

Legend vs. Custom Scripts

Modified: June 5, 2007

Overview

Legend is more reliable than custom scripts in three major areas of data migration: data compatibility, cost, and schedule.

Estimates for custom script development, testing, and validation are attractive in the planning stage. However, when implemented, the nature of custom programming (try, fail, try again) can cause schedule delays and divert resources and focus from the overall PDMLink implementation. Additionally, when scripts malfunction or require modification (MOR/PDMLink version change), it creates immediate, unanticipated costs in the form of added consulting and more schedule delays.

Overall, custom scripts lower the odds for achieving data compatibility in a reasonable time frame and the risk of having data integrity issues remain undetected. Legend eliminates the risks related to data compatibility, cost, and schedule, by addressing the three "Cs" of data migration: Cleanliness, Completeness, and Compatibility.

The Three "Cs" of Data Migration:

Cleanliness

Data must be Clean to ensure a successful migration. Duplicates can come in many variations. Two files can have the same name (an instance in one family table can have the same name as an instance in another family table), and an instance can have the same name as a file.

Duplicates can be within a set of files, come from different sets of files, or exist between a file to be loaded and one that was previously loaded manually.

Completeness

Next, the data should be Complete. All family table instances must be loaded as Windchill objects. Not having these instances loaded can spell disaster for an assembly using an instance that has not been created. Identifying missing dependent files can also be crucial to success. You may also use a consistent set of parameters in your models, and loading these into Windchill would provide a complete view of the data to your user community.

Compatibility

Most importantly, the data must be Compatible with the tools that use the data, such as Workgroup Manager. The Windchill data model is quite intricate. Workgroup Manager relies on the data being fully populated in the way it expects. If the data is loaded incorrectly, it may look okay at first, but it may be unusable by one or more tools now or in the future. One would not want to find a compatibility problem six months to a year after going live.

Legend is the reliable solution to data migration. Using the three "Cs" of data migration, Cleanliness, Completeness, and Compatibility, Legend both protects intellectual assets and contains costs.

Legend vs. Custom Scripts Data Sheet

From the following data, you will see that Legend offers

- **Data Reliability:** Why choose an unreliable method when you can have data integrity that is maintained by Legend's proven process?

Data Reliability		
Step	Scripts	Legend
Instance Verification Process	No	Yes
Parameter Designation Process	No	Yes
Comprehensive Detail Reporting Prior to Load	No	Yes
Data Compatible with Workgroup Manager Pro	Maybe	Yes

- **Time:** Speed is important — your business won't wait for PDM implementation. Legend can reduce your implementation schedule by as many as six weeks.

Implementation Schedule		
Step	Scripts	Legend
Implementation Planning	Week 1	Week 1
Design and Analysis	Week 2	N/A
Development	Week 3 & 4	N/A
Unit Testing	Week 5	N/A
System Testing	Week 6	N/A
User Training/Pilot Runs	Week 7	Week 1
Installation and Configuration	N/A	Week 1
Ready for Production Data Loading	Week 8?	Week 2

- **Cost:** Reduce costs and increase reliability with Legend. Custom scripts cost up to two times more than Legend.

Cost of Implementation		
Step	Scripts	Legend
Cost Estimate	\$60K	\$30K*
Estimated Consulting Days	30	10
Ongoing Technical Support	\$\$	Included

Conclusion

The migration of product data to your PDM system is a simple process with Legend; a process that will reliably load your vital data in days — not weeks. Don't risk losing time, money, and essential information. Legend is the clear choice for data loading.

*Pricing information is an estimate based on a typical Legend deal. Actual costs will vary.