Purchasing and implementing a new Spillman Flex system often requires a migration from your agency’s previous vendor’s database to your new Flex server. Depending on how long your agency had been using your previous system, this can mean moving away from years’ or even decades’ worth of public safety data about your community and into a brand new and empty database. Our data conversion process is designed to quickly and efficiently transfer your agency’s wealth of information to a new database, where it can be accessed and utilized more efficiently.

**WHY MIGHT DATA CONVERSION BE NECESSARY?**
Data conversion is a valuable, time-saving option if your agency has or is considering moving to a new Flex system but still has public safety data residing on your current system. Keeping your data on your old system means your agency is now working with two separate vendors instead of just one. By moving the data over, you can eliminate the hardware and maintenance costs for the previous database and streamline all assets onto one server.

In addition, personnel may find themselves going back and forth to search for records in both systems, logging into the old database to access needed information, and then manually entering that information into the new database. This wastes valuable time and could lead to duplicates and inaccuracies in your data. Converting the data from the old database into new Flex databases provides your agency with a clean break from your old system without requiring every single record to be entered manually.

Access to clean data also impacts your ability to take full advantage of Intelligence-Led Policing tools or products that your agency may be using, such as CompStat or Analytics. These tools rely heavily on the integrity of the information they are pulling from a database. The more clean the data, the more informed decisions can be made by agency administrators.

**WHEN SHOULD YOU HAVE YOUR DATA CONVERTED?**
We recommend that agencies convert their data as soon as possible after adopting a new system in order to minimize the amount of data re-entry personnel have to complete and the number of times they have to log in to multiple databases to search for information. It is also beneficial to complete your data conversion early because your previous software system and database may not be supported by the vendor. You will want to back up and preserve that valuable data in case the old database becomes inaccessible or corrupted.

**HOW DOES MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS HELP?**
Flex’s Project Management team works with reliable data conversion specialists to coordinate the entire process of converting your agency’s data, ensuring a smooth and efficient experience for your personnel from start to finish. Our trusted data conversion partners have worked to bring data from most, if not all of the leading RMS, CAD, and JMS systems in the industry into our customers’ new Flex systems and have a thorough understanding of the various systems and how they function. You can rest assured that your agency’s data and needs will be top priority throughout the entire conversion process.
THE DATA CONVERSION PROCESS

With Sales
When it comes to the actual data conversion process, there are different options as far as what you can convert and where you can convert it to. Before the process, your agency will work with your Flex sales representative and a data conversion specialist to evaluate the status of your data and determine what information, images, and file attachments are clean enough to be converted to your new Flex database, and what information is a better fit for a second database that works alongside your primary Flex database. Your Flex sales representative will then provide a quote for the project, based on the size of the previous server and number of fields that need to be converted.

With Project Management
Once the initial steps have been completed with your sales representative, a Project Manager will be assigned to oversee your agency’s data conversion. The Project Manager reviews your work order to make sure all the necessary information is included and coordinates with personnel at your agency, the data conversion specialists, and other Motorola Solutions parties to ensure a smooth transition.

Your agency will be responsible for mapping the codes from your old system to the code tables in Flex, which will allow each piece of information to transfer to the correct place within your new system. A series of mock databases will be used to test that all of your data will convert correctly.

Our trusted data conversion specialists will then copy your agency’s data from your old server into your new primary Flex database, a new secondary Flex database, or both. Secondary Database Support will be added to your maintenance if applicable.

To learn more about the data conversion process, contact your Flex sales representative.