Re_Forms 21

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

General questions

Why do you need to convert Oracle Forms?

You don't need to, but you can. Conversion is an economically interesting alternative to rewriting critical systems from scratch.

What does it mean that the conversion is automatic?

Automation of the conversion process in the case of Re_Forms 21 is between 92% and 98% of real work inputs, which means - a lot.

Why conversion is cheaper than rewriting the system from scratch?

Conversion with Re_Forms 21 does not require any analysis, development work or any other expenditures related to building IT systems from scratch. Most of the work is automated. This is what makes the conversion very competitive in terms of price. The main workload is, in this case, focused on testing the application after migration.

But, in fact, the automation of conversion from Oracle Form is impossible...

Robert Grabowski from Toruń branch 7bulls.com wasn't aware it is impossible and he did it.

Will the conversion be faster than rewriting the system from scratch?

Significantly faster. Even with the assumption that everything will go perfectly in the process of building the system from scratch, the migration time will be *circa* 25% of the re-development time.

Why conversion is safer than rewriting the system from scratch and what does it mean?

Every IT work carries a risk of errors (bugs). Migration is much safer than building a completely new system. On average, it reduces the risk of errors by more than 70%. Testing and other activities in terms of Quality Assurance allow for direct comparison of the quality of the system before and after migration because the functionality remains the same.

Will it be working after migration?

Yes. You may ask our partners from Comarch and Oracle for their experience:

- Przemysław Adamowski (przemyslaw.adamowski@comarch.pl)
- Piotr Zając (piotr.zajac@oracle.com)

How much does it cost?

The full cost of migration is on average less than 40% of the cost of creating a given system from scratch in modern technology.

Where did you get the idea for migration from?

7bulls.com maintained and developed the system written in Oracle Forms. When we were asked to estimate the costs of migration to modern technologies, we began to wonder if there were better options than the rewriting of this great system from scratch.

What about the team that is currently developing your application in Oracle Forms?

Our experience is as follows: a typical team developing the application on Oracle Forms, after about a week of training, can develop a migrated application.

Detailed questions

But Oracle Forms is an archeology of software...

Oracle Forms is a great technology that in its time allowed for a relatively fast and cheap construction of many IT systems. Without it, they probably would not have arisen because it would be too expensive. Oracle Forms systems have millions of gold investments and years of work. This is the value that we want to defend.

Does Re_Forms 21 work in the cloud?

Yes. We recommend talking with our partners from Oracle and Advatech who have prepared Proof of Concept (PoC) for automatic migration from Oracle Forms directly to the cloud infrastructure. Contact person:

- Piotr Zając (piotr.zajac@oracle.com)

How will our application look after conversion?

It can look exactly like the current one. It will also be able to be launched in the browser but without running the Java applet. The user interface will remain unchanged. The same user interface means that business users do not require additional training. It can also look more modern or different. It's all a matter of choosing the customized design.

What about maintaining business continuity?

We know that maintaining business continuity is crucial. The migration process to Re_Forms 21 can be staged and allows you to retro-switch to Oracle Forms on the same database.

Can the application work on mobile devices after conversion?

Yes, of course. Yet, in the process of automatic migration, we do not change the user interface. The UI dedicated to mobile devices (precision of the finger, not the mouse

cursor) requires development changes and due to the modern technologies used, it is possible.

What are the technical aspects of Re_Forms 21?

Re_Forms 21 is a migration to a modern web application with a standard Java-based three-layer architecture.

1. The layer of the user interface - HTML5 and JavaScript
2. Application layer - JEE Servlet (WAR)
3. Database layer - Oracle database and stored procedures PL / SQL

What is Re_Forms 21?

Re_Forms 21 is a complete solution that allows automatic migration from Oracle Forms to modern three-layer web application. It consists of:

- A set of Java libraries imitating the operation of Oracle Forms components
- A set of tools for conversion of Oracle Forms code to Java and XML
- Developer Toolkit (IDE)

On which application servers do Re_Forms 21 applications run?

Re_Forms 21 applications can work with any application server capable of running Java Servlet (WAR files), eg Tomcat, JBoss, WildFly, WebLogic.

What about business logic in the database?

The business logic contained in database (in stored procedures, functions and packages) remains unchanged.

Who can I talk to about technical details?

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Who can tell me more about the business aspects of conversion?

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