



 Boomi

Application Modernization: Keys to Success

Application Rationalization: Starting the Journey to Innovation

To make progress with digital transformation, businesses need to build modern cloud and hybrid IT systems driven by seamlessly integrated applications

Faced with increased competition and the pressure to trim operational overhead, business leaders sooner or later realize they need to take stock of their applications and decide what to keep, what to replace and what to retire. We call this process “application rationalization.”

One reason for this scrutiny of past investments? Technical debt is far too high in many enterprises. Technical debt is the accumulated burden required to maintain IT projects developed or integrated hurriedly in the past.

Too often, corner-cutting in application development or provisioning creates systems that are difficult and costly to maintain, consuming a larger and larger share of IT budgets — as much as 20 to 50 percent in some large enterprises.

Technical debt ends up starving IT organizations of the funds, time and attention they could otherwise devote to new strategic initiatives such as digital transformation.

One way or another, old, costly to maintain applications need to be replaced with modern applications. And these days that usually means cloud applications and services.

Application modernization is imperative for any IT organization that wants to be the driver of innovation within an enterprise.

“Application modernization takes advantage of the agility, flexibility and cost savings available with new applications.”

Steve Wood, Chief Product Officer, Dell Boomi

Modernizing Applications and Their Integrations

Application modernization takes advantage of the agility, flexibility and cost savings available with new cloud-based applications.

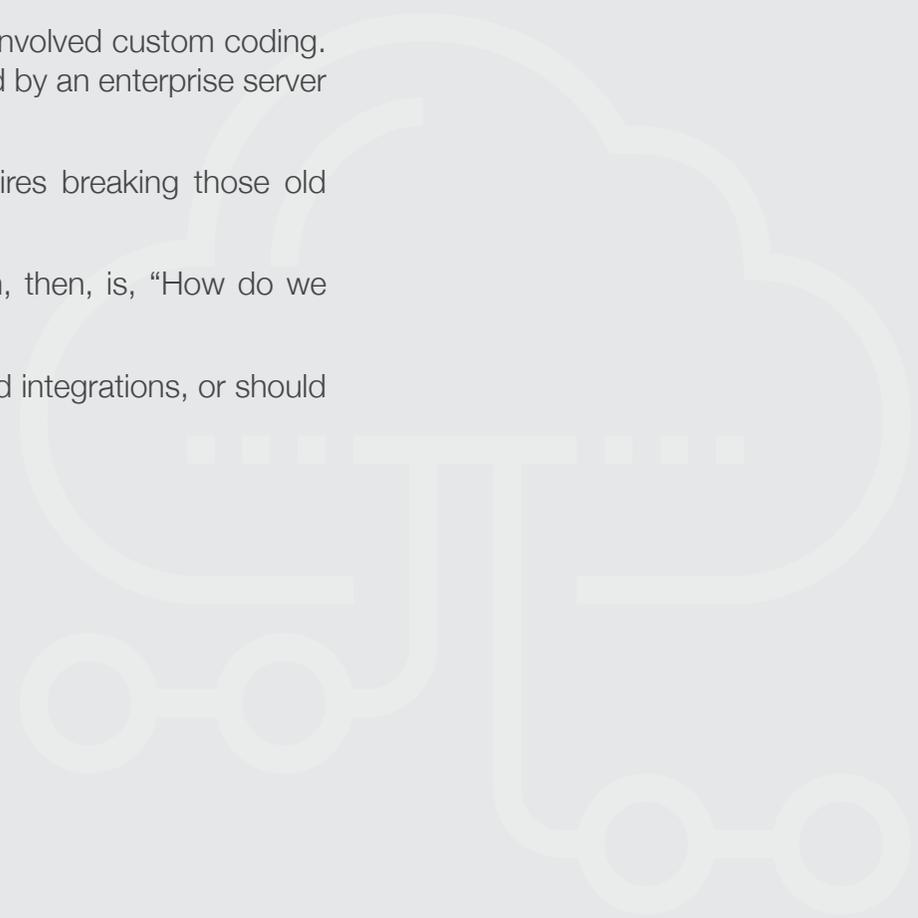
But no business application ever operates as a silo. The old applications being replaced, whether running on-premise or in the cloud, are most certainly connected to other applications and data repositories.

And chances are those integrations were built using older technology that involved custom coding. Some of the integrations might be point-to-point. Others might be managed by an enterprise server bus (ESB) or other legacy middleware.

In either case, replacing the old application with a new application requires breaking those old integrations and building new integrations.

The question for the CIOs, enterprise architects and the application team, then, is, “How do we create modern integrations among these new best-of-breed applications?”

Should CIOs rely on the old technology that created the previous hard-wired integrations, or should they modernize integrations at the same time they modernize applications?



Supporting Modern Applications With Modern Integration

Application modernization requires integration modernization. Integration modernization doesn't require eliminating all old integrations or ESBs at once. Rather it's an initiative that can proceed application-by-application.

But integration modernization does require a new approach. It starts by establishing a new model and foundation for how you integrate the mix of applications in your rapidly evolving hybrid architecture.

Critically, your new integration platform should be able to equally support both new cloud applications and your existing legacy applications. And it needs to be able to easily bridge between those two worlds.

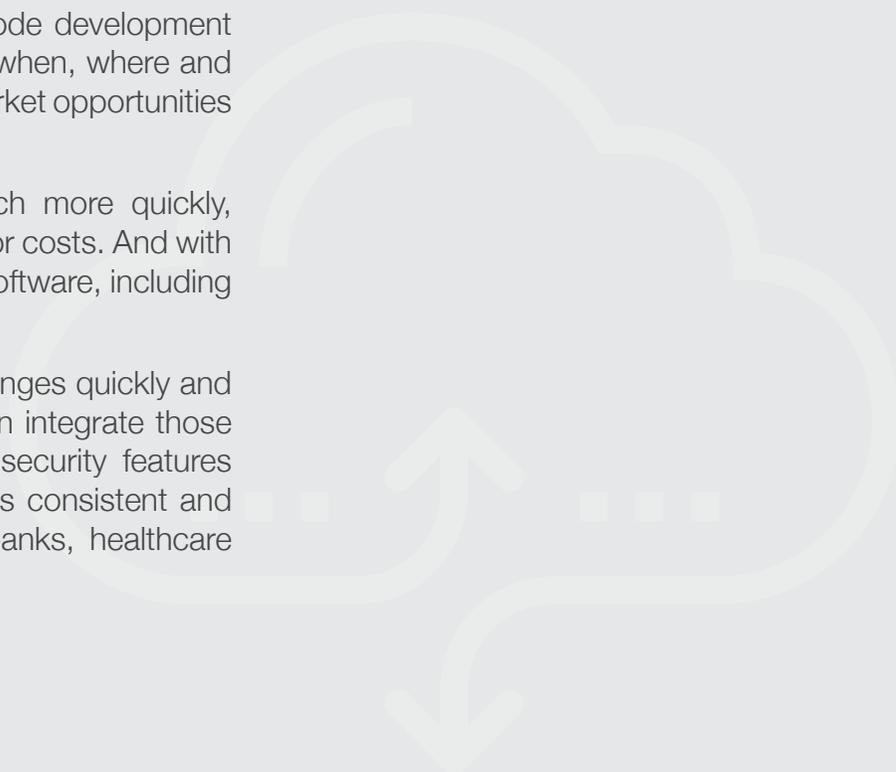
As with other applications and technology services, integration is moving to the cloud. A modern integration platform as a service (iPaaS) can support the needs of a hybrid infrastructure, as well as providing a host of other advantages over legacy integration technologies. These advantages include increased business speed and agility, with much lower costs and risks from inaccessible or poor quality data.

Once these new integrations are in place, the IT organization can begin replacing the old applications without the risk of disrupting business operations. And the organization will have reduced its technical debt, freeing resources for new, more strategic initiatives.

The **Benefits** of Modernizing Applications and Integrations

The advantages of a modern, cloud-native integration platform are significant compared to legacy middleware and custom-coded integrations.

- **Speed:** A modern, cloud-native iPaaS helps organizations build integrations in one-fifth of the time required by custom coding and traditional on-premise middleware. The speed at which you can connect new cloud applications to enterprise data is the key to increasing the speed of your modernization efforts and, ultimately, the speed of your business.
- **Agility:** With the speed of an integration platform that uses a low-code development environment, you can easily provide data to applications and people when, where and how they need it, ensuring your organization can quickly respond to market opportunities and competitive pressures.
- **Reduced Costs:** Because your integration work is done so much more quickly, development and testing time is dramatically reduced, helping trim labor costs. And with a cloud-native platform, you avoid all the capital costs of on-premise software, including hardware upkeep and software maintenance.
- **Reduced Risks:** Integrations are no longer brittle. You can make changes quickly and easily. When new cloud applications change or add features, you can integrate those changes and additions on the fly. And with baked-in, guaranteed security features and standards support, a modern cloud integration platform provides consistent and thorough protection to all kinds of organizations, including major banks, healthcare organizations, and retailers.



Case Study: Application Modernization at Novartis



Novartis found exactly what they were looking for with Boomi. The move to Boomi's modern integration platform eliminated nearly all the costs incurred by their legacy integration middleware. In addition to removing hardware and software maintenance costs, Boomi's cloud-native iPaaS also removes the risks associated with major on-premise software upgrades.

Consolidating development and management into Boomi's integration cloud also improved the overall speed of application deployments, which, in turn, accelerated application modernization.

According to Ovum Research, Dell Boomi's iPaaS dramatically reduced Novartis' development efforts while delivering significant cost savings in infrastructure and services. Novartis estimated the first phase of the project delivered overall cost savings of 30 percent while cutting server capacity requirements by 50 percent.

Importantly, Boomi iPaaS reduced the development time for new interfaces by two to three weeks. As a result, Novartis was able to deploy twice the number of integration interfaces and processes in a sixth of the time compared to its previous on-premise integration technologies. This gave them time to fix the poorest performing integrations and improve the end-to-end speed of related business processes.

In the initial phase of the project, Novartis expects Boomi iPaaS to deliver a total cost of savings around 35 percent. And over time, the company expects that savings to grow to around 50 percent.

How Boomi Helps Enterprises With Application Modernization

The Boomi platform delivers the industry-leading capabilities IT organizations need for modernizing and rationalizing their applications. The Boomi platform provides:

- **Agile, low-code integration:** Speed is king in digital business, and the Boomi platform provides a low-code development interface and over 200 ready-to-use connectors. This enables IT organizations to build in hours or days integrations that would require weeks or months of coding by hand. Some integrations are so easy to build that business users can manage them, freeing IT engineers to work on more complex and strategic projects.
- **Master Data Management:** Clean, accurate data is the life blood of a digital business. On-premise systems for creating a single view of employees, customers and suppliers are expensive to maintain. Boomi provides an easy-to-use, central hub that synchronizes master data and maintains a single source of truth across an organization's data ecosystem. Such data management is crucial for reducing risks from data errors and lost productivity from inaccurate or out-of-date information.
- **API Management:** Boomi's API lifecycle management capabilities help businesses publish and manage real-time data used by internal and external systems. This provides new ways to share data between internal and external sources, as well as reducing costs. And it allows you to seamlessly connect your enterprise to your greater partner ecosystems to speed your supply chain or support your customers.
- **B2B/EDI Management:** Through its cloud EDI service, Boomi supports facilitated data exchange with partners such as third-party logistics (3PLs). Because the EDI service runs on the same platform as other Boomi integrations, connecting EDI with business applications like ERP systems is easier than ever. This makes it possible to more closely tie your external supply chain to your cloud enterprise systems to gain greater efficiencies.
- **Workflow Automation:** Boomi offers a low-code workflow automation and app development environment called Boomi Flow. Using a drag-and-drop interface, enterprise architects, IT engineers and even business users can quickly design workflows and automated tasks that run anywhere: in the cloud, on-premise or in a hybrid configuration. Boomi Flow lets you easily tie human-based workflows into business processes spanning both legacy and modern application infrastructures.

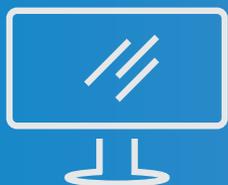
Boomi's modern, unified integration platform supports the key needs of today's digital businesses.

- **Connect everything:** Boomi connects applications, APIs, microservices, EDI services, IoT devices and more. It's a universal integration mesh for the enterprise.
- **Engage everywhere:** Through Boomi, enterprises can engage more quickly and effectively with customers, partners and employees. You can use the Boomi platform to streamline machine and human workflows across your organization and beyond.
- **Run anywhere:** With patented Boomi Atom technology, you can deploy your applications wherever it makes the most sense for your IT architecture: in the public cloud, private cloud, hybrid or on-premise. A run-time Atom can be deployed on devices as disparate as a jet engine or a Nest thermostat.
- **Boomi is adaptable:** Designed to support agile development practices, Boomi helps make organizations themselves more agile. Its low-code interface shortens development cycles. And Boomi's ready-to-use connectors, templates and tools from the Boomi Community help boost your team's speed, efficiency and expertise. Using Boomi, enterprises can respond more quickly to business opportunities and competitive threats.

In addition, the Boomi platform offers these benefits:

- **A low total cost of ownership** that is possible only with a cloud-native platform
- **High availability** from an auto-healing, auto-updating platform with 99.99% uptime
- **Process efficiency** with features like Boomi Suggest, which draws integration insights from best practices across 50 terabytes of data and more than 7,000 Boomi customers
- **Completely flexible distributed architecture** supporting our run-anywhere Atom, the real-time engine for Boomi integrations

Boomi provides the capabilities enterprises need for application modernization. By modernizing integrations along with applications, IT organizations can achieve even greater agility, flexibility and cost efficiency, freeing them to embark on their digital transformation journey.



To learn more about how Boomi can help you automate business processes across your enterprise, please contact our experts today!

<https://boomi.com/company/contact/>



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