

Enterprise modernization solutions  
To support your business objectives



**Rational** software


# Slash maintenance costs while incrementally evolving core systems.

*A multiplatform modernization roadmap*






# Is maintenance killing value-added initiatives?



Given economic conditions and tight budgets, every efficiency an enterprise can squeeze out of operations can make a big difference in its ability to position itself and compete for growth as marketplace conditions improve. However, complex, disjointed layers of technology and information assets that are spread across the organization—which underpin the value of most enterprises—are a big hurdle. These layers have been built up as a result of evolving technology and of mergers and acquisitions. And, although the millions of lines of code they represent are the lifeblood of everyday operations, the systems are also rife with challenges. Their flexibility is typically limited. And the cost of maintaining them absorbs much of the IT budget, leaving too little for innovation.

To continuously improve your ability to respond to customer demands, marketplace pressures and new business opportunities, you have to do something. So what's the best bet for getting more from your IT investments? Modernize.



## Rethinking modernization as a springboard for growth

For many people, enterprise modernization means the same thing as “application modernization,” and the term is also often associated with significant investment and cost. But the relative costs and benefits of modernization initiatives all come down to the approach taken. Companies must also recognize that most applications are tiered and that modernization requirements extend across multiple platforms.

The IBM approach to modernization is about helping organizations lower maintenance costs and extend the life of all their systems so they can improve efficiency and responsiveness. Recognizing the historical shortcomings of modernization efforts focused on applications alone, IBM takes a holistic, incremental approach that is designed to overcome the key challenges of enterprise modernization and help you:

- Reduce application maintenance costs.
- Improve IT personnel skills and productivity.
- Promote collaboration among disparate IT teams.

## A smart approach to modernization: incremental, not wholesale

It would be nice if there were a one-size-fits-all approach to modernization. But every enterprise has different needs. To determine where you can reap the most benefits from your efforts, it's important to consider applications, people and teams. Where you start and what modernization efforts you complete using the IBM approach are based entirely on your business priorities and potential return on investment (ROI).

### Applications

Your applications are critical business assets, and to get the most from them, you need to clearly understand what they do, what value they add and where redundancies exist. With improved understanding of your application assets, you can more easily create the new services that your business strategy requires. For example, even modest reductions in redundancies can help significantly lower maintenance costs.



### People

Striking a balance between people with skills to maintain core applications and people familiar with distributed technologies is an ongoing struggle for most organizations. Modern tooling from IBM Rational® software can help improve developer productivity and reduce training costs. For example, a single integrated development environment (IDE) can be used for both mainframe and distributed work on multiplatform applications, reducing development costs and speeding project completion.

### Teams

Unified IT teams using common tools and processes can complete development projects more quickly and at a lower cost. Teams using different tools and manual processes lack visibility into how changes to an application on one platform will affect that application on another. To reduce business risks and optimize efficiency, teams need tools that help improve quality across platforms and the software delivery life-cycle while boosting productivity and agility by automating cross-team collaboration.

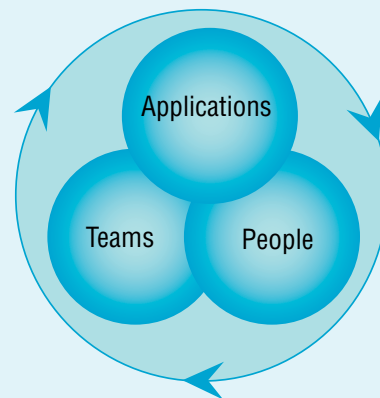


Figure 1: The enterprise modernization approach used by IBM is holistic and incremental.

### **Modernization in action: UniCredit**

*UniCredit, a large German financial services organization, wanted to modernize its development platform for core financial business software and to improve development and testing efficiencies. It sought a single environment for developing, debugging and testing batch and online applications, which previously were developed by siloed teams.*

*For mainframe application development, more than 200 UniCredit developers now use IBM Rational Developer for System z® software. The solution provides a similar development environment for COBOL and Web applications and helps attract younger developers. Moreover, development productivity has increased by about 15 percent and testing productivity, by roughly 10 percent.*





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## Start today

With a comprehensive portfolio of leading services, tooling and skills to support the entire enterprise modernization lifecycle, IBM can help you rein in maintenance costs and extend the life, flexibility and value of your applications. Best of all, the money you save can be put to better use for the business.

To learn more about IBM Rational solutions for enterprise modernization, contact your IBM sales representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

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