



Application Modernization Survey

Client/server and early web applications are the new priorities for transformation by IT organizations

Key Findings

Nexaweb Technologies' recent survey of more than 220 IT professionals on application modernization revealed:

- application modernization is a “problem” for nearly every organization
- client/server and early web applications are the new top priorities for transformation by IT today — ahead of mainframe and COBOL
- mobile and cloud computing are the most important technologies for implementation of application modernization solutions in the next 12 months and beyond

Motivated to Modernize

More than 90% of respondents indicated they had a legacy application modernization problem, and more than 50% of the total characterized their organization's issues as a serious challenge.

1. Does your firm have legacy application challenges?						
	Very serious legacy application challenges	Somewhat serious legacy problem	Mild legacy problems	We don't have a legacy application problem	Rating Average	Response Count
Legacy challenges?	20.2% (45)	35.4% (79)	34.1% (76)	10.3% (23)	2.35	223
	<i>answered question</i>					223
	<i>skipped question</i>					0

Client/server and Early Web Applications top Mainframe and COBOL

Demonstrating that the definition of “legacy applications” is expanding to include relatively recent technologies, respondents selected client/server and early web applications as their top two priorities for applications requiring transformation — ahead of mainframe and COBOL.

2. What types of legacy systems present the biggest challenges for your firm?						
	In great need of modernization	Somewhat need to modernize	A few of these to modernize	None of these to modernize	Rating Average	Response Count
Client/Server Apps (e.g., PowerBuilder)	13.5% (30)	27.4% (61)	22.4% (50)	36.8% (82)	2.83	223
COBOL Apps	13.0% (29)	13.5% (30)	12.6% (28)	61.0% (136)	3.22	223
Mainframe Systems	17.0% (38)	18.8% (42)	13.9% (31)	50.2% (112)	2.97	223
Early Web Apps (e.g., ColdFusion, Perl)	9.4% (21)	22.0% (49)	31.8% (71)	36.8% (82)	2.96	223
				Other (please specify)		27
				answered question		223
				skipped question		0

Top Reasons to Modernize

The top four reasons cited by respondents as motivations to modernize their legacy applications were to:

1. facilitate integration with other applications in their portfolio
2. reduce maintenance costs
3. meet user change requirements faster
4. eliminate unsupported hardware and software

3. Why is modernization important? Rate the importance of the following modernization goals to your firm.							
	Extremely Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know	Rating Average	Response Count
Eliminate unsupported hardware/software	33.2% (74)	32.3% (72)	21.5% (48)	11.2% (25)	1.8% (4)	2.11	223
Lower maintenance costs	39.9% (89)	39.5% (88)	14.8% (33)	4.5% (10)	1.3% (3)	1.84	223
Make apps Web accessible	32.7% (73)	36.8% (82)	20.6% (46)	9.0% (20)	0.9% (2)	2.06	223
To make integration easier	43.9% (98)	40.4% (90)	12.1% (27)	2.7% (6)	0.9% (2)	1.73	223
Meet user change requests faster	40.4% (90)	38.6% (86)	17.0% (38)	3.6% (8)	0.4% (1)	1.84	223
Make IT "Greener"	8.5% (19)	24.2% (54)	35.4% (79)	27.4% (61)	4.5% (10)	2.85	223
Make apps accessible from mobile devices	15.2% (34)	30.5% (68)	31.8% (71)	20.2% (45)	2.2% (5)	2.58	223
<i>answered question</i>							223
<i>skipped question</i>							0

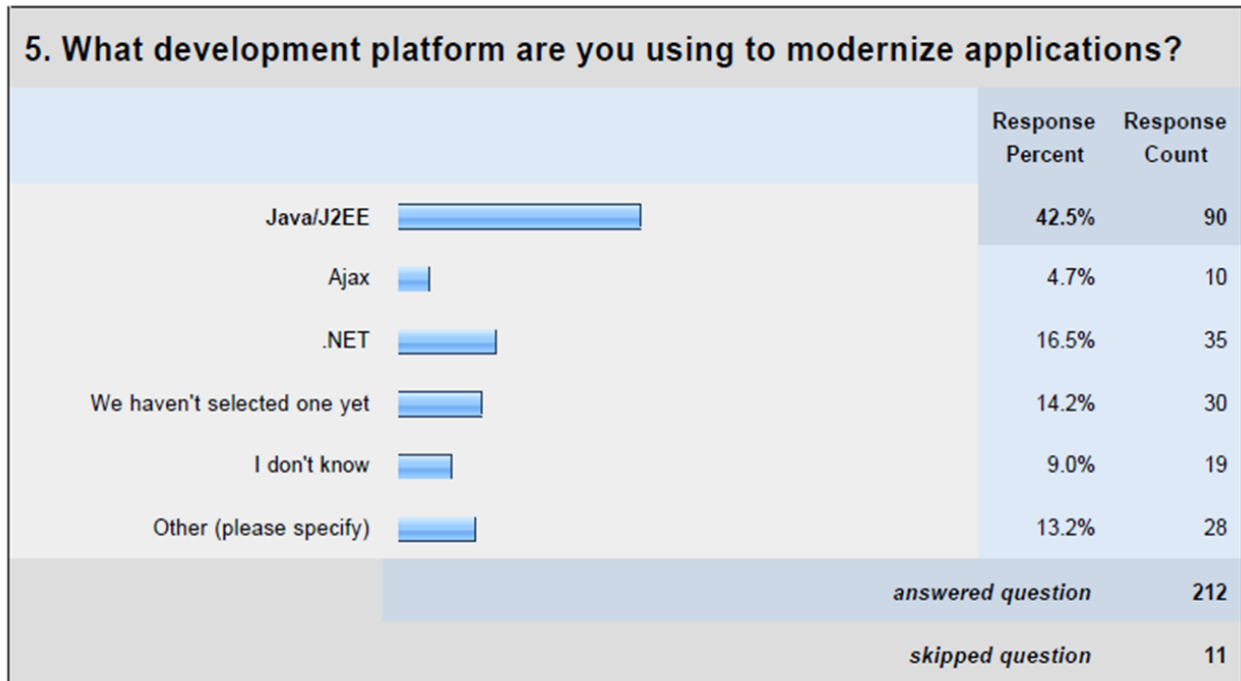
Modernizing Now, Plans in Place

Nearly 70% of respondents said they were already modernizing their legacy applications and a similar number said they had defined a roadmap for these activities. Less than 15% said they had no modernization projects started or scheduled.

4. Tell us about your modernization activities				
	Yes	No	Not Sure	Response Count
We have defined a modernization roadmap for our legacy app portfolio	58.1% (122)	28.6% (60)	13.3% (28)	210
We are actively modernizing legacy apps	69.7% (147)	24.2% (51)	6.2% (13)	211
We have modernization projects scheduled, but not started	41.2% (84)	48.5% (99)	10.3% (21)	204
No modernization projects started or scheduled	13.7% (28)	73.0% (149)	13.2% (27)	204
	<i>answered question</i>			212
	<i>skipped question</i>			11

#1 Development Platform: Java/J2EE

Respondents selected Java/J2EE as their modernization platform more than twice as often as any other platform. Nearly a quarter of all respondents had yet to select a platform or didn't know, however.



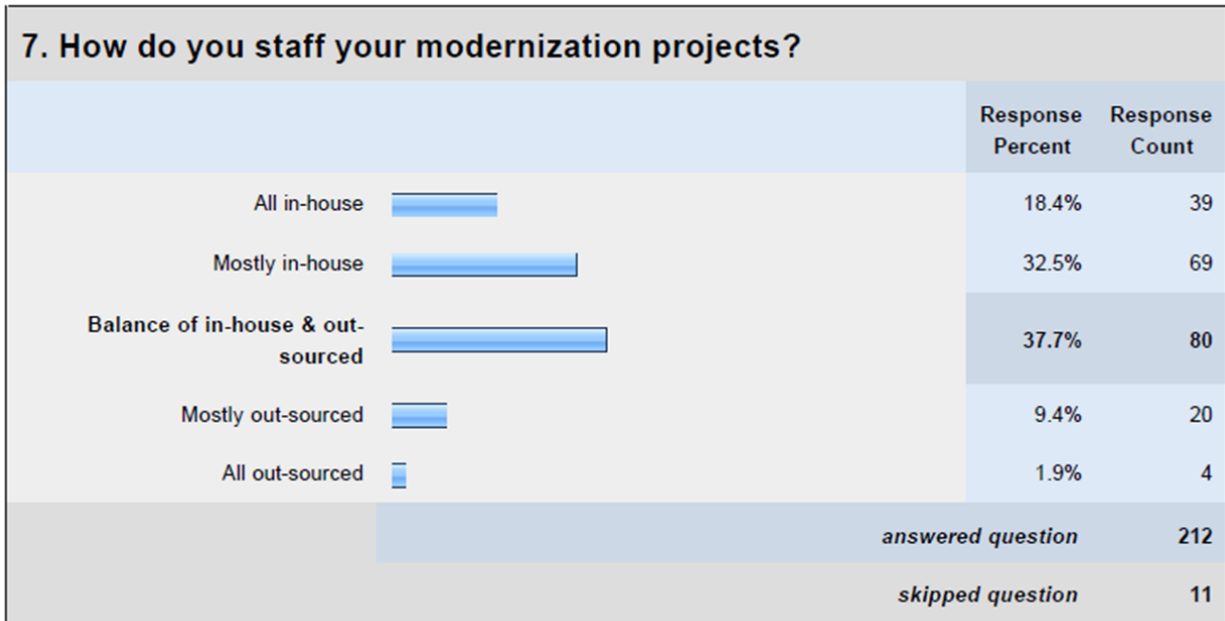
Top Technology Priorities: Mobile & Cloud Computing

Mobile and cloud computing technologies were the most popular technology choices for next 12 months and beyond. More than half all respondents said they had already implemented virtualization technologies and nearly 45% said they had implemented open-source software.

6. How do the following technologies factor into your legacy modernization roadmap?						
	Already implemented	Plan to implement within 12 months	Plan to implement beyond 12 months	Never plan to adopt	Not sure yet	Response Count
Mobile computing	26.7% (56)	25.7% (54)	24.8% (52)	10.0% (21)	12.9% (27)	210
Cloud computing	17.0% (36)	24.5% (52)	22.6% (48)	16.0% (34)	19.8% (42)	212
Virtualization	51.9% (109)	16.2% (34)	10.5% (22)	9.5% (20)	11.9% (25)	210
Rich Internet Applications (RIA)	38.6% (81)	18.6% (39)	15.7% (33)	5.7% (12)	21.4% (45)	210
Open source software	43.6% (92)	14.2% (30)	8.1% (17)	9.0% (19)	25.1% (53)	211
Software as a Service (SaaS)	31.3% (66)	19.0% (40)	11.8% (25)	12.8% (27)	25.1% (53)	211
Services Oriented Architecture (SOA)	41.4% (87)	21.0% (44)	12.4% (26)	8.6% (18)	16.7% (35)	210
			Other technologies? (please specify)			6
					<i>answered question</i>	212
					<i>skipped question</i>	11

#1 Staffing Choice: In-House & Outsourced

Most respondents said they are using a balance of in-house and outsourced resources to implement their modernization projects. In total, outsourced services are being used by 49% of respondents.



Methodology

Nexaweb first emailed this survey to its internal database of IT professionals on October 5, 2010. This list includes developers, consultants, managers and executives employed in a wide variety of markets, including consumer goods, financial services, healthcare and telecommunications. As of October 27, 2010, 223 respondents started the survey and 203 completed it.

Next Steps

To learn more about Nexaweb application transformation software and services, visit www.nexaweb.com and access our white papers, customer case studies and free software downloads. You can also contact us directly at sales@nexaweb.com or call one of our locations below to schedule a discussion about how Nexaweb can modernize your legacy applications.

Worldwide Headquarters

Nexaweb Technologies, Inc.
3 New England Executive Office Park
Suite 150
Burlington, MA 01803
Tel: 781-345-5500

Nexaweb Japan

Nihon Nexaweb KK
7F Bureau Ginza, 4-1-12, Tsukiji, Chuo-ku,
Tokyo 104-0045, Japan
Tel: +81 (3) 3541 5061
<http://www.nexaweb.co.jp/>

Nexaweb Europe

Herengracht 478
1017 CB Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 (0) 20 262 182 0
<http://www.nexaweb.eu/eu/>