In today’s cut-throat technological environment, enterprise executives need to be sure they have done their due diligence to understand their goals and initiatives when implementing innovative solutions. New is not always better and, as requirements become more complex, we are beginning to realize that no single technology can provide all the answers—hence the continuous development of new technologies and tools. There are four key topics of focus for consideration when implementing successful solutions for today’s enterprise.

SOLUTIONS ARE BUSINESS DRIVEN

Just because there are some great real-time tools available to you doesn’t mean that your business requires them. Some businesses can be very successful with batch processed solutions and may never need real-time capabilities. It’s important to understand what is driving the need for new solutions.

As new types of data continue to grow, many enterprise companies are discovering how to extract more value from the data being collected. The different technologies that are available today enable the enterprise to focus on their business needs rather than the technology solutions specifically. Depending on the needs of your business, there is likely to be a set of technologies and architectures available that can complement your existing infrastructure while enabling new services, insight and value.

UNDERSTAND YOUR SUCCESS METRICS

Be aware of your current architecture and solutions. Know what your limits and pain points are so that you can provide relevant requirements to your vendors. Understand the use case you are looking to develop so that you can get the most return from your initial work.

Solutions today should offer new insights into existing data as well as be able to incorporate new data types as they are acquired. If your success depends on a fast implementation, then that should be discussed with the technology vendor. Confirm that support services are available for the short and long-term as reliable and competent support is critical to your success. Most technology providers offer professional service packages to help with the development of your solution/application.

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS

Everyone claims to be able to do everything nowadays. Be sure to ask for references and look at the total cost of ownership, which includes development, licensing, operational readiness and maintenance. Stay up to date and educated on the available solutions to avoid being sucked into the FUD (fear, uncertainty, doubt) of the extensive venture-funded marketing machines.

The Big Data landscape is in a stage of growth and change. In order to maximize your investments and future opportunities, today’s executive needs to understand their market and the technologies available. You need to focus on specific business requirements to take advantage of all the technologies available today to develop unique solutions for your specific needs.

Look for longevity and strength in customer relationships when searching for innovative, long-term solutions. Objectivity, Inc. is dedicated to the growth of its customers and is focused on developing technological advances that specifically benefit the performance, security and integration of its database products. After 25 years in the database industry, Objectivity continues to provide innovative and state of the art products through the ongoing development of Objectivity/DB, and InfiniteGraph, it’s enterprise-proven distributed graph database.

Solution providers are a wonderful resource to be utilized. Many solution providers are technology-agnostic and are dedicated to helping you discover the best technologies available for your requirements. Many renowned solution providers will be able to apply their experience in their relevant markets to solve your specific needs.

EVOLVE AND GROW

No business can afford to stand still. Be aware, regardless of your company size, that there will be a need to continue to evolve, evaluate, redefine and grow your solutions. Once you start gaining the planned benefits of a new technology you should also be looking for ways to build upon it, perhaps by replacing or updating older systems, or by looking at new lines of business and faster ways to exploit any changes detected as a result of implementing the new infrastructure. Keeping the future in mind will enable you to avoid costly technology changes. Be sure to ask how the technology will enable you to scale and grow. Confirm that there are ways to incorporate your existing architecture in order to maximize your data investments and reduce your long-term development costs. As always, knowledge is power, if it’s used correctly and at the right time.

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