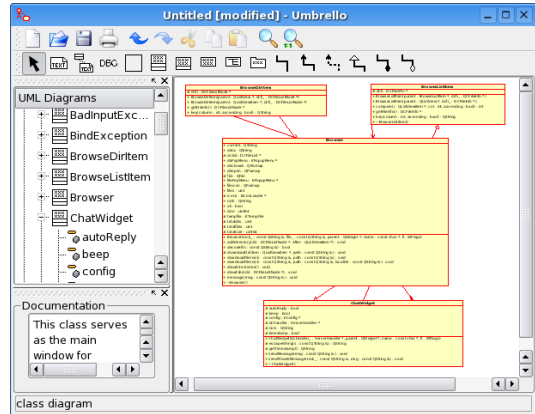


Software Modernization

A Perspective from the System Modernization Engineering (SME) Team

As you look forward to expanding your business, one of the most overlooked issues is, “Will your business software support your planned growth”. Software modernization is a key element in planning for the future growth of your business. For many small to medium sized businesses, it is far more cost effective to upgrade your existing software rather than to buy and install completely new business software. For example, let’s say you have people who are familiar with your current software capabilities; moving them to new software will require expensive, time consuming training, may create problematic changes to your business processes and can create incompatibilities with the existing hardware.



The software modernization process, while maintaining your current capabilities, provides for a more user friendly interface which helps to attract new talent into your organization. By modernizing your business software, you will experience improved performance, lower maintenance costs, and reduced training costs. These efficiencies can result in positive Return on Investment (ROI) within only 12 to 18 months.

Many legacy applications were written in the 1990’s or early 2000’s and were not designed to take advantage of recent technologies such as open architecture, modern software libraries (such as Nokia’s Qt library), and modern message protocols (such as Advanced Messaging Queuing Protocol (AMQP)). As a result, legacy software applications are costly to maintain and difficult to upgrade when enhanced or new capabilities are required. If not addressed, these shortcomings in legacy applications will inhibit the future growth for your company.

Software Modernization Engineering (SME) has the expertise and vision to become your professional resource for software modernization. We have an experienced software team that can cost effectively modernize your business software using current languages and state of the art practice development tools. We work collaboratively with our clients thus ensuring that their expectations are achieved. SME has a variety of capabilities ranging from analysis of legacy software, to software development, to installation and support. As a full service company, our team is experienced in analyzing, recommending, and performing the technology refreshment of the underlying hardware if needed.

Our Experience:

Some of our most recent software modernization efforts have been for command and control systems for US Naval platforms. Our software modernization efforts have reduced the size of the software by nearly 50% and have resulted in an open design that enables enhancements and new capabilities to be added quickly. As an example, the client integrated a new capability into their legacy software requiring over a year to complete. The same client integrated the same new capability into the modernized software in less than 4 months! Our experience, which includes satisfying very demanding military clients, ensures that your software modernization needs are addressed with a thorough and disciplined approach that yields optimized results with mitigated risk.

The Engagement:

SME offers a low risk engagement process with “off ramps” that provides each client with an in-depth visibility into the progress being made. Our standard engagement includes establishing a collaborative environment with the client to better understand the current legacy software capabilities, and more importantly, the business process that utilizes those capabilities. We then issue a report highlighting the recommendations and potential plan for modernization. Upon client approval, we would immediately begin with modernization process and provide regular status updates with multiple opportunities for the client to view and use the modernized software as new capabilities are released into the test environment. Once the development and testing is complete, SME will support the client in the move from the test environment into the production environment. Our clients have several delivery options to choose from including:

1. Delivery of modernized software executing on the existing hardware
2. Delivery of modernized software executing on the existing hardware with software support
3. Delivery of modernized software executing on updated hardware with software support
4. Delivery of modernized software executing as a web based application

These options, plus others tailored to our client’s unique needs, will be clearly documented as part of the establishing the plan for the execution of the modernization effort.

The Company:

SME is a division of ASSETT, Inc. located in Manassas, VA. The company’s heritage is from IBM Federal Systems, Loral Corporation, and Lockheed Martin. The SME Team at ASSETT has extensive experience in software modernization and has been serving commercial and military clients for the last 11 years with quality products and services.