



From 10 Hours a Week to Zero Manual Effort: Skip Tracing Automation

Global Vantedge Skip Tracing Process Overhaul

The Problem I Inherited

I inherited a skip tracing process built on manual work—the kind that looks efficient until you scale. Multiple vendors, each with different file formats. An Access database as the source of truth. One person running queries for each vendor, converting files, sending them to the vendors, receiving outputs in varying formats, validating through multiple filter checks, and then passing data to billing for invoicing. Ten hours per week of repetitive, error-prone work. As the company grew, this would explode to 40+ hours weekly. The propensity for human error was enormous.

Why This Mattered

One person's time wasn't scalable. One person's error rate would compound. One person leaving meant institutional knowledge walking out the door. The system was fragile by design.

The Constraint

The tech team wouldn't prioritize it. No resources, they said. It wasn't a strategic project. It was just a process. So I escalated to the President with the business case: the cost of one person's time versus the investment in automation.

The Solution

Full automation. Unified data pipeline. File format translation built-in. Vendor file handling automated. Validation filters automated. Output to billing automated. The 10-hour weekly manual process became zero.

The Legacy

I left the company. Nine years later, in a chance interview, someone who'd worked there told me: the system I built was still running, still performing, still saving time. That's credibility—building something so right it doesn't need you around to prove it.