

Micro Focus Leverage and Extend™

Through our world-class partners, Micro Focus Leverage and Extend offers businesses the most reliable modernization strategy to increase the value of their legacy systems.

executive summary

Overview

While the economy shows signs of long-term improvement, market conditions continue to put pressure on every organization's costs. At the same time businesses are seeking to deliver more value per dollar.

To lower costs and drive business agility at lower risk, leveraging and extending critical IBM mainframe, Windows® and .NET, UNIX and Linux applications is becoming more important for the following reasons:

- To remain competitive, organizations must create and deliver new business value based on innovative use of IT
- A history of investment in, and reliance on, people, processes and technology has resulted in legacy applications which hinder innovation and progress
- Organizations have come to understand the high cost and risk associated with replacing legacy applications with packages or custom-built alternatives

Modernization Strategies

Organizations seeking to modernize their legacy systems now have four options:

Re-engineering or 'Rip and Replace'. Once in vogue, now much out of favor with most organizations due to the time, cost and risk involved. 74% of such projects either fail completely, or are significantly late and over budget.¹ This is an extremely high-risk strategy.

Packaged Applications. Packages offer a generic alternative, forcing organizations to do business in the manner dictated by the package's functionality. Often this means losing workflow that is fundamental to the way a business operates and the complex data re-modeling and re-training involved. 42% of implementations are never completed or are more than 50% late.² This is a high-risk approach.

Lift and Shift. Micro Focus Lift and Shift™ offers customers that wish to migrate from the mainframe to a contemporary platform. Lift and Shift is a migration approach that dramatically reduces hardware and software costs by enabling low risk migration of COBOL/CICS applications to modern, open and extensible platforms. Micro Focus recently announced Enterprise Server, a transactional environment for CICS/COBOL applications.

Leverage and Extend. Micro Focus Leverage and Extend™ provides a proven path to allow organizations to re-use people, processes and technology for the mainframe as they seek to enhance existing application portfolios with reduced cost, and extend them to support the needs of the future with lowered risk and enhanced flexibility. Micro Focus offers industry-leading development environments for development of IBM mainframe, Windows and .NET, and UNIX and Linux applications. The development products which support these platforms are Mainframe Express™ Enterprise Edition, Net Express® Professional Edition and Server Express™. This is the chosen path of organizations with a strategic commitment to existing delivery platforms, but who wish to leverage and extend their legacy.

Drivers for Leverage and Extend

Strategic Investment and Commitment: Organizations with a significant investment in legacy systems understand the profound importance of those applications to the business and the risk of replacing them. Regardless of the production platform of choice, Micro Focus' agnostic position ensures that organizations can rely on a single vendor to provide development and extension capabilities regardless of the environment.

Cost Reduction: Micro Focus provides the most productive workstation-based environment for all aspects of mainframe application delivery including code generation, analysis, development, extension, debugging and testing. Application delivery is faster than ever before, yielding high availability and quality. By improving application turnaround time and removing the burden of maintenance tasks from the mainframe, IT costs on core infrastructure and even software will be greatly reduced, and production platform power refocused on running business-critical production systems.

Reduced Risk: Micro Focus dramatically reduces ongoing risks by providing a complete, familiar and unified environment for all application delivery. Removing organizational fragmentation will improve the flexibility and availability of IT skills, and therefore operational efficiency. Micro Focus' support of open standards, together with capabilities to extend existing business processes into new architectures, further minimizes risk by removing dependencies on outmoded or proprietary technology, and motivates programming teams with a best-in-class, contemporary development platform.

Increased Agility: Micro Focus benefits organizations needing to extend legacy functionality. By helping improve time-to-market of application maintenance and modernization projects, Micro Focus tools free up key staff to work on strategic initiatives such as SOA³ enablement, Basel II and Sarbanes-Oxley. These tools include capabilities to allow COBOL programmers to quickly and easily extend legacy systems using SOA architectures into J2EE, .NET or Web services, without changing the original code or having to learn new architectures. This further improves organizational dexterity by delivering proven business value into new channels.

Leverage and Extend results in applications that are:

- Lower-cost (TCO of hardware and software is reduced)
- Higher performance (for processor-intensive applications)
- More open and maintainable
- Agile and adaptable
- Extensible to the internet, SQL/ADO.Net, J2EE, XML and Web services
- Fully exploited through continued re-use

Summary

Micro Focus' unified environments for application development and high performance cross-platform deployment significantly reduce risks and costs, and offer improved business agility through extension to J2EE, .NET and Web services. Aligning IT to the business with improved application delivery will yield a substantial ROI.

www.microfocus.com

Micro Focus Worldwide

Austria.....	0800 293 535
Australia.....	1800 632 626
Belgium.....	0800 11 282
Canada.....	1 905 824 7397
France.....	0800 916 564
Germany.....	0800 182 5443
Ireland.....	+353 1 469 3121
Italy.....	800 784 420
Japan.....	+81 3 5793 8550
Luxembourg.....	800 23743
Netherlands.....	+31 23 5689 138
Norway.....	+47 22 91 07 20
Switzerland.....	0800 564 247
Sweden.....	+46 8 545 13 390
United Kingdom ..	0800 328 4967
United States.....	1 877 772 4450
Other Countries ..	+44 1635 32646

¹ Source: Standish Group.

² Source: Gartner.

³ Service-Oriented Architecture.