



## Are your legacy systems truly enabling the business or are you encumbered by legacy infrastructure and applications and simply keeping the lights on?

**W**E GET IT, IT'S HARD TO LET GO of something that the organization has lived with for so many years and has shed blood and tears to maintain and support. Legacy systems often become part of the technology fabric of the organization, your teams have become accustomed to working around the quirks, and IT is accustomed to applying bandaids to extend it's usefulness. Furthermore, over the decades these systems have come to encapsulate much of the organizations institutional knowledge, unique processes, calculations and procedures. Many enterprise grade software systems have reliably served the needs of their businesses, and the people who used them, for years and even decades. However, in today's digital market it's not enough to be good enough. Failure of a legacy system to adapt to business changes will take its toll on the efficiency and performance of performance.

For organizations running mission-critical workloads on legacy applications and infrastructure, modernizing your legacy portfolio is a key component to achieving enterprise agility and is one of the first steps to digital transformation, and creating new value from existing investments. Systems modernization is a practical way to modernize legacy systems in a cost-effective, and efficient way. But how do you change something so foundational to the organization without disrupting the business and risking everything? We have thought long and hard on the same question and have arrived at a set of services and solutions that

will take the cost, risk, and disruption out of the equation.

### Modernization Strategy to Fit Your Needs

If you are ready to get the most value out of your legacy systems, our team has the experience and expertise to make it happen. Our approach to modernization is to do it incrementally rather than as a "big bang" to reduce the risks of losing capabilities or functionality. We do this because many of these applications are vital to enterprise operations, and a full-scale, simultaneous modernization can pose a real operational risk.

How you modernize depends on what you want to modernize, and what you envision the new system to be. In a survey conducted by Lightbend ("Going Reactive 2016"), three thousand companies responded on their IT modernization strategy. The results showed the respondents favored four major approaches. However, more than 40% of respondents indicated that they refactor legacy systems module by module. The 4 popular strategies include:

- **Re-platform:** This is a good option when the performance of the systems is hampered by legacy hardware, or if there is a desire to move from an on-premise model to something that leverages the cloud.
- **Refactor:** Refactoring is the process of changing a software system in such a way that it does not alter the external behavior of the code yet improves its internal structure. This is a very popular approach especially when the functionality of the system doesn't need to change, or when resources required to support the application source code are difficult to find, and there is a desire to move on to a different platform.
- **Package Implementation:** Implementing specific software packages to replace legacy applications is a good option if the legacy applications aren't heavily customized or personalized for the specific needs of the organization. Often Enterprise Resource Planning packages are implemented to assume the responsibilities of the legacy system.
- **Re-engineer:** This is the most complex option. This approach rebuilds legacy applications in a new platform with enhanced functionality, leveraging architectural principles like Service

## Modernization Strategies



### Re-platform

- Like for Like functionality
- Keep the current language
- Change the HW platform
- Change to relational DB schema



### Refactor

- Like for Like functionality
- Change the current language
- Change the platform from Mainframe
- Change to relational DB schema



### Buy Package

- Change functionality adopt package capabilities
- Change to proprietary language
- Re-train staff and do change management
- Change to package DB



### Re-engineer

- Change functionality
- Change the current language
- Change the HW platform
- Re-train staff and do change management
- Change to relational DB schema

Oriented Architecture (SOA). This is usually a costlier option and requires dedicated resources. Often reengineering results in new capabilities and functionality that requires a degree of organizational change management and training,

Our approach to modernization largely depends on your specific business needs, and what you want to modernize. Modernizing a custom built, point application is different from modernizing your organizations legacy architecture, or leveraging the cloud.

### Application Assessment Services

We use a suite of turn-key applications to analyze your legacy applications and code transformation services that empower project teams to focus on value-added activities while reducing risk and delivering projects on time and on budget. This tool provides a dashboard that identifies software inventory, complexity of programs, duplicate code, business rules and other key attributes that are critical to understanding the "As Is" environment.

### Applications Modernization Services

Our Systems Modernization services are designed to increase the value, and shelf life of legacy mainframe applications by converting, re-engineering, and re-platforming the programs and databases to modern, maintainable, affordable platforms, producing greater business value for organizations. This service utilizes a novel approach to legacy application migration and conversion that is 100% automated. The result is to significantly reduce the time it takes to transform and modernize legacy applications and ensuring that the modernized application is "like for like" functionally and operationally.

## About Strategic Systems

**O**UR GOAL IS TO BE YOUR BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION PARTNER. Since 2004, we implement technology solutions and provide services that allow our clients to realize sustainable competitive advantages. We focus on your unique needs, applying transformative, and cost-effective solutions that enable the digital business model.

At Strategic, we work relentlessly to make a difference for our clients. We refer to this as the Strategic Way, which at its core, is fueled by our enthusiasm for innovation and advanced technologies. Each of the 250+ men and women that call Strategic "home" are fiercely competitive, naturally inquisitive, and value our client's loyalty.

We are a certified Minority Owned Business Enterprise (MBE), and an Encouraging Diversity, Growth and Equity (EDGE) vendor. We provide the knowledge, experience, expertise, and technologies that assist our clients develop and execute on their digital transformation journey.

## Contact Us

We have a presence in major technology hubs across the country, and clients that span North America. To find out more about our services and what we can do for you, get in touch.

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