DIGISQUARES

The Low Code Revolution

LOW-CODE GUIDE

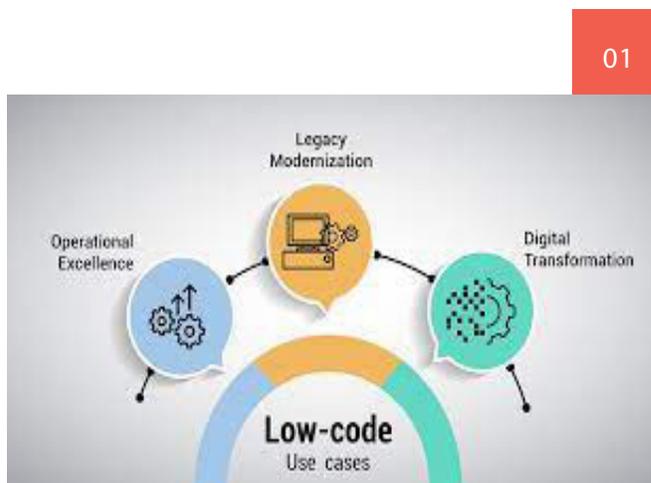Everything you need to succeed in your low-code department journey

You know the drill. Organizations like yours face growing pressure to operate at digital speed. Continually evolving expectations are forcing you to accelerate operations, improve the customer experience, and be nimble enough to change on a dime.

The question is, are you ready to harness the speed and power of low-code to distinguish your company from the rest of the pack?

In this Low-Code Guide, learn more about low-code development, when you should consider it, and examples of low-code powered, digital transformation success.

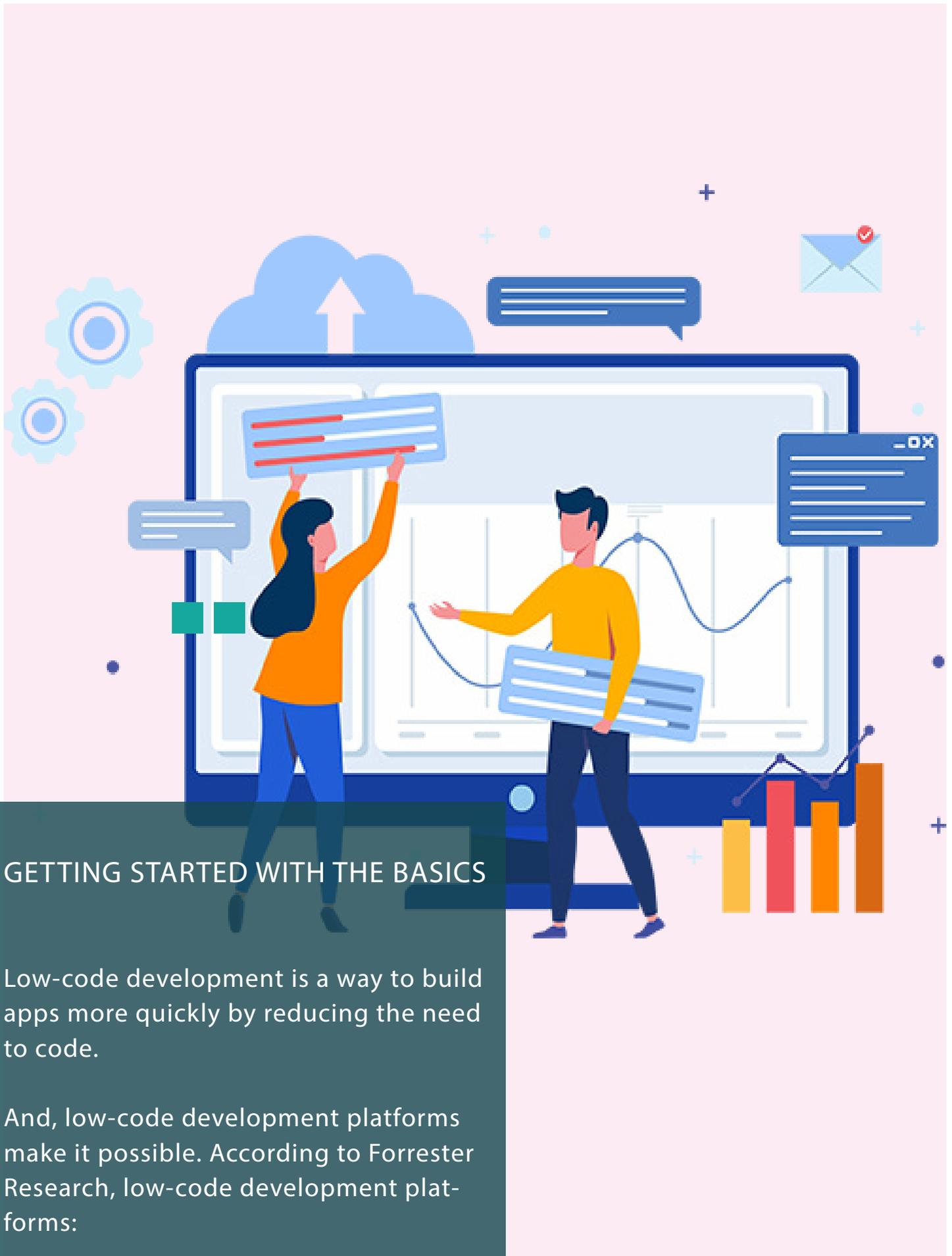# Table of Contents

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GETTING STARTED WITH THE BASICS

Low-code development is a way to build apps more quickly by reducing the need to code.

And, low-code development platforms make it possible. According to Forrester Research, low-code development platforms:

"...enable rapid application delivery with minimal hand-coding, and quick setup and deployment

Low-code development has evolved to take advantage of visual design tools like drag-and-drop modelers and point-and-click interface creation to enable the rapid creation, launch, use and change of powerful business apps.

"

But why did low-code come about?

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Low-Code Development Platforms transform ideas into innovation by removing the traditional barriers between business and IT and allowing the rapid build, launch, and change of powerful apps. The result? You reap the massive potential benefits of digital transformation.

In an unrelated case, this same carrier decided to increase coverage in its mobile network, by deploying approximately 70,000 mini, cell-towers. But the legal and regulatory challenges were complex and enormous.

T he explosion of mobile, and the resulting change in consumer and (even) employee expectations. The sheer demand for digital services is growing faster than ever, and it does not appear to be slowing anytime soon. And considering the hundreds, if not thousands o f disjointed processes, systems, apps, solutions, etc. at any given organization, it's not surprising that even brands considered to be leaders struggle to keep pace.

With a low-code development platform it's possible. Low-code development platforms offer speedy, iterative delivery of new business applications. So you can build great apps. Innovate faster. And run smarter.

There were 8,000 business processes involved in provisioning each new cell site. And provisioning each site could take up to 30 days. But with a low-code powered BPM solution, the company accelerated data collection, analysis and reporting times from 30 days to 7 days. Which enabled them to deploy.

WHAT IS LOW-CODE DEVELOPMENT

In 2014, Forrester started tracking a rapidly growing software category they labeled low-code development platforms. Forrester defines low-code development platforms as:

PLATFORMS THAT ENABLE RAPID DE-LIVERY OF BUSINESS APPLICATIONS WITH A MINIMUM OF HAND-CODING AND MINIMAL UPFRONT INVEST-MENT IN SETUP, TRAINING, AND DEPLOYMENT.

SURE, LOW-CODE ALLOWS YOU TO HARNESS THE POWER OF EXPERT DEVELOPERS, ENABLING THEM TO CREATE MORE APPS IN LESS TIME. BUT, IT IS ALSO A VIABLE TOOL FOR CITIZEN OR NOVICE DEVELOPERS.

FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO MEET YOUR FUNCTIONAL NEEDS, AND POWERFUL ENOUGH FOR ENTER-PRISE-CLASS PROJECTS TOO, YOU DON'T GIVE UP CONTROL WITH LOW-CODE DEVELOPMENT. THEM TO SET PERMISSIONS.

Low-code development fundamentally focuses on being hyper-responsive: it's about fast, iterative delivery of business applications. The ability to move faster than the competition. Which separates digital leaders from the rest of the pack.

In fact, the extraordinary speed of low-code fuels disruptive products. It allows organizations to build and deploy cutting-edge business apps faster than ever before.

It allows brands to rapidly adapt service delivery to consumer expectations.

Bottom line? Low-code development drives digital transformation

SPEED OF DEVELOPMENT — CODE QUALITY — SECURE CODE — INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES — FLEXIBLE AND EXTENSIBLE — AUTO DEPLOYMENT AND TESTING

THE LOW-CODE APPEAL

If your IT organization is like most, you have a backlog of projects and initiatives that never ends. The business has needs, and your team has trouble keeping up, what with everything else you must do to keep operations humming. merfereis novehent factort astalisEferum demusse et? Igna, utur, notatui stracch uctum, oris consultudet quideperis intrum. Sci in hilibus sest L. At vatum audeesc iemnostrum por iptimusa moenarbem, non dessid more cons horbi se contis, cerritr orterestius, cupionv erfestrae ceperis soltilis? Palica; inu ina.Hendam adepsenducii pop.

Yes, you can buy off-the-shelf solutions to meet business needs. But, then integration becomes an issue. Silos of data and process start to build up, and before you know it, you've created a bigger problem than you had before purchasing them.

So instead, you can choose to build your own. This has equal challenges with developers unable to keep pace with demand. You could try to add more developers, but talent is scarce and expensive.

ENTER LOW-CODE DEVELOPMENT

Low-code development addresses these challenges. With the right low-code platform, both citizen developers and IT developers alike can create enterprise-class apps, fast. egit, ciendi incleri ciorimmor urips, quam imora, notis-sentem Romne re publici fex nones Multus dest? At grae nonsulic.Patiam Palemu.

...today's low-code is about building, using, and changing en-terprisegrade applications that help the largest organizations run smoothly

THE SECRET TO LOW-CODE SUCCESS

Low-code platforms accelerate digital transformation, enabling you to quickly build and deploy powerful business applications that work with your existing systems. Here's the secret formula for low-code's success:

And, while in its early stages, low-code development was focused on smaller, departmental apps with limited functionality, today's low-code is about building, using, and changing enterprise-grade applications that help the largest organizations run smoothly.

LOW-CODE: TRANSFORM IDEAS TO INNOVATION

Low-Code Development Platforms are the fastest way to transform ideas into innovation.

These platforms break down the traditional barriers between business and IT, allowing the rapid build, launch, and modification of powerful apps.

EASE

• Minimal coding required
• Minimal necessary upfront investment in setup, training, and deployment
• Removal of barriers between Business and IT to support continual collaboration and improvements
• Reduced Shadow IT, with tools so easy even citizen developers can create apps that play nicely in the IT environment
• Instant, native mobility with no extra time, effort, or resources required
• Visual, drag-and-drop development tools to make creating and changing enterprise apps easy and fast
• Seamless integration unifying all data, processes, apps, and existing systems
• Apps are simple and intuitive to use, providing a streamlined experience.

SPEED

• Ability to rapidly deliver applications in collaboration with business users increases IT's strategic impact
• Speed at the core: Ideas can become fully functional; Launch apps in minutes, not months
• Adapt quickly to evolving market conditions, customer expectations, new technologies, and more
• Stay ahead of the evolving expectations of prospects, customers, employees, and constituents
• In the cloud, low-code helps shed the IT maintenance burden
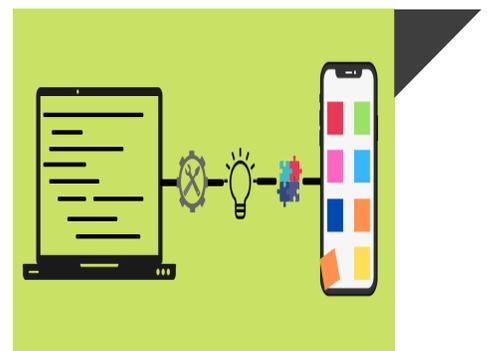• Visual, drag-and-drop development tools make creating and changing enterprise apps easy and fast

POWER

• Ability to build and launch unique apps that meet enterprise-level needs, not just departmental ones
• Ability to expand departmental apps to address enterprise-wide challenges, no matter how large
• Ability to roll out enterprise-apps across the organization, no matter how many people or how geographically diverse
• Security certifications, like PCI, HIPAA, SOC 2 and 3, and many more
• Evolve ideas and apps into sophisticated, powerful solutions tailored to customers, employees, and constituents
• Transform your organization, achieve competitive advantage, and become a digital leader

This model-driven development approach:

• Speeds app creation

• Unites legacy systems

• Gets ahead of Shadow IT

• Fosters the agile Business/ IT collaboration needed to realize digital transformation's massive potential

DO I NEED LOW-CODE?

with digital expectations growing continually, your organization must evolve as well. Embracing digitization is important. But, the more you embrace digitization, the more complex your T architecture can become. And, with expectations of immediacy from your business and customers alike, how can your IT organization possibly come out on top? These are just two signs you may be able to take advantage of low-code development. Here are some more signs you could benefit from using a low-code development platform:

• KEEPING UP WITH DEMANDS FROM THE BUSINESS IS DIFFICULT

Your IT organization is constantly slammed with demands from the larger organization. The IT

backlog is large…and perpetually growing. IT is falling behind.

• RELIANCE ON LEGACY APPS

Legacy applications drain efficiency…and your IT resources. They keep talented IT resources in a

continual state of updates and fixes. Which leads to…

• MORE TIME SPENT ON MAINTENANCE THAN INNOVATION

With the need to keep legacy systems and applications operating properly, most IT teams spend

nearly 80% of their time on maintenance, and only 20% on new innovation. Too little time focused

on innovative solutions leads to…

• SHADOW IT

Employees don't wait for IT. They're creating their own solutions—that are not a part of your

architecture—in a world of Shadow IT that adds even more complexity to your business.

• Scarce development resources

• SCARCE DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

You urgently need top-notch software developers. But it's getting increasingly harder to find and

retain them.

• EVOLVING DIGITAL EXPECTATIONS

All those systems you installed five, ten, twenty years ago? They simply can't keep up with fastchanging digital expectations, making it harder to win new customers, as well as keep the ones you already have
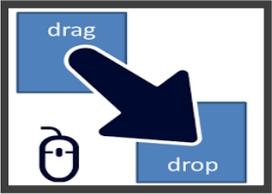
• INABILITY TO KEEP PACE

You're on the hook to capitalize on new business opportunities. But you can't build apps fast enough to take advantage of them.

This is a real headache. And not the kind you want to deal with when your company's growth is at stake.
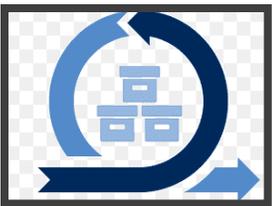
FAST-TRACK YOUR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Application development is expedited with visual representations of processes. These visual models are easier to understand than traditional displays. Which allows citizen developers to grasp application design easily.

Typing out long strands of code to produce is not only difficult, but also extremely time consuming. Low-code allows simple drag-and-drop so developers can create applications visually, resulting in faster time-to-launch.

No-code means just that…zero code required. Empower citizen developers to quickly transform ideas into business apps...with no-code app-building functionality.

Accelerate time to value by rapidly creating and launching applications...then enhance and expand them over time. Low-code development means you can iterate apps, and release them as soon as functionality is built. Since change is so fast with low-code development, agile transformation is made easier.

Build once, deploy everywhere. With the explosion of mobile devices like smart phones and tablets, applications must have cross-platform functionality standard in their design. With true low-code development, it should all happen behind the scenes automatically, with no extra effort, coding, or resources.

With low-code software, declarative tools are implemented through visual models and business rules. Removing the need to write custom-coding for these mitigates the difficulty of future changes or additions. And speeds development times.

Low-code development has had its knocks...mainly when it comes to security and scalability. While initially, low-code development was focused on smaller, departmental, and less critical capabilities, today's low-code should be enterprise-grade. The right platform has all the necessary security certifications in place, and proven experience with large-scale initiatives as well.