

# XLSURE

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XLSure Chooses Aqua Data Studio for Intuitive Interface and Multi-Platform Support

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# Challenge

Brad Skidmore is a Denver-based consultant and software/database developer with XLSure, who works with Oracle, SQL Server, Db2 and MySQL databases, among others. Many of the companies Skidmore works with use a mix of different database platforms in their IT environment. "It's a nightmare because you have to have several tools for each database, and switching between different environments takes a lot of time."

## ORGANIZATON PROFILE

**Industry** Database Consultant

**Headquarters** Denver, CO

**Website** [xlsure.com](http://xlsure.com)

# Solution

After evaluating Toad, SquirrelL, SSMS and Redgate, Skidmore selected Aqua Data Studio (ADS) in 2012 to make it easier to switch back and forth between heterogeneous database environments, which often include instances for local development, test, QA, user acceptance testing, stage and production. He was especially impressed with the product's organizational capabilities, as well as its code formatting and script generation features for schema comparisons. He stated, "I was sold on the tool right away because of its feature-rich capabilities and the database organization options."

According to Skidmore, "ADS is able to organize all of those connections and easily switch between different environments. Filtering out certain databases helps out a lot. That alone is worth the product. It's so easy and very intuitive."

Setting up multiple servers is easy using the ADS server clone feature, as is the drag and drop feature to create different server groups within the server navigation tree hierarchy as things change. Skidmore also likes the ADS "Beautify" function that cleans up and formats code in lieu of manual formatting, as well as the color coding for different environments. "For instance, all my production environments are red so I know, 'don't make changes you shouldn't' on those."

“**[Aqua Data Studio]** is so easy and very intuitive.

**Brad Skidmore** - Consultant and Software Developer

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# Results

Skidmore loves the intuitive user interface that enables him to quickly write and run queries on the databases. Features such as the query analyzer and explain plans enable him to pull the data he needs from a variety of database platforms.

Recently ADS enabled Skidmore to isolate and fix a long-running issue with a client's Tableau deployment. A legacy SQL Server was having performance issues and time-outs, so Skidmore used the ADS DBA feature, SQL Server session manager, to isolate the issue within 10 minutes and identify the scheduled Tableau query that had been adversely affecting the team for nearly two years.

Skidmore considers ADS to be his 'one-stop shop' for working with heterogeneous environments. Not to mention, "I also love how it remembers everything I'm doing if I have to shut down, and brings it back up just the way I had it."

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