



# STRATEGIES FOR MIGRATION OF ORACLE FORMS / EBS

## Migration Considerations

“It took a team of 2 architects, 5 inexperienced developers, 10 external resources from Latvia, and 2 experts from Holland - a total 40,000 man-hours to migrate 300 forms; that translates to 130 man-hours per form!”

Director of Architecture at TIA Technology at his Oracle OpenWorld session

Over the past 20 years, migrating from Oracle legacy systems has been an option seriously considered in many organizations due to advancements in technology such as Mobile, Web 2.0, HTML5, UI/UX concepts, and many more. Organizations have invested vast amounts of time and money into their Oracle back-end applications. As a result, these organizations are now strategizing on how to future proof these applications and keep their systems agile in this mobile, user-focused revolution.

Oracle Forms are widely used for a variety of business applications in many organizations around the world including Oracle EBS, and therefore, such organizations usually have:

- Multiple applications
- Hundreds of Forms
- Thousands of components
- Thousands of tables

Migrating or modernizing such elaborate environments is a very complex project. What are the possible challenges of such a project? We've gathered the most common ones below based on the statistics and experience of our clients:



**Prolonged Planning Time** - It is imperative to have an in-depth knowledge of the existing functional processes, flows and all required use cases for the application. Organizations will then use this knowledge to recreate the business functions for their new application or to adapt to a prepackaged solution. This is quite a challenge as the original system developers are usually unavailable and therefore, gaining the required in-depth knowledge, if at all possible, is an extensive process.



**Lengthy Time to Market** - When dealing with such complex mission critical environments, the migration process proves to be very lengthy. According to some organizations, it was so difficult to estimate the workload, that the deadlines were missed by 300%. This causes serious delays in the rollout and a major competitive disadvantage. As a result, many organizations are forced to halt the migration prior to completion. Business Logic is locked in Forms - The mature applications were built with the user interface items directly connected to the

business processes that they trigger. In this type of “spaghetti code” there is no separation between the business logic layer and the user interface layer. Resulting in a very complex migration process where often the logic is either left out, misinterpreted, or migrated incorrectly. The more complex and mission critical the application the riskier the migration process becomes.



**High risk and extended stabilization period -**

Unlike your existing back-office application, the newly migrated application, will require months of debugging, code review as well as QA from both functional and IT users. This will result in an unstable environment that may put your business at risk for the duration of the lengthy migration process.



**High cost** – Due to the tasks mentioned above, the migration process or procurement of new packaged solutions, ends up costing millions of dollars, with no chance to find a workaround or a shortcut. Organizations, having implemented such projects, shared that they needed to enlist a large team of 15-25 developers, architects, designers, QA specialists and DBAs to work on the migration for 3-5 years.



**Phased approach and data synchronization -**

Releasing the migrated application in phases is often difficult, risky, and requires many steps of data synchronization. This process is long and error-prone, so many organizations only release their new application upon completing the whole process (years later) and are not able to deliver modern applications in sprints.



**Outdated outcome** – As a result of the lengthy migration process, when the project is finally completed, the long-awaited cutting-edge technology or top of the line packaged solution at the time, is oftentimes already outdated as development frameworks and tools tend to change every 1-2 years.

Taking into account the challenges listed above, organizations should seek a solution that can be implemented during the migration process.

Luckily, there is a solution called AuraPlayer that can work in conjunction with migration and will help you reach an optimal solution.



## What is AuraPlayer and how does it work?

AuraPlayer was designed to bridge the gap between Oracle back-ends and next-generation front-ends.

With AuraPlayer you can give your applications a new and modern mobile/web UI, while the back-end application remains untouched, to achieve modernization without risk.

AuraPlayer is a unique, patented solution that modernizes existing Oracle applications without breaking the bank or risking production environments. Using a tool simple enough for business users, existing back-office systems are transformed into services / REST APIs, making the mobile/web world immediately available. Additionally, all business logic, validations, and triggers locked in the current system are fired from the new application, without migration or redevelopment of the original application.

With AuraPlayer, you do not need to understand the complex back-end of your legacy application - you are able to run use cases from the existing Forms from a new user interface. Think of it as running a Form without the existing canvas only on the back-end. AuraPlayer acts as a proxy between the modern cutting-edge technology world and your existing application. The technology behind AuraPlayer’s solution is absolutely unparalleled in the market.

AuraPlayer gives you the ability to release new applications that meet modern UX/UI standards in an agile way. You are now free to continue with your existing system or your migration plans.



Moreover, when you complete your migration, you can keep this investment, by replacing the back-end APIs. The new application that was previously built can serve you before, during and after the migration project, providing you with yet another advantage - no throw-away investment.

To sum up, with AuraPlayer you get the best of 2 worlds. Your migration projects can easily continue in parallel, while you and your users enjoy the following:

-  **Fast time-to-market** - Modern UI/UX in record time
-  **Option to modernize only what you need** - pick certain use-cases for mobile while continuing to redevelop other parts
-  **Agile development** - Ability to mobilize in phases Instant mobility without breaking the bank
-  **No risk** - Keep your business alive and well as you work on migration
-  **No throwaway investment**
-  **Future proof your existing investment without risk or lengthy project**

## What strategy is best for you?

Now that we've covered the migration process and the AuraPlayer solution, your choices for modernization are as follows:

1. Complete the migration process to provide your users with the modern UI/UX application after a million dollar investment and in a few years.
2. Continue with your migration process, all while providing your users with new UI/UX applications using AuraPlayer's solution.
3. Modernizing specific mission critical use cases and business flows to mobile/web using AuraPlayer, and over time determine which parts of your apps need to be fully migrated.

All the above options are viable, and the most suitable one for your organization will probably depend on your budget, business needs, resources, and preferences. Regardless of what decision you make, AuraPlayer consultants would be happy to assist you in achieving your own business goals and to achieve a successful transition to the web and mobile world.

**Feel free to contact us at [info@auraplayer.com](mailto:info@auraplayer.com) for further information.**

"Auraplayer brings a new level of agility, automation and mobility to on-premise systems including Oracle EBS, PeopleSoft and JDE with low risk, flexible, automated solutions and no redevelopment."