

## Pilot Cutover Method Pitch

April 30, 2019

System changeover involves moving data from an older database to a newer one. This migration is mostly inspired by upgrades, end of life or productivity enhancement considerations. There are 4 established categories of such cutovers; direct, parallel, phased and pilot. A quick analysis of the definitions for the 4 methods give us a crisp idea. Direct is the cheapest and quickest since there is very little downtime since there is a cutover from on a predefined date. Parallel comes out to be expensive because the client needs to maintain two systems online but provides more stability since both systems lifecycle overlaps. The phased method allows the system to be implemented in phases where the analyst works with a single system at a given point of time. The pilot takes this ideology to a whole different level. Here, the working system is prepared and release as a beta or a pilot version to a selected group of users. These selected few will analyze the system in a real time environment and check its feasibility. Upon given a go-ahead by the users, the team will implement the new structure or methodology to a larger customer base.

The data base we designed is for a chain of restaurants so using the Pilot cutover method in one location would be best. This system will store information not only of the inventory but also of data of employees that are on their payroll. A thorough comparison of the 4 methods reveals that the pilot method is the ideal choice. Justification for which emanates from the fact that, since there are multiple restaurants here, a single one of them, example with the lowest footfalls can have the new mechanism implemented. It will give the database a real-time exposure while it is being backed up with the older system in place. Once confirmed that the system works, direct cutover can be implement at the other sites taking cues from the pilot site.

Since the number of users impacted is limited, it restricts the failure to that particular system and others can continue working as normal. This will be a medium risk and medium cost implementation which will benefit the restaurants owners since the best of both worlds are mixed.