

JD Edwards Business Planning... Upgrade to 9.x?

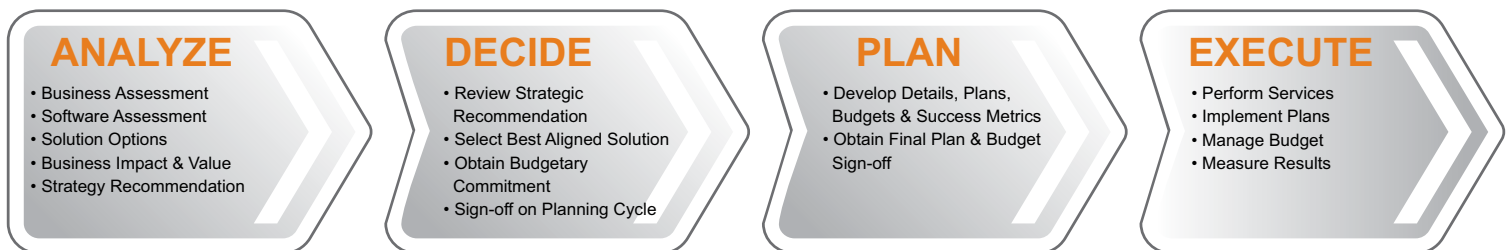
Fusion Applications are not ready to replace your JD Edwards ERP; Oracle says upgrade to ensure support coverage and a bridge to Fusion; economic conditions dictate a high return on any ERP investment. What are your options? What value can be realized in an upgrade to the latest version? What should you do? Who can deliver truly objective analysis? Spinnaker can.

OUR ONE PIECE OF ADVICE, **DECIDE NOW!**

Gartner® suggests in a recent research note¹ that Fusion Applications will have limited relevance for most companies to serve as a complete ERP suite for the next few years. The current state of Fusion readiness creates a gap that must be bridged due to Oracle's decision to end Premier Support for older releases of JD Edwards by December 2013.

Oracle's answer to this conundrum is to upgrade to 9.x. The company recommends you upgrade to either World A9.x or EnterpriseOne 9.x to ensure uninterrupted Oracle support through 2014 and a direct migration path to Fusion. Oracle's 9.x upgrade strategy may be a viable approach for organizations able to absorb the investment impact of two major ERP upgrades over the next five years, but for many this strategy just isn't feasible.

Fortunately, you have options. Wherever your company falls on the ERP decision- continuum, Spinnaker suggests, and Gartner agrees, you must **plan and decide now!**



Spinnaker Support's "JD Edwards Strategic Business Assessment" is a formal process for evaluating options and defining strategies for a company's long-term JD Edwards software investments. Gaining alignment on internal needs and expectations is a crucial first step in determining your company's next move. Your options are:

- Do Nothing
- 9.x Upgrade
- ERP Platform Migration

There are significant implications to each path and we can help you define the right strategy for your organization.

¹Gartner RAS Core Research Note (G00210158): "JD Edwards Users: Don't Wait for Oracle Fusion Applications; Plan Your Upgrade Strategy Now," January 31, 2011

JD EDWARDS STRATEGIC BUSINESS ASSESSMENT

The goal of the assessment is to deliver fact-based findings and recommendations upon which your business can plan and act. Our two-stage approach assesses business need and expectations, as well as technology options that must be considered in developing your long-term JD Edwards strategy. A high-level overview of each stage and related activities is presented below.

BUSINESS ASSESSMENT

Spinnaker's business assessment is the foundational activity. The goal is a thorough assessment of the business environment, stakeholder expectations, and operational objectives for your core business software. Our approach also educates stakeholders on the decision points you are facing, your options, and the implications of each. The business assessment typically includes the following activities:

- Defining Business Drivers – Which business issues are motivating action
- Identifying Stakeholders – Who will benefit and are investing in the solution
- Determining Business Objectives – What are the specific objectives and expectations that must be met by the operational software to achieve success

SOFTWARE ASSESSMENT

The second strategic activity is a detailed assessment of the software's ability to enable success as defined in the business assessment. Software assessment activities typically include:

- Functional Review – Identify business requirements for system alignment and gap closure
- Technical Review – Assess current and desired-state infrastructure requirements and gaps
- Resources Review – Assess the organizational capacity to support a change initiative
- Program Review – Analyze migration/upgrade risks, constraints and assumptions

ASSESSMENT DELIVERABLE

Upon completion of assessment activities, Spinnaker prepares the JD Edwards Strategic Recommendation, an extensive report presenting detailed findings and recommendations related to your JD Edwards investment options – Do Nothing, 9.x Upgrade, or ERP Platform Migration. The report will include:

- Business assessment findings and recommendations
- Software assessment findings and recommendations
- Current and desired-state definition
- Company-specific software path recommendation
- High-level plan(s) and budgetary estimate(s) for recommended path
- Statement of value – high-level ROI for recommended path

BENEFIT STATEMENT

Spinnaker's JD Edwards Strategic Business Assessment provides you with the knowledge to make an informed decision impacting your JD Edwards path. Our goal is to guide your business to achieve its desired result by:

- Gaining organizational alignment and buy-off on your software direction
- Establishing the plan for delivering software value to the business
- Establishing budgetary estimates in which you have confidence
- Creating a go-forward plan



Spinnaker Support is the market leader in JD Edwards consulting and support solutions, we help clients extend the value and maximize the life of their JD Edwards software investments by assessing, planning, and executing JD Edwards projects as a continuous improvement initiatives.