Informatica Solution for Application Retirement

Cut Legacy Application Costs by Retiring Data into a Compressed, Secure, and Accessible Archive

Benefits

- Eliminate costs associated with hardware, software, and legacy application maintenance and skills

- Reduce IT complexity by modernizing infrastructures and managing a single environment

- Ensure compliance with integrated search, data validation, retention policies, and legal hold management

Legacy applications are the inevitable result when your company's systems are upgraded, replaced, or adopted through mergers and acquisitions. Although no longer actively processing business transactions, these systems are often kept in your application portfolio simply for reporting or compliance purposes.

But legacy systems bleed your budget. With infrastructure and maintenance costs that are often substantial, they become an increasing liability with every year they remain in operation. As legacy applications grow older and their resources become scarce, the costs to your organization compound even further. Running and managing these applications can reportedly consume more than 50 percent of IT budgets—an expense that your enterprise simply can't afford.

What's more, a growing inventory of redundant legacy systems uses valuable resources, requires management expertise, and impedes access to data for reporting and compliance. The only way out of this trap is through a comprehensive application retirement initiative. And that requires a robust software solution.

Reduce Costs and Risks, Safely and Efficiently, with Legacy Application Retirement

With the Informatica® solution for application retirement, your company can implement a comprehensive application retirement program. The solution provides a common, centralized store for archival content and long-term retention. It allows your company to minimize the expenses and risks of obsolescence and noncompliance by taking a factory approach to application retirement, delivering repeatable value that aligns process and people with technology (See Figure 1).

This solution enables you to:

- Rationalize application portfolios by moving legacy data into modernized infrastructures
- Consolidate data across numerous legacy applications into a single archive
- Maintain secure access to retired data for business reporting and audit purposes with a variety of flexible archive access options
- Automate the enforcement of data retention, data disposal, and legal holds

The Informatica solution for application retirement consists of Informatica Data Archive Advanced Edition, the ILM Data Validation Option, and the ILM Discovery Option. Further options to the solution are a federated archive, application retirement accelerators, additional archive capacity, and more connectors. The solution connects to a wide array of relational databases, mainframe platforms, and more than 400 structured data sources to retire all of your legacy applications.

Key Capabilities

Application Retirement Workbench

Managing your application retirement project requires an approach of disciplined and documented best practices. Integrated into the Informatica solution for application retirement is a workbench—a simple wizard-driven user interface that guides you through the application retirement process to simplify configuration and execution. The application retirement workbench allows you to systematically retire all legacy systems and manage progress of the project across the complete inventory of your legacy applications.
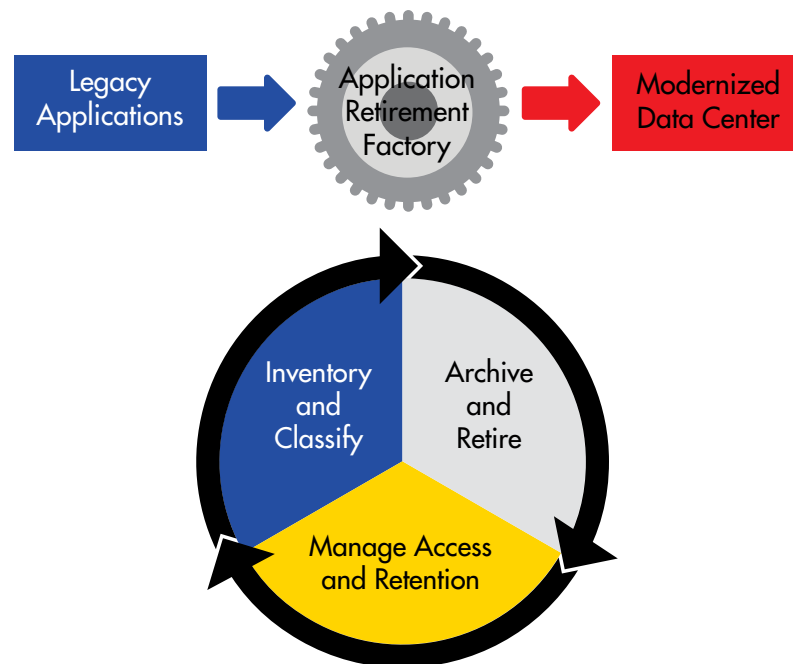
Automated Application and Data Model Discovery

Application data models are highly complex, and in many cases the data relationships are defined solely inside application programs. Systematically capturing data relationships and business integrity is essential to a successful application retirement project. The solution's application metadata discovery and data profiling capabilities automate the encapsulation of complex data models and relational integrity and store this information with the archive data.

Archiving with Extreme Compression

The volume of structured data and related metadata in your legacy applications can be substantial. This makes storing it in a highly compressed format—with zero compromise to its access—absolutely essential. The Informatica solution for application retirement provides market-leading compression technology that stores your legacy data in a highly optimized archive format that reduces the data's footprint by as much as 98 percent. This enables you to store all legacy data in a central, consolidated archive. That data always remains online, providing fast, in-place access for authenticated users, easily meeting their reporting requirements.

Informatica Application Retirement Factory

Leveraging an approach that looks at application retirement as a factory process delivers repeatable value that aligns process and people with technology

Flexible Archive Access and Data Visualization

Access to archive data is essential to building confidence in your application retirement strategy. The Informatica solution supplies capabilities for keyword search, data browsing, and data visualization reporting with its built-in Data Discovery Portal. Additionally, open, SQL-based connectors to the data archive allow you to leverage existing investments and expertise in enterprise business intelligence and reporting tools. Aligning with your data center modernization initiatives, the archive provides flexible options for deployment and can be configured to run as a virtual server on premise, on a Hadoop file system, or on cloud storage platforms.

Compliance Manager and Data Validation

Your compliance and audit teams require tools to manage legacy data with lifecycle policies that easily fit within data governance guidelines. To align and document the disposition of data with changing regulatory compliance requirements, the Informatica solution furnishes you with a Compliance Manager for data validation, retention, disposal, and legal hold. Its data disposal workflow ensures that data is retained only as long as necessary to minimize the risk of noncompliance.

The Informatica solution for application retirement simplifies the retirement of legacy systems with an easy-to-follow, step-by-step approach. Apply and enforce retention policies based on the desired level of granularity.

Key Benefits

Eliminate Costs of Managing Legacy Applications

With a single comprehensive and complete application retirement solution, organizations eliminate needs to maintain hardware and software and supply maintenance for applications that add minimal or no business value. The Informatica solution for application retirement enables enterprises to decommission entire environments, freeing the cost of managing outdated infrastructure and eliminating the need for specialized application skills. Legacy data remains entirely accessible, preserves business context, and leverages open, standard enterprise reporting tools.

Reduce IT Complexity by Modernizing Infrastructures

The wide range of servers, operating systems, databases, and storage necessary to support legacy applications compromises your ability to modernize data centers. The Informatica solution consolidates all legacy applications into a central archive running on commodity servers and storage. This allows you to leverage existing IT skills sets by managing a single environment. The archive can be deployed on premise or in the cloud and may be easily migrated to a more modern infrastructure as your data centers evolve.

Reduce Risks by Documenting and Ensuring Compliance

Classifying legacy data as it is moved into the archive allows you to simultaneously document retention policies according to regulatory compliance and data governance initiatives. Sudden and otherwise costly requirements to retain data indefinitely due to complicated industry regulations can now be met in a straightforward and easy manner. The Informatica solution for application retirement dramatically reduces compliance and audit effort with automated data expiry reports, workflows, and legal hold management. Open reporting capabilities make you responsive to audit and legal inquiries without having to contract out for expensive and specialized expertise.

About Informatica

Informatica Corporation (Nasdaq:INFA) is the world's number one independent provider of data integration software. Organizations around the world rely on Informatica to realize their information potential and drive top business imperatives. Informatica Vibe, the industry's first and only embeddable virtual data machine (VDM), powers the unique "Map Once. Deploy Anywhere." capabilities of the Informatica Platform. Worldwide, over 5,000 enterprises depend on Informatica to fully leverage their information assets from devices to mobile to social to big data residing on-premise, in the Cloud and across social networks.

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