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Total OpenVMS Solutions

Sector7 is the clear choice for migrating your business-critical applications, consolidating your servers, and optimizing your IT.

- OpenVMS Outsourced Services
- OpenVMS Application Management Services
- Application Replacement
- Application Modernization/Renovation
- Porting and Migration
- Options for Porting and Migration



Sector7
APPLICATION MIGRATION EXPERTS

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OPENVMS OUTSOURCED SERVICES

Finding developers and systems people with OpenVMS skills is becoming increasingly difficult. Because they want to enhance their skill-sets, and due to the lure of more lucrative employment with new technologies, many people are seeking employment outside of the OpenVMS domain.

If you need to augment OpenVMS application development or system administration, or are having trouble finding someone with a particular set of OpenVMS skills, we offer professional, highly-skilled people to help. Not just another body shop, we retain only the best engineers and back them up with our promise of total satisfaction, maintaining contact throughout the engagement to ensure that the work goes well. Our offerings also include:

- Remote system administration
- Creating/implementing recovery/redundancy plans
- System relocation planning and services
- Consolidating VAX systems onto Alpha

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Total OpenVMS Solutions

For the past 10-plus years, OpenVMS has been at the heart of our business. Many of our engineers worked for Digital or a "DEC shop" — some of them even pre-date the VAX, and cut their teeth on PDPs. We are not just another tool-bound, off-shore code churning factory. We begin and end with solutions tailored to meet your needs and we employ the best people and tools accordingly.

It is this great depth of experience and affection for OpenVMS that allows us to offer a broad range of services and solutions to the OpenVMS user. If it's OpenVMS related and you don't see it here, that doesn't mean we don't do it.

OpenVMS Application Management Services

Your business-critical applications are the very core of your organization. The need to respond to user requirements, implement new business functionality and comply with new industry standards puts your IT resources under increasing pressure to provide 24x7 business support and enhanced business value in less time and for the same cost.

Increasing application complexity, higher maintenance costs and dwindling OpenVMS skills merely serve as a distraction from the core functions of your IT department. You most likely have a list of "must-dos" that are essential to your needs in IT, while they do nothing to increase business value. Reliable configuration management is a good example of this.

By offering services that take responsibility for any or all aspects of the maintenance, enhancement and evolution of your applications, we can help you meet and manage these challenges, allowing you to focus on the strategic business and technology initiatives needed to achieve your goals. These are offered within well-defined service levels to maximize cost savings, quality and flexibility to your organization.

- Outsourced development and application maintenance
- Application development assistance
- Configuration management (source code control and build) implementation/clean-up and documentation
- Application and OpenVMS performance tuning
- RMS/database performance tuning
- System evaluation for regulation compliance/certification (ERES, HIPPA, etc.)
- Implementation/refresh of application testing procedures

Application Replacement

It is likely that when your in-house applications were developed some years ago, it was because no off-the-shelf applications were available to meet your business needs, which may not be the case now. It may now be an opportune time to take a look in the marketplace and see if there is a ready-made solution available. Replacing your homegrown applications with a ready-made one is by far the quickest way to embrace new technologies, and get the new features and functions that your business demands.

As when performing a rewrite, one of the biggest barriers when replacing a homegrown application with one off-the-shelf, is understanding what the current one actually does. If the application has not been meticulously documented, then the first task is to document the business functionality of the existing application(s). This then becomes the starting point for your gap analysis to determine the replacement. If the new application doesn't do what the current one does as a minimum, then it will not be acceptable to the user community, and represents a risk to your business.

If you have decided that an off-the-shelf solution is required to replace your homegrown OpenVMS application, we can help you evaluate alternatives, plan, budget and execute to move automated business processes and data to an existing OpenVMS system or a totally new platform.

- Gap analysis study between current and potential applications
- Oracle Financials
- SAP
- PeopleSoft
- MANMAN
- Application and server consolidation

Porting and Migration

With frequent advances in computing technology, the focus on renewal, modification, and updating of computer systems is increasing.

Application migration is now a major issue in established IT departments everywhere. Organizations that have spent years developing applications for particular hardware and operating system environments now see these environments as inappropriate and financially impossible to maintain.

However, these organizations have significant investments in legacy applications critical to their business work flows. Migration of critical applications to a newer platform, offers a way to maintain that investment while gaining additional benefits.

Costs savings are typically realized through reduced capital expenditures and ongoing saving in operating costs provided by the newest hardware. Further cost savings are realized by the standardization in hardware, resulting in highly competitive pricing. Finally, enhanced capabilities are possible because of the extensive selection, and wide availability, of modern software development tools.

The introduction of new technologies such as the Internet, e-commerce, development environments, operating systems, networked data storage, and hardware and communications systems have become the leading edge and focus of the industry.

Indeed, these new technologies have changed the concept of information and its usage in worldwide business. Keeping abreast of new developments and using them to the fullest are essential requirements for maintaining a competitive edge in today's high-powered business environment.

While the need for renewal of business legacy systems is clear, the fact remains that, for the most part, they perform satisfactorily and continue to meet the functional requirements for which they were originally developed. The main reason for this is that the functional requirements, which embody the rules and methods of business transactions for the domain of interest, have not changed appreciably.

Consequently, it is a unique attribute of business legacy systems that they contain a vast amount of valuable business knowledge and procedures that should and will be retained in the new systems that will replace them. What is rarely taken into consideration is the sizable investment in time, effort and money that has gone into making these systems as functional and robust as they are today - the opportunity to retain some of that investment should not be overlooked.

To that end, there are a number of options to be considered: Retain, Re-host, Renovate, Replace, Rewrite or Retire. We can provide assistance with all of these scenarios.



APPLICATION MODERNIZATION AND RENOVATION

If you are happy with the business logic components of your application, but wish to breathe some life into the user interface and/or file I/O layer, then modernization/renovation is a serious consideration. By extracting the business logic from your application, and building it into a new framework of software components, a great deal of time and cost can be saved.

The main areas where renovation can be applied to an application are:

- Convert non-relational (flat/indexed files) to relational database access
- Replace a terminal/character-based user interface with either a graphical (GUI) and/or web based user interface. This generally implies a change from server-only processing to multi-tier client/server processing

One of the major benefits of application renovation is that in many instances, the desired changes can be made, tested and deployed on OpenVMS to eke some extra life out of the current environment prior to replacement, or they can be performed as a follow-on step from a re-hosting project.

- Business logic extraction and re-assembly
- Implement 3-tier architecture from OpenVMS applications
- Abstraction of OpenVMS dependencies into discrete application components
- Database addition ~ RMS to Rdb/Oracle/Sybase
- Database replacement ~ Rdb to Oracle/Sybase
- Database restructure ~ DBMS to Rdb/Oracle/Sybase
- Replace SMG/TDMS/FMS/DECFORMS usage with GUI/Web client
- Convert OpenVMS BASIC/FORTRAN/ MACRO/PASCAL to C or C++
- Convert PDP11 MACRO16 to C or C++
- Convert VMS FORTRAN to ANSI FORTRAN
- Convert applications using ACMS to Tuxedo

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Options for Porting and Migration

VAX VMS to VAX/Alpha OpenVMS

For one reason or another, you may still be running your applications on VAX VMS, and the time has come to upgrade to OpenVMS. Only problem is, you don't know if it will be a simple "drag-and-drop" exercise, or if your application code will require modification or enhancement to run under OpenVMS (on VAX or Alpha). We can help you with both your planning and porting needs.

Porting to OpenVMS on Itanium

As we move ever closer to the reality of OpenVMS on an Intel platform, you may be thinking about what will need to be done to make your applications run under OpenVMS/Intel. We can help you with both your planning and porting needs.

Migration to Another Platform

The decision to migrate your existing applications is generally predicated on how complex the application is, and the extent to which it makes use of features unique to OpenVMS. The use of such features is typically viewed as a barrier to migrating your applications to another platform, and it shouldn't be. We understand all of the complexities in moving an OpenVMS application to another platform.

Along with the experience of 10+ years of migrating numerous OpenVMS applications to other platforms, we also have a comprehensive suite of tools that can minimize the time and risk taken to migrate. If your preference is for a non-tool based solution, we can do that also. It's your choice. Our offerings include:

- Code clean pre-prep for migration on OpenVMS
- Tools based migration
- Native migration

Migration Kick-Start

If you wish to license our tools and perform your own migration, our Migration Kick-Start can provide expertise at your fingertips in a single package, for a minimum investment. Migration Kick-Start is available in three options:

- At your site, with your staff, trained on your systems;
- Your staff at one of our locations using our porting center systems; or
- Your staff at your site using our systems via a secure VPN connection

OpenVMS Skills Transition

Life does not end with OpenVMS for your existing staff. Sector7 also offers tailored transition training to migrate the skills of your OpenVMS engineers to those of the new platform you choose.

RMS/Database Migration/Conversion

Data is your most valuable asset. If you need to share OpenVMS-based data with applications on another platform, or have it converted into another format, we have tools that can help.

OTHER SERVICES

Migrations

- 32-bit to 64-bit empowerment
- HP e3000 to Linux/UNIX and iSeries
- PDP-11 RSTS/E, RSX, RT-11 to Linux/UNIX
- UNIX to S/390 (OS/390 and USS & LINUX)
- Linux/UNIX to Windows®
- UNIX to Linux/UNIX
- Windows® to Linux/UNIX
- IBM/Amdahl mainframe to Linux/UNIX
- Legacy COBOL conversion/migration
- Database Migrations (Oracle/Sybase/Rdb/DB2)
- Complex legacy systems to the platform of choice
- WebLogic to WebSphere

Services

- Complete application migration services
- Migration consulting
- Migration toolkits
- Testing and implementation
- Server consolidation and integration
- Web-enabling of applications

USAContact

2915 Demona Drive,
Austin, Texas 78733
USA

phone 512-340-0606

www.sector7.com
sales@sector7.com

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