ETL is extract transform and load

-extract data from source

-transform the data in transit

-and loads the data into a storage of choice

These movements of data can be scheduled on a regular basis or triggered to occur. The types of projects that ETL tools are used for very greatly as these tools are built to be very flexible. Some common projects would be:

* Rolling up Transaction Data for Business People to work with, which we commonly call a Data marts or Data Warehouses
* Migrating application data from old systems to new ones
* Integrating data from recent corporate mergers & acquisitions
* Integrating data from external suppliers and partners

The list of possible uses for an ETL tool extends well beyond scope of this presentation. To highlight life without an ETL tool imagine having to be an expert at every source of data your organization owns, and trying to hand code all the data movement requirements we discussed earlier. When you use an ETL tool you will marry your organization to it. This is because a large body of logic will be designed in the data movement processes and it will become part of the lifeblood for running your business. Here are 5 areas that you should focus on in determining which ETL tool to choose:

1. Data Connectivity: ETL tools should be able to communicate to any source of data, no matter where it comes from.
2. Performance: Moving and changing data can require some serious processing power, so it’s important that your ETL tool can scale with your future data growth.
3. Transformation Flexibility: Matching, merging, and changing data is critical. ETL tool should provide these and many other packaged transformations that allow modifications to be made to the data with simple drag and drop movements.
4. Data Quality: Your data isn’t clean. You will need support for data proofing, and data quality, including the ability to validate addresses. The only way you can leverage your data to deliver information is if you’re data is consistent and clean.
5. Flexible Data Acquisition Options: Once you have your ETL environment development developed you’ll want the flexibility to determine whether the data is acquired on a time interval, or based on trigger. This also means that you want the flexibility to determine what data gets pulled whether it’s just the new data or all the data at once, or even a specific subset of data.
6. Committed Vendor to ETL: BE sure your spouse is committed to Data Management, and all the activities around it.

Intricity partners with its customers to evaluate which tolls will be best fit their organizations.