ASSESSMENT

IBM SOFTWARE LICENSE VALUE ASSESSMENT

Assess the state of your current IBM software, identify risks and opportunities and get a modernisation road map.

IGNORING SOFTWARE MODERNISATION CAN BE COSTLY

Software modernisation isn't sexy or fun. There, we said it!

While IBM applications are often mission-critical to business success, and much effort is invested in finding and implementing the best solutions, keeping existing software up to date often isn't a top priority. With other projects regularly perceived as more valuable and exciting, resources and budgets are allocated to them instead of software modernisation.

However, while this is a common and understandable approach, it is one that many IBM customers could come to regret.

When applications have been in use for a while, it is common for the customer entitlements (as per the license agreement) and the actual usage to no longer align. This can have severe consequences when the organisation uses more licenses or features than it purchased.

When IBM comes knocking for an audit, compliance suddenly becomes a priority – but it's often too late for an efficient, cost-effective review and modernisation project. If an organisation is found to be non-compliant, the penalties can be significant, but it is so much more than just a compliance issue.

Modernisation efforts – like a regular Software License Value Assessment – identify unused licenses, or product functionality which isn't being used, leading to significant cost savings. An assessment by an experienced team is an opportunity to check if the existing applications and technology landscape are still fit for purpose and can highlight opportunities for optimisation.

In other words, while software modernisation might not be sexy, it's not something you want to neglect – and the time to act is now. Out-of-date systems can cost your business by slowing you down, and you risk being left behind by your competition. In addition, once older systems have been ignored for a while, updating them becomes a bigger undertaking – which can seem daunting and unachievable.

The good news is that software modernisation can be done in a way that doesn't disrupt your business and allows you to reap the benefits without huge investments.

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MODERNISATION OPTIONS

With the importance and benefits of software modernisation obvious, the question becomes "how?" How should IBM customers approach software modernisation? Generally speaking, there are three options

THE BAND-AID: MOVE TO THE CLOUD

One common approach to software modernisation is moving to the cloud. While this can be the right move in some situations, it's no magic bullet. Unless addressed separately, many issues associated with legacy software and license misalignment will simply move to the cloud with you.

THE FULL TRANSPLANT: REPLACE EVERYTHING

Another approach to modernisation is to replace the entire system. While this would address many of the issues caused by legacy software and non-compliance, it is costly and can take years. It is also a very disruptive approach, which is simply not suitable for many organisations.

THE TREATMENT PLAN: CONTINUOUS MODERNISATION

It's obvious that option one isn't always suitable and option two is expensive and time-consuming. Many organisations stop here, deciding that software modernisation is not feasible, and delay any plan. However, there is a third option, one that takes a holistic approach to identify critical issues and opportunities to address first, while also developing a roadmap for ongoing modernisation, to ensure software applications stay up to date and add maximum value.

The Certus IBM Software License Value Assessment follows this third approach. Our three-step methodology – reimagine, refine, rewire – is designed to fix what needs fixing and provide visibility and a roadmap for ongoing modernisation, all while minimising disruption.

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MODERNISE WITH A CERTUS IBM SOFTWARE LICENSE VALUE ASSESSMENT

The Certus IBM Software License Value Assessment is an in-depth review of your existing IBM software to establish your baseline license position in order to uncover and understand your risks and requirements. For many organisations, it's an excellent place to start their software modernisation journey, as well as an efficient way to regularly check any risks or missed opportunities.

Our Reimagine – Redefine – Rewire methodology helps identify those immediate risks and opportunities while also putting a long-term roadmap into place. Importantly, this process is designed to reduce disruption to the business, making modernisation more achievable. In addition, it's a very flexible methodology, allowing it to be tailored to each organisation's specific requirements and goals.

	REIMAGINE CURRENT STATE ASSESSMENT	**REDEFINE** STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT	**REWIRE** ROADMAP ASSESSMENT
ACTIVITIES	• Review of the current software license environment to determine if: • The licenses you are paying for align with what is currently deployed. • You are using current and supported versions of these licenses. • Review of how software licenses map to technical capabilities and systems that fulfil those capabilities. • What business applications do they support? • What dependent applications are mandating that you have these licenses?	• Review of the current enterprise IT strategy as it relates to software entitlements roadmap. • Investigation into what lifecycle events could affect the software licenses. • Investigation into what changes to applications might bring the need for additional licenses. • Identifying problem areas that should be addressed. • Identifying unused features in the existing entitlement that could be repurposed for additional business value.	• Review the lifecycle of business applications, dependent applications, and components. • Review of different licensing approaches that could provide additional value. • Develop an understanding of the functional or technical capability gaps that exist in the organisation.
OUTCOMES	• Complete understanding of current state architecture, platforms, systems and applications. • Report showing how software licenses are currently being used. • Report showing how software licenses map to business applications.	• Report outlining strategic initiatives and how they will affect the current environment and software license deployment.	• Roadmap for the current software licenses, including the business application lifecycle and dependent applications and components.

WHAT YOU GET

COMPLETE VISIBILITY OF RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CONFIDENCE THAT YOU'RE COMPLIANT

ABILITY TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS

FINANCIAL VIEW OF RISKS AND POTENTIAL COST SAVINGS

RECOMMENDATIONS TO OPTIMISE

FUTURE STRATEGY AND ROADMAP

WHY CERTUS DIGITAL

Certus Digital is your partner of choice for an IBM Software License Value Assessment – and much more. Our highly experienced team have helped many organisations like yours implement, optimise, maintain and modernise business-critical IBM systems.

Our consulting-led approach means we're not here to simply sell software. Instead, our goal is to build lasting relationships with our clients and provide the expertise and solutions that will see their organisations succeed – today and in the future.

EXTENSIVE IBM LICENSING SERVICE EXPERIENCE

IN-DEPTH UNDERSTANDING OF IBM PRODUCTS

HIGHLY EXPERIENCED BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

EXPERTS IN ASSET- INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES

PART OF AN ECOSYSTEM OF INDUSTRY LEADERS

CONSULTING-LED APPROACH (NOT SALES-LED)

BOOK YOUR IBM SOFTWARE LICENSE VALUE ASSESSMENT

Please get in touch if you would like to learn more about our IBM Software License Value Assessment or book an assessment with our team.

GET IN TOUCH

MORE THAN A SOFTWARE LICENSE VALUE ASSESSMENT

An IBM Software License Value Assessment is only one of the many ways in which we help organisations modernise and avoid costly non-compliance.

OUR APPROACH TO MODERNISATION

We apply a proven six-step framework to help you modernise your software applications. Importantly, this approach is designed to make the most of what you already have. We don't want you to spend money replacing something that's working. Instead, we work with you to identify those areas where investments will result in the biggest returns.

→ LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR MODERNISATION FRAMEWORK

CERTUS LICENSING SERVICES OFFERINGS

Certus has dedicated specialists in IBM software licensing and ILMT deployment. They help simplify your licensing and provide specialist advice to mitigate your risks. Get compliant without the stress or financial penalty that comes with a vendor audit. We've got you covered:

• ILMT Services
• IBM Software License Review (one-off)
• Continuous Reporting (ongoing quarterly)

→ LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR IBM LICENSING SERVICES

POWERED BY A PARTNER ECOSYSTEM

At Certus, we have extensive experience delivering modernisation programmes, as well as a wide range of other technology services and solutions. However, we can't be experts in everything. That is why we operate as part of a Partner Ecosystem. We team up with other industry leaders to deliver more expertise, experience and solutions to our customers. For you, that means you don't just get one team of experts, you get many.

ECOSYSTEM PARTNERS

THE GROWING ECOSYSTEM

TALK TO US ABOUT OUR MODERNISATION AND LICENSING OFFERING

Please get in touch if you would like to learn more about our approach to modernisation or our IBM Licensing Services offering.

FIND OUT MORE

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