

TOP 10 WAYS TO DE-RISK YOUR JDE UPGRADE PROJECTS



Oracle continues to invest heavily in JD Edwards EnterpriseOne (JDE E1). Oracle's investment represents an opportunity for every customer to realize more value from their own continuing investments.

To realize and maximize value, customers need to upgrade to 9.2 and then stay current. If you have not already committed to getting current and staying current, there's no such thing as a bad time to start. It does not have to be difficult; you simply need to appreciate that getting current and staying current means being open to running more frequent, better managed projects. Two keys to successfully running more frequent smaller projects are to focus on value, and to mitigate risk.

Over the past 20 years, we have worked on many upgrade projects. From what we have learned, we put together the following list of 10 ways to de-risk, and run, better upgrade and code-current projects.



TOP 10 WAYS TO DE-RISK YOUR JDE UPGRADE PROJECTS

1. BE REALISTIC ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO ACHIEVE

Companies tend to talk about upgrades as either being technical or transformational. Transformations are hard. A technical upgrade is comparatively easy.

2. DON'T BE INTIMIDATED BY THE PROSPECT OF A SIGNIFICANT UPGRADE

Change is change. It will almost certainly be easier to get current on JDE E1 than to implement something new. This will be true even if you're on a very old version of the software (OneWorld XE, EnterpriseOne 8.x, etc.).

3. PARTNER FOR SUCCESS

If you don't have the resource internally, engage with an experienced Systems Integrator to manage the project. Where necessary, leverage the experience of technical retrofit specialists to handle the challenging aspects of your modified code.



4. KNOW WHAT'S CHANGED AND WHAT HASN'T

It's considerably faster and easier to perform retrofitting if the customized footprint is properly analyzed and audited. Unused objects should be jettisoned from the mix before you start down the retrofitting path.

5. NOT ALL CUSTOMIZED OBJECTS ARE CREATED EQUAL

Some objects will require considerably more effort than others when retrofitting. Think about a "Best Upgrade Approach" for retrofitting. Re-coding your customizations against the target release objects is often the least efficient approach.

6. DON'T TIME YOUR PROJECTS TO COINCIDE WITH SCHEDULED JDE E1 UPDATES OR RELEASES.

Run your projects at times that best suit your business stakeholders. Oh, and don't force a code-freeze on the business during a project.

7. HAVE A PLAN AND STICK TO IT

Know what's going to happen when and hold people to account. Retrofitted objects should be delivered in bundles that can be installed and tested immediately. Bad quality retrofitting will inevitably require rework and result in difficult to manage delays.



8. BUILD A PROJECT ORGANIZATION THAT IS BASED ON TRUST AND RESPECT

Encourage open dialogue and cross functional, cross hierarchical communication. Be prepared to listen to, and to take advice from, any experts that are part of your team.

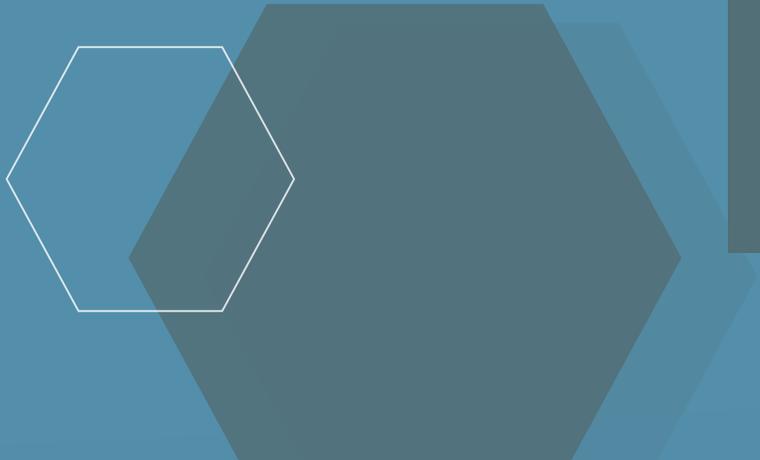
9. #TESTSMART

Retrofits should be delivered after unit testing. Leverage the best tools available to automate your testing where appropriate. Well documented project team testing will ease some of the burden you place on end-users during acceptance testing.



10. EMBRACE THE CONCEPT OF CONTINUOUS DELIVERY

Doing so will avoid the irregular and large-scale upgrade pain points. Staying code current doesn't need to be difficult, especially if you appreciate that regular code-current change event projects cost less, deliver more value and carry less risk.

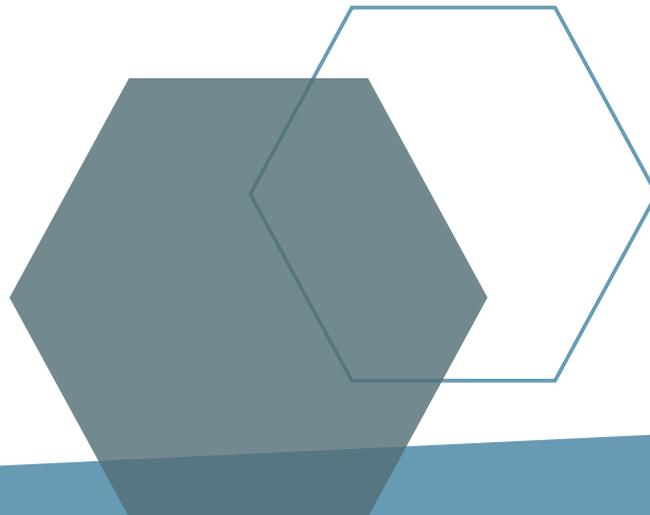


DWS UPGRADE SERVICES

We are flexible in our approach to any upgrade project. We can work alongside your in-house team to provide additional expertise when required, or as a dedicated upgrade development resource, freeing your internal resource to focus on maintaining your live environment.

Dimension Analyze™ and Dimension Professional™ are services that enable our customers to better plan, manage, and execute the modifications uplift component of any JDE E1 upgrade or code-current change event project. Utilizing a best upgrade approach, we are able to offer a fixed-price and fixed-timescale for your project. Utilizing the best upgrade approach, we are able to offer a fixed price and fixed timescale for your project.

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