Progress® OpenEdge®

Here's Everything You Need to Know About Migrating to OpenEdge 12

WHITEPAPER

A variety of things can happen in an organization when a new software version is released. For some, it inspires creativity and innovation within the enterprise. But for others, it evokes uncertainty and hesitation.

Every organization finds itself at crossroads every time a new version comes out, and those in our OpenEdge community are no exception. Be it a simple update or system-critical OpenEdge software, migrations are universally feared due to the financial and technical attention they require.

To Update or Not to Update? That's the Question

Moving from a version that has seen an organization through decades to a new update may feel like leaping into the unknown and asking for complications. That flashy name and .2 or .3 suffix may not be enough to convince some.

Eventually, many companies in our OpenEdge community decide to play it safe and keep their current versions intact. More than 50% of enterprise applications comprise legacy systems.

It turns out legacy systems also come with their fair share of advantages. Every cloud has a silver lining, and OpenEdge has many. You are probably using legacy OpenEdge 9, 10, 11 because:

OpenEdge Systems Just Work

You probably built your system architecture on these legacy OpenEdge systems. They pulled you through your lengthiest downtimes and have been at the backdrop of your successes.

Why try and fix something that isn't broken in the first place?

OpenEdge is constantly updating and improving. OpenEdge reinvests 21% of its revenue in R&D to meet changing technology needs and remain competitive. The culmination of all these efforts over the years is our OpenEdge 12 series.

This Whitepaper is based on a Webinar we held about upgrading to the OpenEdge 12 Series. It solves some of the concerns and challenges identified by Progress as well as users of legacy systems, OpenEdge 12, and subsequent updates.

Disadvantages of Legacy Systems

It's no doubt that staying on OpenEdge legacy systems is the easier way out. From the look of things, it seems easier, cheaper, and most of all safer.

You get to go on and assume that an update never happened; problem solved. Who wouldn't want that?

This train of thought leads us to the next question, What's the cost of doing nothing? It turns out it's pretty costly. By running on a legacy version, you risk:

1. Increased Insecurity

According to security experts, outdated and unpatched systems are among the leading causes of security vulnerabilities in companies.

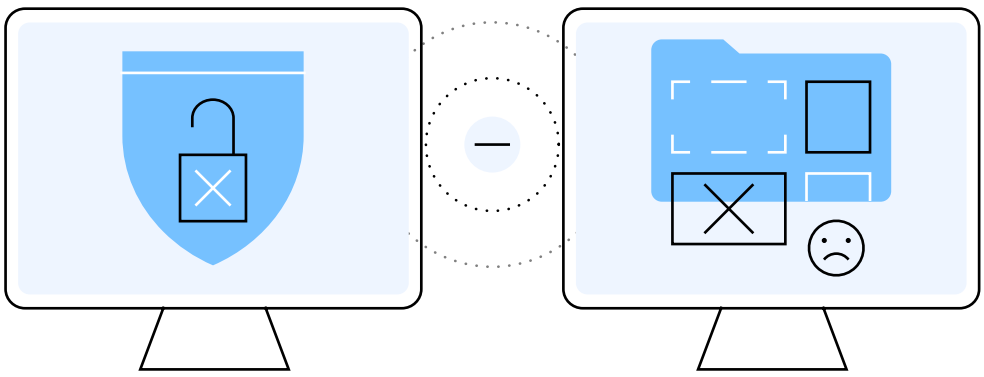
Have you ever been in the midst of a cybersecurity attack, seen chaos slowly unfold as tensions rise? It's something you probably wouldn't want to experience ever again.

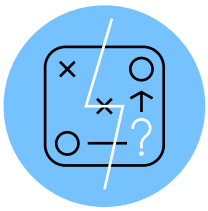
2. Limited Support

By running on Legacy systems, your company risks being left behind. Systems like Microsoft and Linux are in the process of retiring their legacy systems, which may leave you behind.

3. Software Isolation

Software is no longer an island as it may have been twenty years ago. Apart from missing out on new technologies such as IDEs and DevOps, your company may struggle to integrate with other systems running on modern software systems. Integration, partnership, and collaboration are the new frontier and the future of software.





What Stands Between Your Firm And An OpenEdge 12 Series Migration?

From the webinar, these are some of the concerns that may hinder the migration to OpenEdge 12:

- **Its Demanding:** Legacy systems need reworking before fitting them into an entirely new software platform. Like most people in our OpenEdge community, you probably want to keep your workloads at a minimum.
- **Resources:** Moving from legacy systems of OpenEdge to 12 requires human, financial, and technical resources that may not be available at the moment.
- **Uncertainty:** The fear of the unknown and the false sense of security legacy systems offer.

That's A Lot of Work: Why Go Through All This Trouble?

A lot of benefits on the other side of your migration to OpenEdge 12 Series. The upsides far outweigh any potential drawbacks.

Some of the benefits that make an upgrade to the OpenEdge 12 series include:

1. Revenue Growth

Growing your revenue was probably the reason that sold you on that legacy OpenEdge 9, 10, or 11 a few years back.

OpenEdge systems come from a rich heritage of revenue-growing software, and this latest version is no exception. According to a study, OpenEdge 12 Series offers a 6-8% revenue growth for companies that embrace it.

2. An Almost Guaranteed Return on Investment

According to the Forrester Total Economy Impact report, ..."a composite organization experiences benefits of nearly $876,700 over three years versus costs of more than $365,300, adding up to a net present value (NPV) of $511,400 and an ROI of 140%."

3. Guaranteed System Performance Improvement

All these tech-savvy bells and whistles that come with an OpenEdge 12 upgrade (DevOps, IDEs, PAS for OpenEdge) all culminate at exceptional website performance. For some, the simplicity of setting up PAS as a single container versus the old web speed with a webserver, messenger, and broker is appealing. For others, it could be the multi-session app servers (which runs code) more efficient operation. However, it's difficult to quantify that performance in all scenarios because many customers don't know how to correctly design their PAS instances.

There is simply no comparison between OpenEdge 9 and 10 and an Open Edge 12 Series upgrade, and it shows in the numbers. Especially that 300,000-hour database performance improvement.

4. Developer Empowerment

A company is only as good as its developers, a philosophy that's a foundation of OpenEdge 12. With this upgrade, your developers don't have to spend hours writing code or even worse, complaining about it.

This latest version comes with plug-ins like Gradle that automate the compiling and deployment of code for your developers.

Similarly, it leverages the latest DevOps and Integrated Developer Environments (IDEs) tools hence increasing developer productivity while empowering them at the same time. New language features make it simple to onboard new developers in modern coding languages.

5. Embracing A Web Based platform

The future of software is web based. Be it launching SAAS applications or cloud storage, it's where technology is headed.

OpenEdge 12 series promises to be the gateway to this future. Through an enhanced CI/CD platform and DevOps tools, it prepares your infrastructure for migration from on-premises systems through rapid development, launching of web based and cloud-based applications.

What OpenEdge 12 Series Brings to The Table

OpenEdge 12.2 is the climax of everything OpenEdge systems have come to be known for over the years.

Being a long-term supported release, the LTS supports our customer's desires and needs to have a modern, stable platform supported for many years. It is reliable, stable, competent, proven, and most of all effective.

Here are some of the tangibles OpenEdge 12 include:

1. Improvement In the Latching Mechanism

A more efficient SQL latch mechanism is necessary for a database system operating in modern times. 40% of people leave websites that take more than 3 seconds to load.

However, this demand for faster speeds and more concurrency may lead to latch contention and slower websites overall.

OpenEdge12 Series upgrade offers tangible improvements in latch mechanisms which reflect in fast website and database times.

- 3% gain in -latching improvements
- 35% gain with a multithreaded database server
- 43% gain with server-side joints

2. Modernization of the UI/UX

Every single dollar invested in UI/UX has an ROI of $100. That said, investing in your UI/UX is probably one of the single greatest investments you can make in your company, and it starts with upgrading to the latest version of OpenEdge 12 Series.

An OpenEdge 12 upgrade fixes the issue of incompatibility of the legacy ABL language with GUI or .Net controls.

By leveraging PAS for OpenEdge and RESTful API's platforms that support modern UI and UX technologies, you open your company to an entirely new world of effective UI technology.

3. An Improvement in Security

Nowadays, companies are at war with hackers, government regulators, and competitors all at the same time. Having an up-to-date OpenEdge platform like 12.2 on your side goes a long way.

Moving from legacy versions to OpenEdge 12 Series means moving from Classic Server to PAS for OpenEdge, bringing enterprise security into your systems. It also leverages Keystore cryptography and a new SSL library making your systems even more secure.

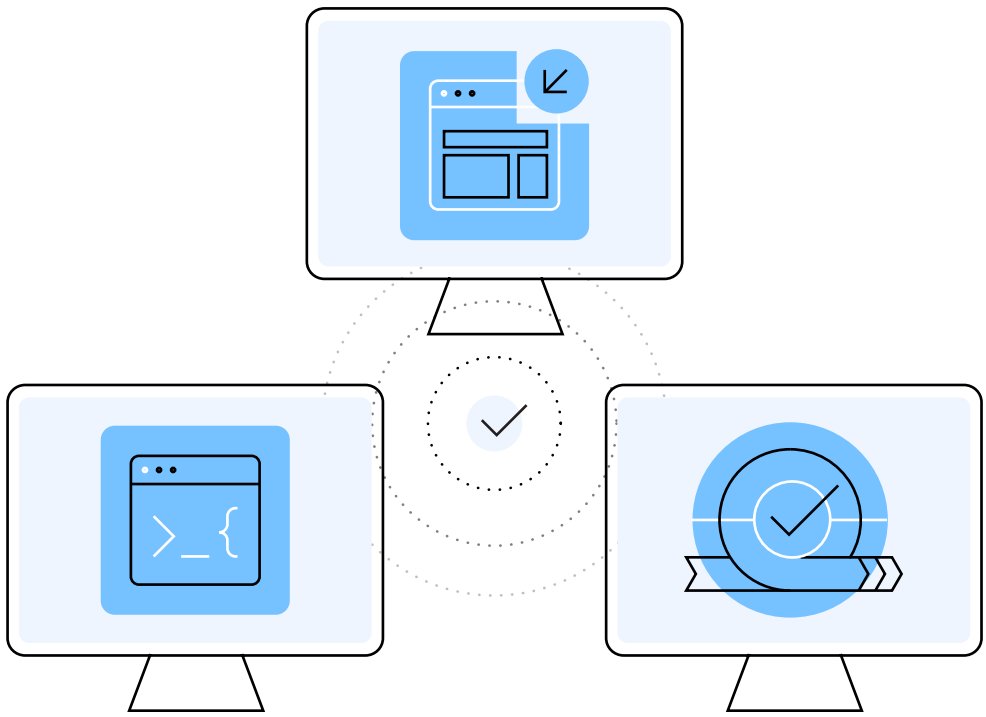
Not just OpenEdge, but the minimum requirements for Java and our updates to related Java libraries means keeping up with fixes in 3rd party components.

4. An Almost Guaranteed Availability

The horrors of system downtimes are well-known. These days, having a system backup is not enough. Your company has to go that extra mile, which is an OpenEdge 12 upgrade by today's standards.

Using the latest online database operations, online schema changes, and session management for PAS for OpenEdge, an OpenEdge 12 Series upgrade offers almost guaranteed availability during planned and unplanned outages.

Then add an improved data place replication, with available backup on standby for those unplanned outages and downtimes.



5. DevOps Tools and IDE

OpenEdge 12 Series upgrade offers to be your company's champion in the world of modern and agile DevOps tools and IDEs.

This functionality that is not as mature in previous systems will help automate builds, patches, and updates under a CI/CD framework.

DevOps and IDE represent total system transformation, manifesting in reduced downtimes, increased productivity, rapid delivery, and, most importantly, scale.

6. The Chance to Upgrade Other Legacy Systems

Most companies procrastinate system updates, testing, and review for many reasons, including their cost.

Migrating to OpenEdge 12 Series offers a rare opportunity to perform those system upgrades your company has been putting off.

These updates may include migrating from a type 1 database to a type 2 database, moving from ChUI/GUI to web-enabled RESTful interfaces, or even moving from Classic App server to PAS for Open Edge.

Migration From Classic App Server to Progress Application Server FAQ

Some of the frequently asked questions we got from the webinar regarding the transformation from ClassicServer to PAS for OpenEdge include:

1. What Is PAS for OpenEdge and Classic AppServer?

Progress offers two application server technologies:

- The first one is called Classic App Server which Progress launched in 1996 (discontinued in 2019)
- Progress Application Server for Open Edge (PAS) that Progress Launched in 2015. It is based on current and open technologies including Apache Tomcat, and it is the sole Application Server recommended by Progress for OpenEdge 12.x applications and later. The adoption of PAS allows for a more modern, secure, and cloud ready solution for your business.

2. Is It Possible to Have Iterative Migration to OpenEdge12 Series?

It is possible and even advisable to make the migration that is possible at the moment. This can include moving from Classic AppServer to PAS for OpenEdge then migrating eventually to the 12 Series.

3. What Does PAS for OpenEdge offer that Classic Server Doesn't?

PAS for OpenEdge comes with agile, modern DevOps and cloud scale tools in application development and security that Classic AppServer, which Progress developed in the 90s, doesn't come with.

Organizations can adopt more uniform and standard ways of protecting, clustering, and virtualizing their server infrastructures by using Apache Tomcat and putting all of the standard interfaces of CAS on a web server.

4. Is Migrating to PAS for OpenEdge Necessary for Migrating to the 12 Series?

Yes, although Progress discontinued Classic AppServer, support is available for those on earlier versions. They may utilize OpenEdge 12 for their databases or other Progress products, but older ABL clients won't be able to talk to the newer version of the database. Thus, any attempt to use the older server technology will be unsuccessful.

Migrating to PAS for OpenEdge is necessary for migrating to the OpenEdge 12 series.

Why Wait When You Can Start Today?

Every day is a good day to update your system to OpenEdge 12 series, but today is probably the best one. Given the proven tangible benefits, why wait when you can start today.

Begin your journey into the OpenEdge 12 series.
https://www.progress.com/trial-openedge

About Progress

Progress (NASDAQ: PRGS) provides the best products to develop, deploy and manage highimpact business applications. Our comprehensive product stack is designed to make technology teams more productive and we have a deep commitment to the developer community, both open source and commercial alike. With Progress, organizations can accelerate the creation and delivery of strategic business applications, automate the process by which apps are configured, deployed and scaled, and make critical data and content more accessible and secure—leading to competitive differentiation and business success. Over 1,700 independent software vendors, 100,000+ enterprise customers, and a three-million-strong developer community rely on Progress to power their applications. Learn about Progress at www.progress.com or +1-800-477-6473.

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