

# What should we do with our Delphi system?

Every Delphi environment typically aligns with one of three paths: Support, Stabilization, or Migration. Use the steps below to determine which applies to your situation.

## Step 1: Strategic importance

Before evaluating technical details, clarify the business role of the system. This question usually arises during annual planning, product roadmap reviews, or investment discussions. If the system is no longer central to growth, the decision logic differs from systems driving competitive advantage.

Q1. Is this system critical to future growth or product strategy?

Yes → Go to step 3

No → Go to step 2

## Step 2: Operational stability

This applies to systems that primarily support established operations. Leaders often encounter this scenario when change requests are infrequent and the system “just works.” The key consideration is whether stability is sufficient for the foreseeable horizon.

Q2. Does it meet current needs with minimal change requests?

Yes → SUPPORT

No → Go to step 4

## Step 3: Roadmap alignment

For strategically important systems, alignment with the 3-5 year roadmap becomes critical. This situation typically emerges when planning cloud initiatives, new integrations, geographic expansion, or product scaling. The question is whether the current architecture enables those plans.

Q3. Does the architecture support your upcoming roadmap (cloud, integrations, scalability)?

Yes → Go to step 5

No → MIGRATION

## Step 4: Risk exposure

If change demand exists, assess structural risk. This step often follows audit findings, increasing maintenance effort, or dependency concerns. The issue here is risk trajectory, not isolated incidents.

Q4. Are security, compliance, or dependency risks increasing?

Yes → STABILIZATION

No → SUPPORT

## Step 5: Capability sustainability

Even when architecture fits, long-term capability must be sustainable. This situation commonly surfaces during hiring challenges, succession planning, or knowledge transfer reviews. The question is whether the organization can reliably operate and evolve the system.

Q5. Do you have sustainable in-house Delphi expertise and documented knowledge?

Yes → STABILIZATION

No → MIGRATION

## Selected strategic option

### Support

Continue operating the system with routine maintenance and limited change.

#### Choose this option if:

- The system is stable, and the business scope is not expanding
- Risk exposure is low and controlled
- Internal capability is sufficient for ongoing support

### Stabilization

Reduce structural risk and extend useful life without full replacement.

#### Choose this option if:

- The architecture broadly supports business needs
- Security, dependency, or documentation gaps require remediation
- The objective is controlled longevity rather than transformation

### Migration

Re-architect the system to align with long-term strategy and scalability goals.

#### Choose this option if:

- The current architecture constrains roadmap execution
- Talent continuity risk is material
- Structural security or scalability limitations cannot be incrementally resolved

## When to involve an external perspective

Delphi decisions are rarely technical in isolation. They affect risk exposure, investment timing, and long-term architectural flexibility.

An experienced modernization partner helps you:

1. Conduct an objective architectural review
2. Quantify security, dependency, and talent risk
3. Compare 3-5 year TCO across support, stabilization, and migration
4. Define a risk-aligned roadmap tied to business priorities

Support, stabilize, or migrate – choose with data.

We help you model risk, cost, and strategic alignment objectively.

Start the strategic evaluation