



Driving Agile & Low-Code Development Efforts (using Mendix) for Digital Transformation

- A Step by Step Guide

White Paper

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1. Rapid Adoption and Growth of LowCode Development

The low code development platform with its graphical user interfaces and configuration allows programmers and non-programmers to build application software quickly. This platform is fast replacing the traditional coding model to meet the requirement for speeding up product development by as much as 10 times, according to a Forrester report. It automates the development process given the lack of enough skilled software developers to meet the growing need for digitalization of operations.

The growing popularity of the low code platform can be assessed from its rapid adoption leading to a 50 per cent annual growth. From about \$4.35 billion in 2018, the global low-code development platform market size touched \$13.2 billion in 2020 and is expected to be \$45.5 billion by 2025. In the period 2020-2025, it is expected to mature and touch a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 28.1 per cent. Driving this growth will be the rapid pace of digitalization across industries and the maturing of agile DevOps practices.

2. Making a Case for Low Code Development

Reasons for its Popularity:

The world is in a hurry today, with a dire need for instant personal gratification or to service a customer quickly. This has become crucial for retaining customer loyalty as any delay will see the customer moving on to the next vendor who can service them rapidly. With globalization and digitalization, the pace has quickened further and the traditional hard coding method is simply too painful and slow for the impatient customer. A low-code digital transformation platform, on the other hand, comes with features that make building, launching and changing enterprise apps, fast and simple. Some of the key features include:

- Visual Modeling Application using visual representations of processes enables developers to drag-and-drop interfaces without writing a single line of code. This way, ideas can be converted to apps at the speed of thought
- Agile development in low-code development allows iteration of apps and release without any delays with cross-platform functionality without any extra effort
- Declarative Tools in low code software can also be implemented using visual models and business rules that also makes changes or additions in the future simpler and quicker
- Security and scalability have over time evolved, making low-code platform such as Mendix enterprise-grade and secure

Benefits of Low Code Development:

Speed is not the only benefit users of low code development platform such as Mendix can experience. Here are some of the other advantages that you can enjoy:

- **Low Risk with High ROI:**
Not only is developing on the low code platform easier, but it is also less risky while increasing the chances of high returns on investment.
- **Faster Development:**
With Mendix, apps can now be built in days which previously used to take months.
- **Low Maintenance:**
Updating, debugging, fixing and modifying to suit the changing needs of the customers is easy and fast
- **Faster Development:**
Low-code platform allows the development of multiple apps parallelly, thereby reducing lead times and eliminating backlogs



- **Cross-Platform Functionality:**

The app developed on low code platform is automatically made functional on different devices without much modification required

3. The 11 Steps for Low Code Development

However simple low code development platform may be, it still requires a focused approach to make the effort fruitful. Here we take you through the steps that you must include when you decide to use a low code platform such as Mendix for your app development.

Identify Business Needs:

Understand the business needs of the app being developed, what problem it hopes to solve and also assure your customers of your capabilities

Collect Requirements:

Engage with the customer to understand the features and flow of the app

Estimate the Time:

Based on the inputs, estimate the time needed to complete the development process

Phase it Out:

Break the project into two to three phases and create a plan for delivery of sprints

Cost and Resource Estimation:

Once the timelines are frozen, calculate the number of resources needed as well as the cost

Collect Requirements:

Aggregate any physical documentation, existing app details, knowledge transfer and business analysis. At this stage the program manager or the solution architect get involved

Design Phase:

Set the expectations right

Sprint 0:

Start the engagement with development by designing the application and estimating the rolling out in terms of UI and functional requirements. Create the user stories and wrap them all up together as a sprint

Development Process:

Develop the user stories in close collaboration with the client for the progress report, change requirements and management and so on

Testing:

The QA team would have already created the test case scenarios and once the development is over, they start testing it with daily status reports on bugs that are rectified and the process repeated till it is clean

Deployment:

Alert the stakeholders about the deployment which is reviewed by the client's business analyst to share their comments. This may lead to another iteration till the customer is completely satisfied

4. Being Agile with Mendix

Mendix is a low code development platform ideally suited for Agile. It provides options to run sprints, create user stories, estimate the velocity of the tasks you are going to work on without having to leverage a third-party application management tool. This is unlike working in tools such as Java where you can have agile development but need to leverage a third-party tool.



Mendix facilitates transparency across collaborating teams by enabling comments and setting contexts that increase the understanding of the receiver and reviewer, improve productivity and reduce ambiguity and chances of misinterpretations.

It promotes better understanding and communication between the stakeholders. The embedded user feedback widgets let users provide instant feedback from within an application to speed up the resolution process and enable rapid iteration. In what makes it truly agile, it also features built-in app validation through instant app sharing across devices for instant review and feedback

5. Indium - Your Partner for Mendix

Indium Software, a two- decade-old software company with experience in cutting edge technologies, agile development and expertise across domains, has fine-tuned agile development on the low code platform, Mendix. Indium's Mendix Rapid certified engineers and QA engineers have not only been able to ensure customer delight but also innovatively used Mendix for novel instances. We provide end-to-end solutions from design till production and maintenance across Healthcare, Manufacturing, Realty, Financial Services, Retail and more.





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