



**WHY CEOS
SHOULD
MODERNIZE
THEIR SOFTWARE**



STRUMENTA

Legacy software is tolerated because it works. But that's no longer good enough. It limits strategic options. Legacy software can slow down, or make strategic plans more expensive or complicated than they need to be.

Whilst legacy software is considered stable, the real risk isn't system uptime – it's the software engineers who understand your legacy systems retiring. It's the core logic that frequently lives in undocumented code written decades ago. It's the regulatory, security, and integration demands which are increasing.

David Nieper

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It was very carefully organized from the outset. We learnt a lot. The Strumenta team took the time to share knowledge and explain areas we didn't understand. The information was shared in an easy to understand way. If you need to migrate your RPG code to Python, give Federico a call.

Kay Litchfield, IT Manager, David Nieper

WHY CEOS SHOULD MODERNIZE THEIR SOFTWARE

Many manufacturing and financial services companies still use software built decades ago. This software is stable and reliable but it isn't flexible. There are many reasons why CEOs should modernize their software and NOW is the right time to do it.

If your core systems still run on COBOL, RPG, Visual Basic 6 or SAS, this isn't a problem for your IT team. They're used to it and can work with it. Instead, it's a leadership decision. One that sits with the CEO.

Legacy software has been tolerated because it "works." It processes transactions. It keeps the lights on. There's been no disastrous failures as yet. But that's no longer good enough.

EQUEUM

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Our experience with Federico and company was a pleasure from beginning to end. They were very knowledgeable, delivered a professional result when and as promised, and were very responsive dealing with modifications.

| Michael Gursky, Chief Architect – Equeum

1. Stable isn't the Same as Safe

Legacy systems are often described as stable. However, this stability is becoming more and more fragile. The real risk isn't system uptime – it's the software engineers who understand your legacy systems retiring. It's the core logic that frequently lives in undocumented code written decades ago. It's the regulatory, security, and integration demands which are increasing.

When something does go wrong, the issue isn't whether the system can be fixed. It's how long it takes, how much it costs, who is affected, and, importantly, who notices. You don't want your customers to be the first to notice.

David Nieper

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The detailed Blueprint Migration report covered the aspects, the process and exactly what needed to be done. The detailed report helped to give us a good understanding of the overall work involved and what was required in the project.

Rowan Wagstaff, IT System Administrator, David Nieper

2. Legacy Technology Limits Strategic Options

Most CEOs have clear growth ambitions:



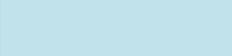
Increase turnover and profit



Launch new products and services



Improve response to customer demand



Legacy systems don't necessarily block these. But they can slow them down, or make them more expensive or complicated than they need to be. Over time, decisions might be shaped by what's technically possible rather than what makes commercial sense.

While it takes time and it might be too costly for you, it's not for your competitors who have already modernized.

3. The Real Cost Shows up Where you Least Expect it

Legacy platforms often look cost-effective because you've had them so long they've become great value for money. That's misleading. The real costs show up as:





Long delivery timelines



Manual workarounds



High dependency on scarce software skills

These costs grow as the business grows. What once felt manageable affects margins and momentum. A hidden cost is also things you just can't do technically because they are not supported by your platform.

4. Reputation, Talent, and Future Proofing Matter

Technology choices send signals. High-quality talent want to work in environments that invest in the future. High caliber software engineers want to work in environments that use modern software where they can learn and grow. Partners and investors look for organizations that can execute change quickly if needed.

Persistently deferring modernization sends a message:



We're prioritizing short-term comfort over long-term capability



We're carrying avoidable risk



We're reactive rather than proactive

That's not how CEOs want to be positioned.

5. Modernization is no Longer an All or Nothing Gamble

One of the biggest misconceptions is that modernization requires a risky, disruptive “big bang” programme. That’s not the case.

Modern approaches allow companies to:

- ▶ Modernize in phases
- ▶ Keep systems running throughout
- ▶ Test frequently
- ▶ Deliver measurable results at each stage
- ▶ Reduce dependency on obsolete skills

The greater risk now lies in standing still.

6. Integration with AI

Old legacy systems cannot make the most of new AI technologies because they can't be integrated easily.

Legacy software can work against you

Legacy software either enables your strategy or quietly works against it. For CEOs, modernization is not about technology for its own sake. It's about:

- ▶ Managing operational and regulatory risk
- ▶ Protecting growth plans
- ▶ Ensuring the organization can adapt
- ▶ Leaving the business stronger than you found
- ▶ Reacting quickly to external threats and opportunities



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The decision isn't whether modernization will be needed. It's whether it's done on your terms in an organized way, or later under pressure in a frantic way.

That choice sits at the top.



ABOUT US



Strumenta modernizes legacy software making it easier to maintain and integrate with other systems. We update all software including RPG, Visual Basic 6 and SAS. Our structured, automated migration process enables us to customize to your specification, safely and with low risk.

We are the only software language engineering company to automate migrations from RPG to Python.

Strumenta, headquarter in Italy with a fully remote team based in Italy and Ireland, has worked with many medium and large organisations, including Fortune 500 companies, from Europe, USA, Asia, and South Africa.



Please contact us for any further information or visit our website.



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