



Everything you need to know about upgrading your JD Edwards ERP

Upgrades are essential to get the maximum return out of your JD Edwards ERP investment in the long run. Upgrades bring new functionalities and features to the ERP solution, while keeping incremental costs low. But most enterprises find upgrading a huge challenge. In our experience of delivering JD Edwards solutions to global enterprises, we have identified the most common challenges enterprises face while upgrading. Here are a few key imperatives CIOs typically face.

Should I upgrade?

JD Edwards upgrades come with a compelling business case of better technology, features and ROI. However, an upgrade is not a one-solution-works-for-all decision. Enterprises need to create an upgrade strategy that maximises the return on JDE investments.

How SYSTIME can help:

With more than 17 years of JD Edwards consulting experience, and the credentials of the world's largest JD Edwards practice, SYSTIME helps you in coming up with the most effective upgrade strategy. We help you in evaluating key criteria to weigh benefits against costs. We suggest potential business value areas to explore which can benefit your end users and IT business processes. We detail out the Oracle Fusion vision and suggest how this can be included in your long-term plans. Ultimately, we help you make the right decision for your enterprise by based on information gathered through this exercise.

How important is it to assess the potential of the upgrade?

One of the biggest pitfalls of upgrading is in not knowing the full potential of the upgrade. It is not just important to know the features of the new release, but also critical to understand the current system thoroughly, and consequently, what are the changes and benefits the upgrade could bring. Not assessing the potential of the upgrade could result in missed cutovers and

SYSTIME's Upgrade Assessment Checklist

- Do you understand the new capabilities and features the upgrade can bring?
- Do you have a roadmap to implement the upgrade?
- Do you have a tried and tested methodology to accurately assess the impact of the upgrade?
- Are you able to estimate the effort required to resolve the impacted components?
- Do you have a reliable testing strategy in place? Are you able to accurately estimate the effort required for testing?
- How do you plan to handle cutovers?
- How do you plan to handle post go-live issues?

unrealized opportunities to improve the application functionality.

How SYSTIME can help:

SYSTIME can help you with accurate upgrade assessments by using its Upgrade Assessment Pack (UAP). We arm you with critical information and accurate assessment of your enterprise's need to upgrade. The UAP delineates a roadmap

for upgrade comprising timelines and procedures, and considerably increases the success rate of a project and ensures faster ROI.

How do I deal with customizations?

Itemizing existing customizations to the system and determining plans on handling them is a critical task and should be a part of the upgrade planning process. Most upgrades have to work with very less documentation in place, which often proves to be a major hindrance.

How SYSTIME can help:

Our experienced consultants help you determine which customizations to retire, which to keep, which to update, and which to replace with new functionalities. Intensive retrofit analysis has helped our customers in reducing customizations, making their applications future-ready. As a part of our assessment process, our consultants deep dive into your system and create the necessary documentation, and ultimately eliminate customizations by replacing them with standard functionalities and workarounds. In addition, with an option to execute the retrofit activities using the offshore model, we can ensure substantial savings within the upgrade budget.

How can I make an accurate estimate of the time and effort required to upgrade?

A thorough understanding of the upgrade process is necessary to be able to scope it out correctly. CIOs will do well to rely on tried and tested methodologies and tools that adopt a template-based and documented approach to ascertain the impact of the upgrade on custom development.

How SYSTIME can help:

Leveraging our proprietary SYS-on-Time™ Methodology, we conduct a Project Strategy Workshop wherein detailed planning and scoping is done and a clear upgrade process/approach is defined to arrive at accurate effort and time estimates. In addition, given our deep relationships with Oracle | JD Edwards,

we are able to provide the visibility and accurate guidance on the future roadmap and its impact to the upgrade efforts.

How badly will the downtime hit my business?

It is a misconception that upgrades take up a lot of system downtime and can adversely impact business. Will there be a need to alter the current support lifecycle? Thanks to possible options within the JD Edwards architecture and offshoring, your JD Edwards upgrade can happen in a virtual environment with various options for change management, causing minimal disruption to business.

How SYSTIME can help:

Over the years, SYSTIME has matured the upgrade approach and offshore model, and has successfully implemented upgrade solutions in very fast turnaround times and at reduced costs. By deploying upgrade specialists who have done this multiple time and the option to work from offshore at non-intrusive times, SYSTIME ensures zero or negligible downtimes.

What are my technology considerations?

During the application upgrade of JD Edwards, it may also be beneficial to upgrade or change-out the hardware infrastructure of the system. Given the advent of the web user interface, there are various options that can be evaluated during the upgrade such as new servers, platform / database change, consolidate all integrations under a common platform, etc.

How SYSTIME can help:

Based on numerous past upgrades and our deep expertise with JD Edwards upgrades, we can outline the best options for any infrastructure related changes during or prior to the upgrade. We can assist your IT organization to create a sustainable systems architecture, hand-hold you during the hardware sizing exercise and engineer a viable and cost-effective framework for any infrastructure changes to complement the upgrade initiative.

SYSTIME's JD Edwards Practice Snapshot

SYSTIME's JD Edwards Practice provides high-quality and reliable services to enterprises spanning several verticals, across the globe. With more than 650 JD Edwards consultants, extensive experience across almost all versions, a robust methodology, SYSTIME delivers successful business solutions to customers and ensures high returns on ERP investments.

- Over 30% YoY growth over the last 5 years
- Over 250 large JD Edwards application engagements worldwide
- Delivered over 130 implementations, 300 rollouts, 28 upgrades and 30 support projects
- Industry and product knowledge
- Winner of Oracle Titan award in 2006, 2007 and 2008
- Oracle Accelerate solutions provider (Industrial Products and Components)

About SYSTIME –the #1 choice for JD Edwards implementations, globally

- Largest JD Edwards practice in the world
 - 650 dedicated JD Edwards practitioners
 - 130 global implementations
 - 400 customers across globe
- Proven track record of success and commitment to excellence
 - Oracle JD Edwards Partner of the Year
 - Oracle Certified Advantage Partner
 - Chosen as a co-development partner by Oracle
 - Extensive list of customer references

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A  Group Company



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Oracle

JD Edwards
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North America



2007

Oracle

JD Edwards
Partner of the Year
North America



2008

Oracle

Titan Award
North America



2007

Oracle

Partner of the Year
India



2008

Oracle

Partner of the Year
India



2009

Oracle

Partner of the Year
Growth (Applications) India

SYSTIME has been consistently awarded and recognized by Oracle for excellence in technology partnership.