



With Key WebSphere technologies coming to end of support in September 2007, Alphacourt has developed a Risk Assessment methodology for Migration to the latest versions of these products.

Objective

- **Impact Assessment:** To identify potential technical risks and issues in upgrading to WMQ V6.0 and replacing or upgrading to new versions of WebSphere adapters.
- **Migration Planning:** To provide a high level plan to identify responsibilities and dependencies.

Approach

- **Usage:** A one day¹ onsite analysis of the current WMQ and Adapter usage and configuration in order to assess the risks and impact of upgrading to Version 6 of MQ or replacing relied upon adapters.
- **Scope:** The topics covered can be tailored to suit individual needs but by default will include the following:
 - Coexistence
 - Dev Toolkit implications
 - Impact on existing interfaces
 - Training needs
 - Project dependencies
 - Interoperability
 - Changes to nodes
 - Security features
 - Migration options
 - New features
- **Recommendations:** The assessment is documented and includes prioritised recommendations for enabling a reduced risk transition to the latest version of WebSphere.
- **Results:** The results are presented in a 2 hour interactive workshop (where required) where one of our Technical consultants will walk through the recommendations and proposed next actions.

Business Results

Our clients have found these business benefits in completing this exercise:

- **Planning:** Improved awareness of issues ensures an effective migration for an essential up-grade.
- **Cost Reduction:** Adoption of a clear and agreed approach minimises the impact of unexpected issues and ensures appropriate and confident resource allocation.
- **Risk reduction:** Improved understanding of the risks and issues ensures fewer support issues and improved business continuity.

Note 1: No. of days may vary depending on the size and complexity of installation

Key Issues

IBM is withdrawing support for WMQ v5.3 and numerous WebSphere Adapters in Sept 2007. You need to plan now to migrate to the latest version (where available).

Are you unclear of the likely extent of impact on your systems and integration architecture?

How much re-training will we have to undertake?

What new features could you be taking advantage of?

Which current features (that you may be relying on) are impacted?

Benefits

- Confidence in the upgrade plan will improve your resource planning and cost estimating
- Having a clear vision of the interdependencies with Technical Assessment of impact
- Clear assessment of technical risks

Deliverables

- Report on level of impact and key areas of technical risk
- Suggested points for further consideration

Follow on Services

- Full Project Plan including costing
- Delivery of Specialist MQ and Message Broker Skills
- WebSphere Training