

PROCESS-DRIVEN IT MODERNIZATION

Transformation for the Future



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Recently, there has been a transformation in how IT thinks about evolving their applications and infrastructure toward a modern environment. Long-gone are the days where simply restructuring the plumbing, SOA-enabling, or providing browser-based interfaces will suffice for preparing for the future. Today's IT modernization requires a business-process-centric, holistic approach that must focus on delivering clear business value in the short-term (quick-wins) and long-term.

The new process-driven IT Modernization approach, depicted in the diagram below, provides a strong focus on how to leverage your investment in core applications while considering the "eco-system" of technology, people, and processes around it. This approach offers Adabas, Natural, COBOL and DB2 customers a holistic solution to transform their mission-critical application landscape into a more flexible business application platform that takes into consideration business processes and workflows. Using a business process-driven focus to modernization will enable you to transform your existing landscape into a more flexible, agile, and cost-efficient IT environment while achieving business process excellence.

Assessment and Discovery

The first step toward IT Modernization is to take a thorough assessment of your business processes and application environment to gain a better understanding of the existing portfolio in context of needs, strategy, value, agility, risk and costs. Using the new capabilities of the ARIS product portfolio, Software AG provides solutions for Enterprise Architecture Management that help companies gain a holistic view of the IT landscape that includes business process, application, information, interface and infrastructure components. In addition to assessing the processes and applications,

a skills assessment is essential for gaining a complete view of your ecosystem. Once documented, these assets can be used to manage the change and planning process for modernizing the IT landscape and ecosystem. The assessment will help identify the hot spots, direct investments and support the decision making process by ensuring priorities are set correctly.

Modernization Roadmap

The roadmap to success is composed of a rich portfolio of best practices and enabling technologies for transforming an existing landscape to a more flexible, agile, cost effective business application platform of the future.

- **Platform**

Improve the operational efficiency of existing platforms and move application workload to the most appropriate

hardware environment. This could mean that you stay with your mainframe as a strategic platform or that you decide to rehost applications on to a new platform (e.g. Linux, UNIX, Windows)

- **Application**

Meet end-user and customer demands while consolidating applications and improving application maintainability. For example, web-enable functionality while re-engineering the application into components and cleaning up code for sustainability.

- **Integration**

Reuse existing functionality from various business domains by simply making them available as integration points. For example, integrate ERP (such as SAP) and cloud software (such as Salesforce) with custom-developed applications (such as Natural, COBOL, Java). This discipline also

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includes SOA, Data, Master Data, Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence Integration.

• Process

Discover and analyze hidden process workflows to lay the groundwork for automating process workflows to improve transparency, efficiency and quality of business. For example, by providing easy discovery mechanisms and an established process driven platform, the discovery, measurement and improvement of business processes can be automated. Remove manual and slow workflow and replace with transparent, automated business processes.

Skills and Knowledge Transfer

In keeping with the holistic approach, one cannot transform the IT landscape without having people with the skills and knowledge available to maintain and evolve with it.

Custom training and service offerings allow you to transfer the skills you need into your organization. But don't stop there, skills and knowledge transfer must be

considered at multiple levels: modern tool environments, online communities, certifications, university programs and application outsourcing services. Ensure there are tools available that appeal to the younger workforce with the ease of use and familiarity that seasoned workers can quickly learn. Leverage online communities, where collaboration and knowledge sharing is the norm and free code samples and tutorials are available. Seek certifications for application developers and DBAs at Corporate University Programs.

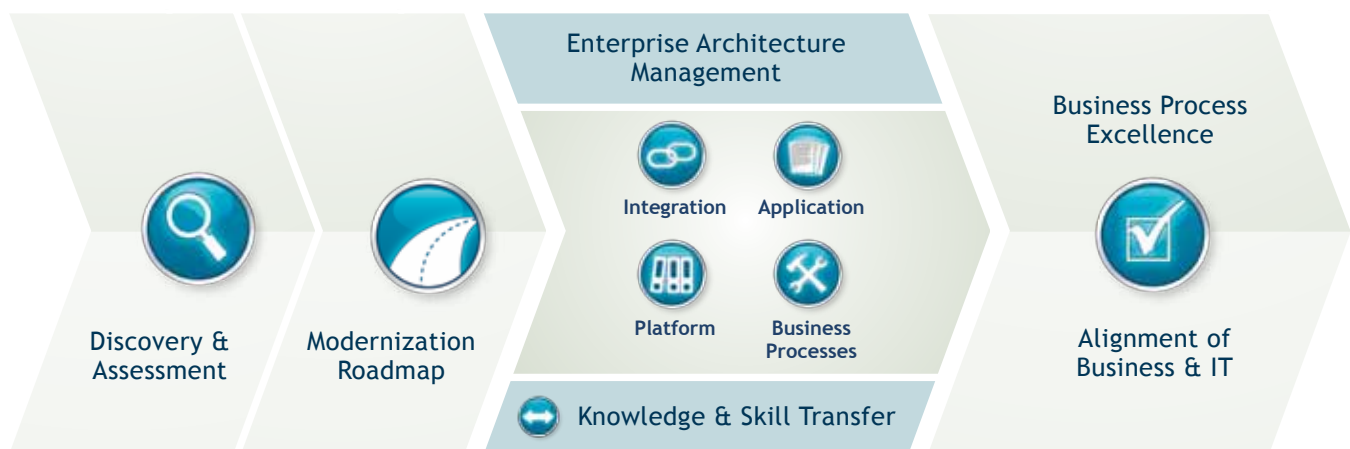
Successful IT Modernization Projects

As a testament to Software AG modernization success; one of our customers, Nissan Europe, needed to optimize its supply chain process with partners in Europe to provide direct access to Nissan dealers to order and update inventory – all while leveraging existing data and logic from its own back-end systems. Using a Software AG modernization approach Nissan Europe evolved its mainframe environment into a state-of-the-art Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA)-based supply chain.

Another Software AG customer, consumer goods retailer Massdiscounters, service-enables core functionality in Adbas and Natural apps using webMethods EntireX—without having to rewrite modules. Now Massdiscounters can easily link its core business system with virtually any other system, inside and outside the company, including off-the-shelf applications. The company standardizes integration on the webMethods Integration Server for a flexible SOA.

Business Process Excellence

Finally, the transformation of your IT environment for the future would not be complete without using a process-driven approach to IT Modernization. By discovering, measuring and implementing the business processes of your organization to bridge the strategic (business process improvement) with the architectural (integration) and technical (applications and platforms), you can achieve Business Process Excellence.



Process-Driven IT Modernization