



Highlights

- Leverage years of investment into legacy applications by renewing them
 - Substantially speed up legacy system transformation
 - Reduce analysis, design and development time by more than 30 percent
 - Mitigate risks by analyzing and clarifying complexity, reducing manual procedures, reusing business logic and focusing on target software architecture
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Flexible Analysis and Modernization of Legacy Applications with ACT4

Many legacy key applications at enterprise level require fundamental modernization due to end-of-life technologies and outdated architectures. This in turn poses challenges for the operation, maintenance and enhancement of these applications. A lack of technology support, skills and documentation can all be a concern here. Software renovation projects require significant investments of money and resources, and often result in the loss of prior investment in the applications.

ACT4 (Analysis, Conversion and Transformation for Business) is a unique productivity boosting tool from IBM Global Business Services that accelerates legacy application modernization. As part of IBM's proven migration methodology, and together with a pool of experienced experts, it allows the leveraging of existing business logic while removing typical legacy problems. The ACT4 approach:

- enables the analyzing and understanding of legacy systems
- supports decision-making with regard to possible modernization strategies (make, buy, combinations)
- reduces project efforts by more than 30 percent compared to alternative modernization approaches due to automated code handling (parsing, analyzing, generation and testing)
- significantly reduces the risks associated with large modernization projects
- substantially speeds up the analysis and further development of existing systems
- outsources renovation efforts while allowing you to focus on the development of new functionalities and applications

ACT4 uses an innovative mechanism for identifying and analyzing patterns of existing applications. Dozens of programming languages and platforms are supported. Once analyzed and a target application architecture defined, ACT4 allows an optimized transformation of the legacy application into a state-of-the-art application, with its unmatched approach of probing and reusing existing components.



ACT4 in Use:

Large National Retail Bank (Switzerland) Rejuvenation of the Core Banking System

The client's current core banking system is more than 20 years old and built on various outdated technologies which are not flexible enough to meet current and future market challenges. Additionally, the client is facing diminishing availability of labor skills and know-how for covering maintenance and future enhancements of the current system.

After IBM had successfully demonstrated ACT4's capabilities by transforming a sample of the legacy system, the client was eager to adopt IBM's model driven migration approach. The new solution is built on a modern multi-tier architecture and a single programming language (Java).

ACT4 not only allows the client to understand his current system better, but also enables him to be part of the modernization process. It provides the client with the skills and expertise to operate and further develop the modernized system. Additionally, the moratorium of code change is kept to a very short period, minimizing restrictions on business.

Due to the innovative and automated mechanism of ACT4, substantial savings in time, and thus reduced project costs, can be achieved.

Other References:

Large Japanese Retail Bank

- Large parts of the client's outdated core system were transformed into a modern Java-based solution with the help of ACT4.
- The original system was based on heterogeneous technologies mostly implemented over a decade before (Cobol, PL/I, JCL, VSAM, ADABAS). IBM, with the help of ACT4, transformed the system into a modern and robust application based on Java and DB2 running on AIX/WebSphere.
- The transformation included over 50 million lines of Cobol program code.

Large Swiss Retail Bank

- The custom built front desk application based on an inflexible and outdated technology. Therefore and due to decreasing availability of labour skills it could not meet future market challenges. IBM used ACT4 to replace the technology while retaining differentiating functionality and operating model.
- ACT4 helped to implement a state-of-the-art multi-tier architecture and a single technology stack (Java Enterprise), to migrate existing GUIs to a modern Framework and to migrate business functionality.
- The bank achieve substantial savings in time and project costs due to the innovative and automated mechanism.

For more information

To learn more about the modernization of enterprise applications with ACT4, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit ibm.com/services/ch/bcs/act4



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