SPANISH GLOBAL HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSULTANCY GREATLY IMPROVES DATA ACCESS AND QUALITY BY MIGRATING TO SNOWFLAKE DATA CLOUD

HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT

quirónprevención

COMPANY	Quirónprevención
LOCATION	Madrid, Spain

SNOWFLAKE WORKLOADS USED

DATA ENGINEERING · DATA LAKE · DATA WAREHOUSE · DATA SCIENCE · DATA APPLICATIONS · DATA SHARING

Quirónprevención is one of the world's leading consultancies specializing in occupational risk prevention. As part of the Quirónsalud Group, Spain's top hospital group, the company offers a broad range of services to help its clients "build healthy companies" by creating safe workplaces and caring for the health of their staff. Quirónprevención has over 7,000 employees servicing nearly 180,000 clients and 4 million workers across 25 different countries.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS:

Centralized data storage
New solution based on Snowflake Data Cloud allows Quirónprevención to break down data silos, centralize all the information, and provide access to quality data to stakeholders across the enterprise.

No more problems with data volumes and processing speeds
The separation between computation and storage allows for faster processing of larger volumes of data and shorter response times on data availability for users.

Quicker and better access to more data across the entire organization
Snowflake data sharing provides the company with opportunities to unlock new insights within the organization that were not available using its previous data analytics infrastructure.

CHALLENGE:

Current data processing and volume requirements beyond the capacity of existing architecture
Quirónprevención generates a huge amount of valuable data, especially during the global COVID-19 pandemic that has greatly impacted how employee health and safety is managed throughout all sectors and across the entire world.

Both the company's performance and growth depend on agile data management, and "working with quality data is essential for informed decision-making, the definition of objectives, and the execution of actions that allow us to position ourselves in the best possible way in the market and offer the highest-quality services," Quirónprevención's Corporate Centre for Information Systems Management's Head of Analytics and Data, Javier Hernández Martín-Gil, said.

With data being housed using a classic Microsoft SQL server on-premises database that was a replication target for other Microsoft SQL and Db2 environments, the company found that this architecture had reached its limit and was beginning to create problems in terms of volumes of data and processing capacity.

"We had many silos of information, we could choose to process or query, but concurrent access to data was starting to give us problems because of the volume we now handle and the speed with which we have to present information," Hernández Martín-Gil said.

The company needed to centralize data in a secure location and achieve more-agile and -efficient data storage, access, and analysis.

5x	**65%**	**100%**
Faster data processing/response times	Savings in data engineering infrastructure costs	Reduction in problems related to concurrent access to key data

SOLUTION:

A hybrid infrastructure to transform and store data more cost effectively

Working closely with Kabel, a local IT consultancy firm and Snowflake Solutions Partner, the data team at Quirónprevención created a solution to centralize all the information and provide enterprisewide access to all the data. They leveraged the solution to enrich the data by bringing together information from all sources, including data that some departments have that was not available to the rest of the organization, and correcting any errors in the information by joining the data. The ETL process is launched on Azure Data Factory, at which point the data is transformed and uploaded to Snowflake, from where the organization can easily access it via a BI tool.

"The migration from on-premises to the cloud environment was relatively quick and resulted not just in significant cost savings in terms of hardware, licences, and administration, but also a considerable gain in performance," Hernández Martín-Gil said. "Snowflake's high level of compatibility with existing tools also ensured a quick and smooth transition for us as well."

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>
> **—JAVIER HERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN-GIL,**
> Head of Analytics and Data, Quirónprevención

RESULTS:

Quicker and better access to more data across the entire organization

Besides the added security and the breaking down of the silos achieved by unifying the data, the separation between computation and storage on Snowflake has enabled the data team at Quirónprevención to speed up response and processing times by a factor of five, allowing for faster processing of larger volumes of data and therefore shorter response times on data availability for users.

"By using Snowflake to decouple computation from storage, we allow different areas (data analysts, developers, etc.) to access the same data without being affected in access performance as each one works in their own virtual warehouse," Hernández Martín-Gil said.

Cost savings and additional features a great bonus

By maximizing the use of the cloud, infrastructure costs have also been reduced to a third of the estimated cost of other systems. Snowflake's user-friendliness, low maintenance, scalability, performance, and pricing model all add up to make the platform a highly cost-effective solution that also allows the team to share information easily and securely with other business departments, regional offices, and/or external partners through the use of Snowflake data sharing. This tool provides the company with opportunities to unlock new insights within the organization that were not available using its previous data analytics infrastructure.

Hernández Martín-Gil highlights the virtue of the Time Travel option made possible thanks to Snowflake's unique technology that "gives us greater security in the event of any error or data requirement, and where we can restore crucial point-in-time information with just one simple line of code."

> **Quiron, through a previous analysis relationship, gave us the opportunity to look for an improvement in their internal data performance, linked to an improvement in their platform. We upgraded their data infrastructure, together with Snowflake, transforming and organizing data and allowing the organization to access it with BI dashboards.**
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> **It is a project that has allowed us to provide flexibility, manage a scalable and powerful cloud architecture and share data easily and securely."**
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> **—CARLOS HERNÁNDEZ,**
> Key Account Manager, Kabel

FUTURE:

Leveraging the maximum potential of Snowflake

The company is currently working on another project designed to take full advantage of Snowflake's computational power and migrate all its on-premises ETL processes into cloud-driven ELT, with Snowflake's own engine doing the data transformation work and thereby enabling much greater scalability and elasticity.

Plans for Quirónprevención's future include leveraging the maximum potential of the Snowflake data sharing feature to exchange ever-greater volumes of data across more areas of the organization, as well as generating even greater value from its own data with the monetization of the data through Snowflake Data Marketplace.