Optim platform required specialized resources
- ✓ **Integration Difficulties:** Connecting Optim with newer systems and modern data sources had become increasingly challenging to impossible
- ✓ **Cloud Strategy Misalignment:** The on-premises Optim deployment conflicted with their cloud transformation initiatives

### Business Requirements for Replacement

The organization established specific business requirements for their IBM Optim replacement:

- ✓ **Support Business:** requirements to effectively manage data resulting from mergers and acquisitions while meeting strict regulatory requirement
- ✓ **Seamless Data Migration:** Complete transfer of all archived data from Optim without loss or corruption
- ✓ **Familiar Access Patterns:** Maintain consistent user access methods to minimize disruption
- ✓ **Enterprise Expansion:** Extend archiving capabilities beyond Legal IT to multiple business units
- ✓ **Cloud Architecture:** Align with strategic cloud transformation initiatives
- ✓ **Enhanced Governance:** Improve retention policy management and compliance capabilities

## ➔ Solution: SOLIXCloud Application Retirement

After evaluating multiple alternatives, the company selected SOLIXCloud Application Retirement as their strategic replacement for IBM Optim.

### Solix's IBM Optim Expertise

A key factor in this selection was Solix Technologies' deep understanding of the IBM Optim platform:

- ✓ **Migration Experience:** Proven methodology for transitioning from Optim to SOLIXCloud
- ✓ **Architectural Knowledge:** Comprehensive understanding of Optim's data structures and access patterns
- ✓ **Compatibility Engineering:** Purpose-built connectors for Optim data extraction
- ✓ **Similar Interface Design:** User experience designed to minimize retraining requirements
- ✓ **Query Translation:** Ability to convert existing Optim queries to SOLIXCloud format



### Implementation Approach

The organization adopted a methodical approach to replacing IBM Optim:

#### 1) Comprehensive Optim Assessment:

- ✓ Detailed inventory of archived applications
- ✓ Analysis of existing Optim queries and access patterns
- ✓ Documentation of custom Optim configurations
- ✓ Identification of business-critical archived data

#### 2) Parallel Implementation:

- ✓ Deployment of SOLIXCloud on single-tenant cloud architecture
- ✓ Phased migration of data from Optim to SOLIXCloud
- ✓ Validation of data integrity across platforms
- ✓ Side-by-side operation during transition

#### 3) Optim Decommissioning:

- ✓ Systematic retirement of Optim components
- ✓ Final validation of complete data transfer
- ✓ User transition to SOLIXCloud interfaces
- ✓ Legacy system shutdown

### Technical Implementation Details

The migration from IBM Optim to SOLIXCloud included several key technical components:

- ✓ **Platform:** SOLIXCloud Application Retirement
- ✓ **Deployment Model:** Single-tenant cloud implementation for data isolation
- ✓ **Migration Scope:** 8 applications totaling approximately 4 terabytes
- ✓ **Connectivity:** Custom-built Optim data extractors
- ✓ **Validation:** Automated comparison of source and target data
- ✓ **Access Translation:** Conversion of Optim queries to SOLIXCloud format



## → Business Outcomes

The successful replacement of IBM Optim with SOLIXCloud delivered significant benefits:

### Immediate Improvements

- ✓ **Performance Gains:** Faster query response compared to legacy Optim platform
- ✓ **Expanded Access:** Extended archiving capabilities beyond Legal IT to multiple business units
- ✓ **Cloud Alignment:** Successfully transitioned from on-premises to cloud architecture
- ✓ **Cost Reduction:** Eliminated Optim licensing and maintenance expenses
- ✓ **Simplified Support:** Reduced reliance on specialized Optim expertise

### Strategic Advantages

- ✓ **Enterprise Scalability:** Created foundation for organization-wide archiving strategy
- ✓ **Acquisition Readiness:** Established platform for efficiently integrating acquired company data
- ✓ **Governance Enhancement:** Improved retention policy management capabilities
- ✓ **Modernization Achievement:** Successfully retired significant legacy technology
- ✓ **Vendor Consolidation:** Reduced technology provider footprint

## → Future Direction

Having successfully replaced IBM Optim, the organization has established a roadmap for expanding their application retirement strategy:

- ✓ Extend to additional business units across the enterprise
- ✓ Incorporate applications from newly acquired companies
- ✓ Implement advanced analytics capabilities not possible with Optim
- ✓ Further optimize cloud resource utilization
- ✓ Enhance integration with broader data management initiatives

## → Conclusion

Through strategic partnership with Solix Technologies, this global pharma supply chain leader successfully transitioned from IBM Optim to a modern, cloud-based archiving platform. Solix's deep understanding of the Optim architecture enabled a smooth migration, while the SOLIXCloud platform delivered immediate improvements and long-term strategic advantages.

This initiative demonstrates how organizations can successfully navigate the transition from legacy archiving platforms to modern solutions, creating both immediate operational benefits and long-term strategic advantages.

*Solix Technologies provides enterprise data management solutions with specialized expertise in IBM Optim migrations, enabling organizations to modernize their archiving capabilities while preserving historical data integrity.*