

Transforming, Migrating, and Modernizing Legacy Applications



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- Julia Ito

CEOCFO: *Ms. Ito, according to your site, CleverIS Technologies helps you transform and modernize your legacy applications. How do you work with your clients to accomplish that?*

Ms. Ito: We help organizations achieve their goals through a very mature solution and a solid process that starts with a very thorough assessment, pre-validation of the technology to be adopted, customization and execution, test, approval process and supporting the project once in production. We ensure the successful execution of every step, and the guarantee of a happy customer once the legacy project has been finalized.

CEOCFO: *How do people get over their trepidation about making changes?*

Ms. Ito: Great question. And there is no easy answer. Organizations need to re-evaluate the cost and risk of transforming, modernizing or migrating legacy applications and the status quo. While doing nothing is always a safe harbor when measuring risks, waiting too long may hurt organizations' competitive advantage. In summary, there is a very fine line between waiting and the ability to respond to business demands; the risk and cost associated with your decision may decide what happens next with your legacy applications.

CEOCFO: *Would you give us an idea of how many legacy systems are around? What still exists?*

Ms. Ito: I wish I could precisely answer this question, but I don't think no one can. However, if you think about every single organization out there today that is at least 10 years old -- the odds of these organizations having at least one legacy application is quite high. Another way to look at it, is about the common knowledge that today 85% of all mission critical transactions executed daily are still powered by legacy applications written in COBOL language.

CEOCFO: *What is the history of CleverIS?*

Ms. Ito: CleverIS started in United States about 8 months ago through an acquisition of an intellectual property that has been around for over twenty years. This solution is very mature and effectively uses innovation to assess, understand and transform legacy applications. Through the acquisition, we inherited a strong team that have transformed, modernized or migrated over 200,000 million lines of code successfully

CEOCFO: *What has been the reception for you?*

Ms. Ito: It has been outstanding. We offer a partnership where both sides win. Through a clear understanding of the company's goals, the legacy application, and platform -- we propose a transformation project with expected results, risks, critical paths and more to make sure there is a clear understanding. The result is a very satisfied customer and, for us, a partnership that continues after the project.

CEOFO: How do people find CleverIS?

Ms. Ito: We are based in Houston, TX and our website is www.cleveris.com. We will be around United States in conferences and hosting events as well.

CEOFO: Are people surprised when they find you and what you can do for them?

Ms. Ito: In some situations, yes. It is mostly related how we approach transformation, modernization or migration legacy projects with the solution we offer. As I have mentioned earlier, we have a very innovative and mature solution that is highly customizable. When I say customizable it is because of the simple fact that a “transformation, modernization or migration project is never like another.” They all carry their own DNA and having a solution that can adapt to the particularities of existing legacy applications and provide expected results that can include pre-defined standards and rules is a differentiator.

CEOFO: Would you tell us about your recent partnership with IBM?

Ms. Ito: Our partnership with IBM is in line with our strategic direction. The IBM Power platform has been the target platform of many transformation projects we have executed successfully in the past - especially for organizations considering reliable and scalable platforms. Because of the many projects we have executed on the IBM Power platform, we have developed a unique experience to help organizations extend the life of their critical legacy applications on an IBM Power Platform.

CEOFO: How do you find people that understand what is involved in the transition to represent CleverIS?

Ms. Ito: Fortunately a lot is covered by our solution. We have a considerable size team that is dedicated to maintaining our transformation, modernization and migration solution with many “plug-ins” already developed to provide an assessment for many legacy environments such as mainframes with applications written in COBOL, Easytrieve, Natural, PL/I, etc, in addition to other platforms such as Unisys, DEC, Tandem and many more. The assessment is used to accurately provide us the level of complexity of the application and the duration of the transformation project. Most of the process is done automatically and therefore expediting the project execution, reducing risks, increasing quality and at reduced costs.

CEOFO: What surprised you as CleverIS has gotten off the ground?

Ms. Ito: Great question. I would say what has surprised me was the fact that organizations still define “virtual” priorities for legacy application projects. I say virtual priority because although priorities are high, the execution of legacy projects are often postponed for the simple fact that legacy applications just work – and when we get to execute the legacy project it is because the due date has already passed, adding an additional stress risk that could have been avoided.

CEOFO: Put it all together for our readers. Why use CleverIS?

Ms. Ito: CleverIS helps companies leverage their prior investment in legacy applications to their fullest. Whether re-platforming, re-writing or modernizing legacy modernization, our experienced team will help organizations succeed on the most complex projects. Our innovative solution was developed specifically to endure transformation, migration or modernization projects of any size. This is a key component of our services and together with our experienced team, we have helped over 30 organizations successfully achieve their most challenging transformational goals.

