Fossilization vs. Transformation

Alan Yeo
CEO ScreenJet Ltd
alanyeo@screenjet.com

SCREENJET
JAVA
XHTML
ORICLE
WINDOWS
OPEN MPE
UNIX
LINUX
NT
HP-UX
HP-UX/LINUX
UNCLE BILLS GROTO.
MPE.
GO!
SYSTEMS
DON'T PANIC!!

There is No One Right Answer!

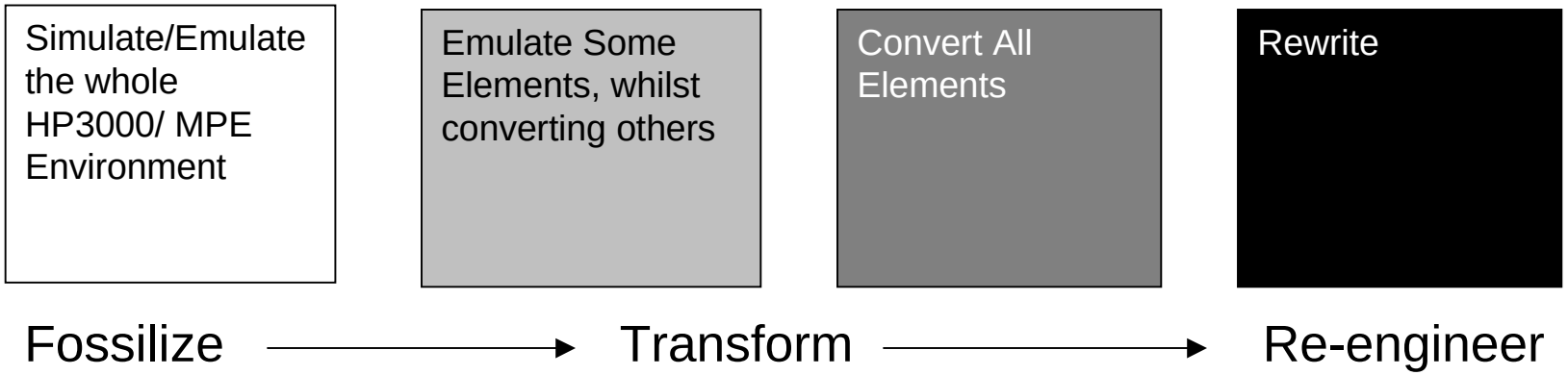
- No Silver Bullets

Migration Choices

- Having decided that migration is desirable because:

- ? 1……
- ? 2……
- ? 3……

- You have a range of choices how:



Fossilization

Wrap everything up in a shell
and pretending that you haven't migrated.

Transformation

Migrate/Convert the best of what you've got,
merging it with the best on your target platform.

Re-engineer/Rewrite

Extract the business logic
rewrite using your chosen operating system,
language, database, user interface.

Key Decision Criteria

- Big Bang or Gentle Transition
- Where do you want to end up?
- Will you be managing the migration?
- Maintaining the migrated solution
- What in-house skills do you have?
- What external skills are available?
- What tools are available?

Key Decision Criteria

- What will it cost?
- Will the result integrate with new developments?
- Standalone or integrated applications
- Do you have source code?
- What are your application vendor(s) doing?
- How long do you have to migrate?

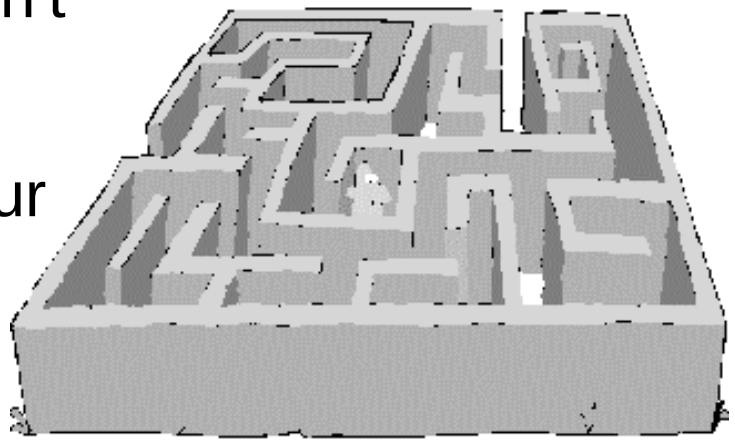
Big Bang or Gentle Transition

- Do you only test your migration when everything is done, and on the new platform

- Remove the 3000'isms and do some of the migration on the HP3000

Where do you want to end up?

- “If you want to get there, I wouldn't start from where you are!”
- Specific reasons may dictate your choices
- Company policy to go……
- Your staff have all threatened to…...



Will you be managing the migration?

- **Will you be doing the migration in house?**
  - Iterative question with,
  - where do I want to get?
  - what skills are available?
  - how long have I got?
  - what tools are available?
  - how much will it cost?

Who will maintain the solution?

- How difficult will that be
- Serious issue, or a minor point
- Emulation/Fossilization.
  - No need to maintain an application this is an ideal solution.
- Transformation.
  - Really viable option when future maintenance is an issue.
- User Interface White Paper www.screenjet.com

What in-house skills do you have?

- None
  - Low Maintenance
  - Subcontracting Migration
- in-house development staff
  - their skills?
  - influence on the choices?
  - knowledge of your business invaluable

What external skills are available?

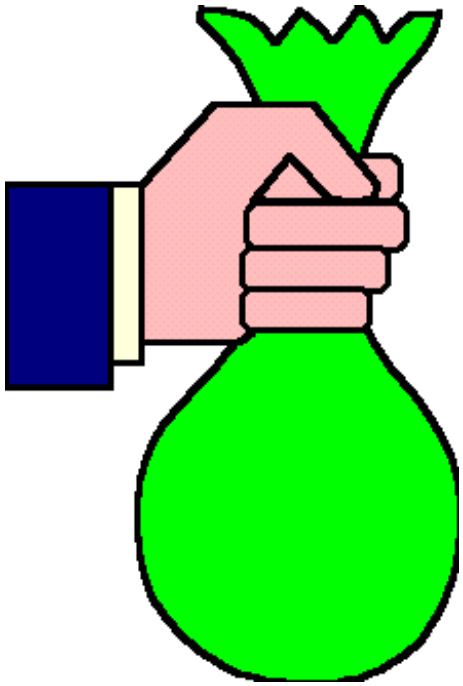
- "Early Bird catches the Worm”
- Budget approvals, situation will change
- Skills available
- Respective cost
- Only 50 programmers left in the world
- ……. rates are twice those of …….

What tools are available?

- Tools will be critical
- Reliably and cost effectively
- Both Fossilization and Transformation
- Predictability, will and will not do
- Since November 14th New tools
- Quality solutions emerging

What will it cost? to:

- $64,000 Question
- Migrate the Application
- Support
- Retrain staff and users
- In Lost Business Opportunity

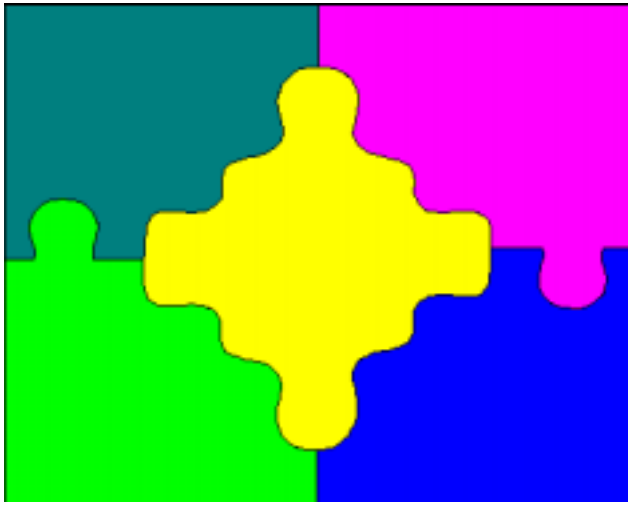


Integration with new developments?

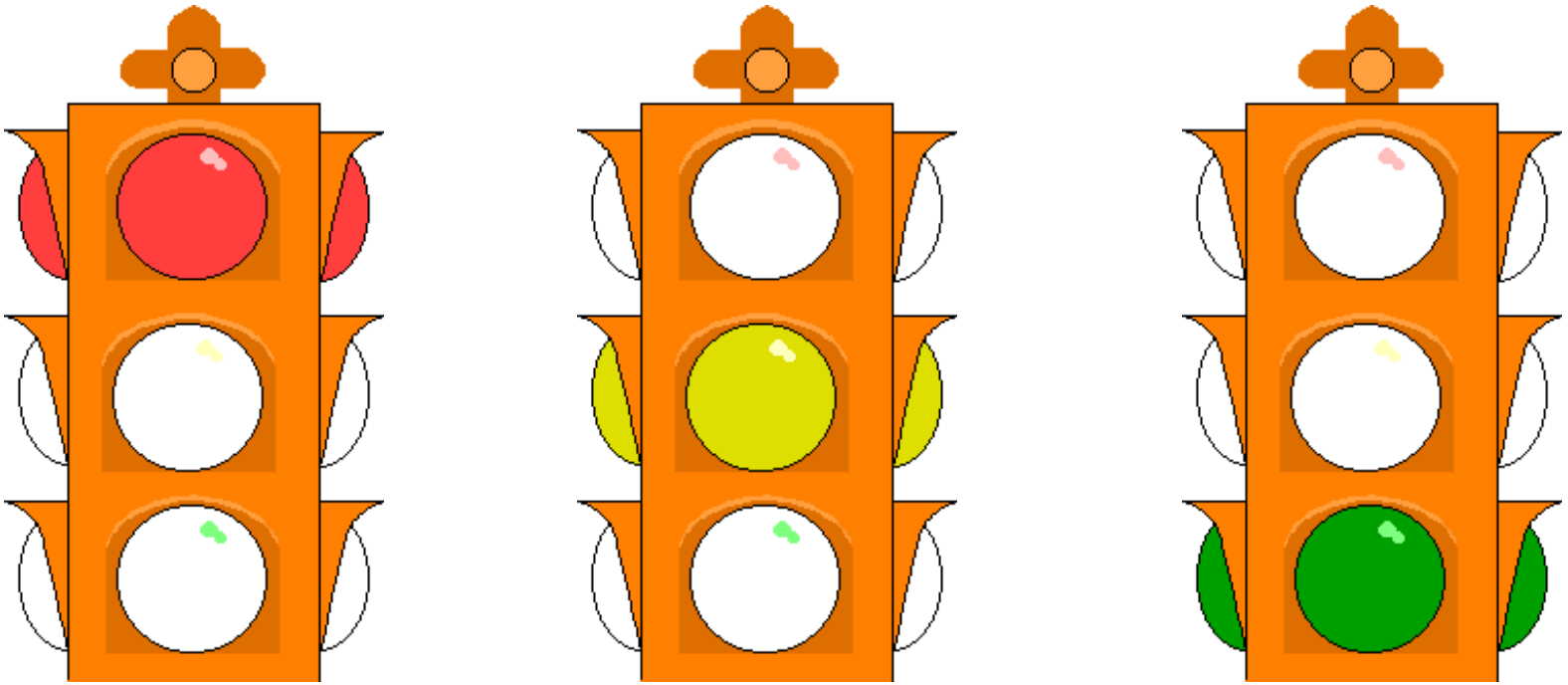
- Just get running on another platform
  - not a major consideration
- 3K lacked support for new software
- New system, mainstream OS
  - start using or integrating new functionality
- User Interface, an area of attention

Standalone or integrated applications?

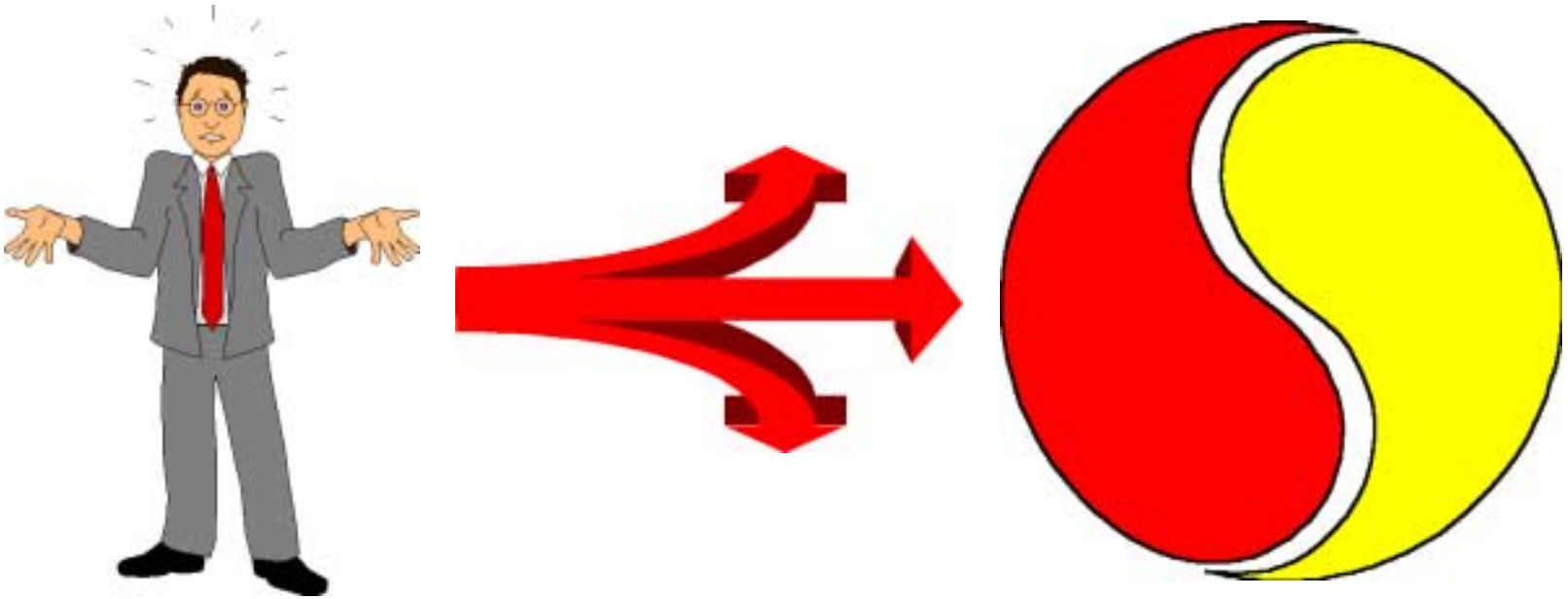
- This is where is starts? getting complicated



Do you have source code?

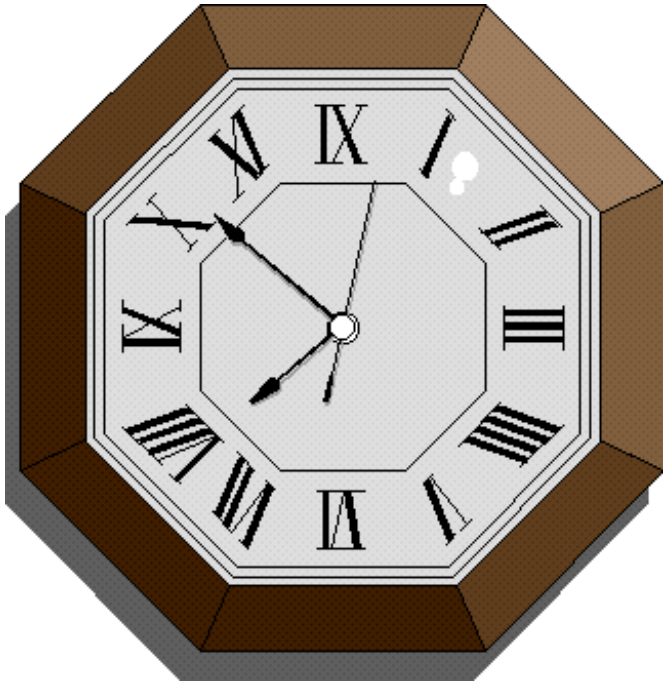


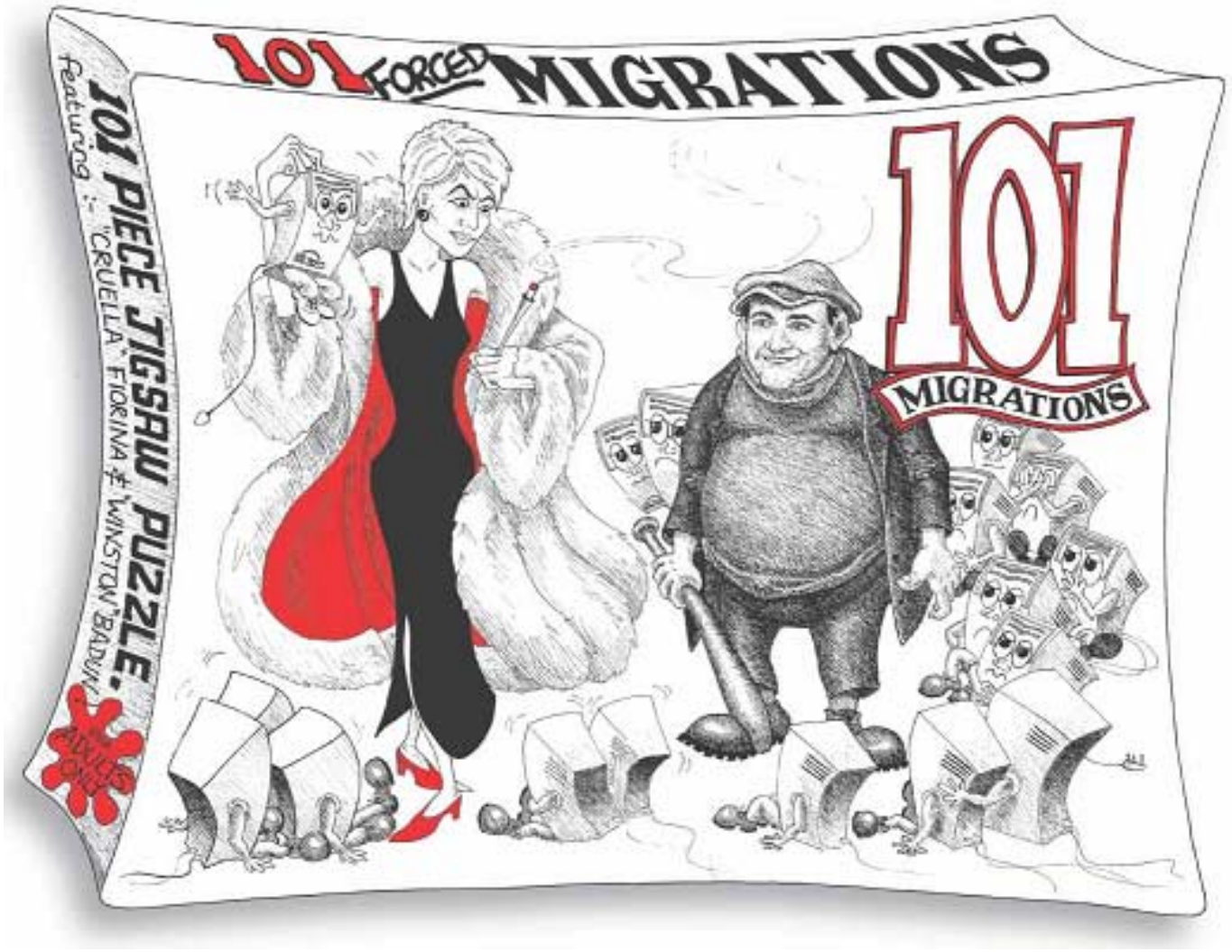
What are your application vendor(s) doing?



How long do you have to migrate?

- This is something that only your organisation can decide,
- based on your business requirements
- your views on the risks of different migration and homesteading strategies.

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