CASE STUDY - West Virginia University

TRACKING RECORDS ACROSS DATABASES

COMPANY PROFILE
West Virginia University is the state's only research, doctoral degree-granting, land-grant university. The school offers nearly 200 degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and professional levels.

The idea of linking two groups of records was overwhelming for the research department. The process would be very time-consuming and threaten the timeliness and process of the research activities.

BUSINESS SITUATION
West Virginia University was tasked with assessing the long-term impacts of certain medical conditions on patients over an extended period of time. The determination to be made was whether previous medical conditions affected long-term health and patient care.

The data for the medical conditions and the current health records provided by the state exist in separate systems. The challenge to overcome was how to link the database records that identified the medical conditions in question to the current health records provided by the state. The idea of linking these two groups of records was overwhelming for the research department. With hundreds of thousands of records to manage, the process would be very time-consuming and threaten the timeliness and process of the research activities.

SOLUTION
Using DataMatch, Data Ladder's flagship data cleansing product, the university was able to clean records from several systems containing the required information. From there they were able to create a unified view of the patient over time.

BENEFITS

With the best in class data cleansing and fuzzy matching capabilities, combined with customized training by Data Ladder specialists, the university was finally able to link the database records in question. They saved a great deal of time and were able to combine and match records across multiple lists in a quicker fashion.

The university was also able to view data changes in real time in order to get feedback and assess how selections affect the data set. DataMatch has now become a go-to resource for data cleansing and fuzzy matching needs.