

# PredictX Empowers Insight with the Actian Data Platform

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**Andrew White**

Executive Vice President of Solution Engineering, PredictX

Companies that give charge cards and expense accounts to their employees may find it difficult to monitor how and where their money is being spent. It’s fine to give employees the tools they need to do their jobs properly. However, tracking and reconciling employee-generated spend (EGS) with other spending channels such as procurement, accounts payable, and travel management is a challenge.

Moreover, EGS may involve a wide variety of expenses – from the acquisition of ergonomic chairs and office equipment for a home office during COVID-19 lock-down to meal delivery and entertainment spend. To ensure proper governance and accountability to shareholders, employers need to keep an eye on those expenses. Using data to identify hidden costs and efficiency opportunities, PredictX provides solutions that allow companies to discover and optimize travel-related expenses and helps predict these expenses so they can be considered in future budgets.

P R E D I C T · 

**Challenge**

PredictX, a leading provider of predictive expense analytics, had a client that needed greater insight into the nature of their Employee Generated Spend (EGS). PredictX offered a solution that could meet the needs of its customer, but the AI (Artificial Intelligence) company needed to be able to provide a cloud-based deployment offering to meet the full set of requirements.

**Solution**

PredictX uses the Actian Data Platform to provide a hybrid deployment on Google Cloud and on-premises without having to re-write business logic or integrations to make their solution cloud-ready.

**Outcome**

With the Actian Data Platform running on Google Cloud, PredictX was able to meet and exceed their client’s expectations. They were able to offer a cloud-based deployment of their solution in 4 weeks, without any disruption to operations or added resources.

## About PredictX

PredictX is a travel data analytics company using advanced data analytics and AI to consolidate agency, card, expense, and meetings data.

To do this, PredictX built its EGS solution using proprietary Artificial Intelligence (AI), advanced data analytics tools, and the Vector Data Warehouse – a high-performance columnar database. The solution combines and analyzes data from a wide range of systems and sources – including travel, expense cards, HR, and meeting data systems and provides financial insight into ways to control costs and optimize employee spend.

Like many companies looking to innovate and future-proof their offerings, PredictX wanted to move their EGS products to the cloud. With a steady growth in business, PredictX wanted to be able to focus more on building cost-saving models for its product and less time worrying about infrastructure maintenance.

## The Solution

PredictX had invested in Actian's Vector Data Warehouse for its analytics processing due to the product's unbeatable performance capabilities. They needed a data solution that would offer that same speed and reliability in the cloud. This led the team to begin investigating cloud alternatives, which included the Actian Data Platform.

Migrating their existing Vector database to the Actian Data Platform would allow PredictX to preserve existing business logic and code to dramatically reduce the time and expense of a traditional cloud migration.

With Actian being a fully managed platform, they wouldn't have to worry about patching, scaling, or server maintenance. They also knew that staying with an Actian product would pose less risk to customers and give them the freedom to relocate applications and data to the cloud at their own pace, since Actian is a real hybrid platform that can be deployed either on-site or in the cloud.

Since the Actian platform leverages the same vectorized processing as PredictX's Vector Data Warehouse, there was no need to re-write or re-code operations. In fact, moving to the Actian platform allowed PredictX to optimize existing queries, which made their applications faster for existing customers.

The PredictX platform relies heavily on metadata, workflows, and orchestration routines originally designed for on-premises deployment. PredictX developers had some concern about the master data and workflow routines forking in different directions if they needed to make major modifications for the cloud. Actian professional services helped PredictX use the same master data and workflow routines, which will improve deployment for future PredictX customers.

## The Benefits

Given that the PredictX platform had not been deployed in the cloud before, they expected that it would be several months before they would be able to offer a cloud-based version of their EGS solution. Originally, they expected that it would take 6 or 7 months before clients would be able to conduct any user acceptance tests. The migration only required reconfigurations, which allowed their customers to start using the cloud-based version of the PredictX EGS software in just 3 months.

"We had multiple workflows and management routines that were built over years to run the Vector Data Warehouse on-premises," says Andrew White, Executive Vice President of Solution Engineering at PredictX. "We had been a bit concerned about how long it would take to get them up and running on the Actian platform, but they pretty much worked right out of the box. The migration was completely invisible to our end users, and that was exactly what we hoped."

## About Actian

Actian makes data easy. We deliver cloud, hybrid cloud, and on-premises data solutions that simplify how people connect, manage, and analyze data. We transform business by enabling customers to make confident, data-driven decisions that accelerate their organization's growth. Our data platform integrates seamlessly, performs reliably, and delivers at industry-leading speeds. Learn more about Actian, a division of HCLSoftware: [www.actian.com](http://www.actian.com).

