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# INSIGHTS



## MENDIX AND LOW-CODE: FAQs

### *Titan Consulting's Best Answers for our Customers*

Let us help you with some of the most frequently asked questions regarding **SAP, Mendix Platform, and Application Development**. These questions broadly range from vendor selection, platform features and functions, to SAP Fiori vs. Mendix. If you do not see your specific question listed, ask your Titan Consulting Director. We have heard most of the issues and we pride ourselves on having the Best Answer for you.

#### *Why is Low-Code growing into a must-have development platform?*

Many factors point to why low-code platforms are becoming a preferred development platform in most businesses.

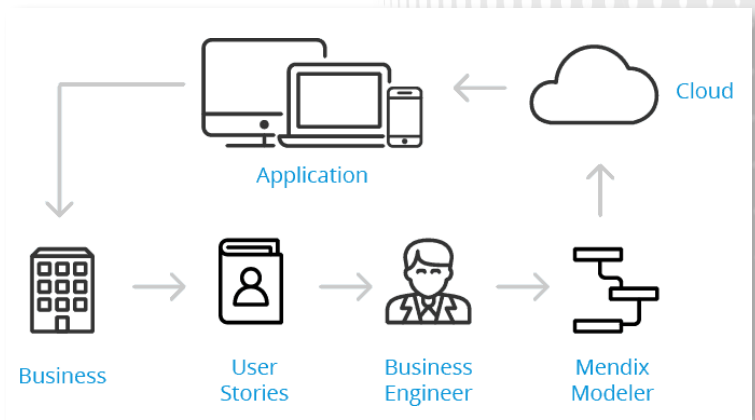
**1** Increased demand for Apps – Companies need to deliver more apps, in less time, with fewer resources. Our experience with Mendix, the leader in Gartner's Magic Quadrant, enables us to develop apps up to 90% faster than traditional development platforms.

**2** Hot Hiring Market – Developers are in high demand. By some estimates, the unemployment rate for developers is less than two percent. Also, top developers tend to change companies every two to three years. This results in high demand and low availability of trained, knowledgeable developers. This creates a need to innovate – low-code fills this gap.

#### *What is a common mistake we see with low-code development models?*

Lack of Governance! Building and maintaining software is a challenge. Doing so at a hyper-scale can be a disaster if the proper strategy and governance are not in place.

Low-code is an excellent tool and can allow you to build apps at scale. To gain the benefits and outcomes you expect, you need to apply a governance model that supports the pace of innovation and development.



Without a governance model, you can easily see bad code on top of bad code that takes longer to develop and deploy. You quickly find yourself with too many apps, overlapping data and processes, incompatible versions, and no clear upgrade path! In this example, the business engaged in the App development without engaging other partners such as IT and a PMO.

#### *What should I look for in "tier 1" low-code platforms?*

In evaluating the low-code choices, you need:

**1** A robust, easy-to-learn, development toolset: Mendix Studio and Studio Pro feature visual, model-driven, no-code and low-code tools such as drag-and-drop for UI, Logic, and Navigation. The ability to perform the direct model execution of code generation reduces overhead at run-time, code-changes, maintenance, and dynamic monitoring and analysis.

*"We live in a software-driven world. If you want to compete and win, you need to develop stable apps quickly across multiple platforms – Mendix does that!"*

Warren Norris  
Managing Director, Titan Consulting

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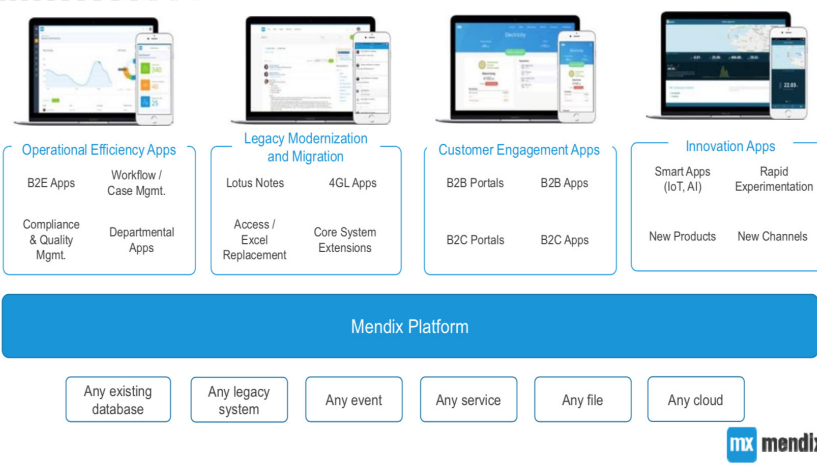
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Furthermore, these tools are advantageous for all developers – citizen developers, departmental developers, and seasoned enterprise software engineers.

**2** UX and Multi-channel capabilities – With Mendix, you develop for mobile, tablet, and PC from the same code line. This reduces development time, testing, deployment, and maintenance – Mendix reduces TCO – Total Cost of Ownership.

**3** Financial stability – With the economic downturn brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the demand for apps skyrocketed. You invest in the technology as well as the company. With Mendix, a part of the Siemens company, you know your phone call or email will get answered.



### Why should you consider Mendix as a trusted partner?

- Siemens recently acquired Mendix and provides financial stability and continuous investment in the core platform and emerging technologies at the core of the digital transformation.
- Many of our architects, managers, and developers sign up for the blog posts. These posts help you grow as a Decision-maker, IT Leader, Developer, or Citizen Developer.
- The Mendix community and support organization are on hand to support you 24/7 through these most extraordinary times.
- While working remotely, it is a great time to try the Mendix free online training program that supports a rapid path for multiple learning disciplines and skills development.
  - Group sourced community for learning and troubleshooting. The community is supported by abundant documentation to enrich the learning experience.
  - Sharing of ideas with the community accelerates learning and promotes sharing and democratizing solutions.

### What helps differentiate Mendix from other low-code platforms?

Gartner and Forrester have Mendix listed in the Leaders quadrant for consecutive years. One of our favorite resources is the no-nonsense Platform [Evaluation Guide](https://www.mendix.com/evaluation-guide/) at <https://www.mendix.com/evaluation-guide/> that provides the criteria you need to compare the different vendors.

### Why is Mendix the First-Class Development Platform?

Digitalization is omni-channel – Smartphones, Tablets, and PCs. And the medium is multi-experience – Voice, Touch, Gesture, and Human Readable formats interact with users on their digital journey.

The goal and challenge is to provide a consistent user experience for all users. Mendix enables this experience.

The term “multi-experience” refers to the various permutations of modality (touch, voice, and gesture, for example), device, and app with which users interact on their digital journeys across diverse touchpoints. Multi-experience development involves creating fit-for-purpose apps based on touchpoint-specific modalities, while at the same time ensuring a consistent user experience across web, mobile, wearables, conversational and immersive touchpoints. Multi-experience development generally requires using a variety of technologies, but single platforms like Mendix are emerging and combine the needed technologies.

### My data is valuable and confidential; how does Mendix keep it secure?

Mendix low-code development methodology and experience adheres to strict security standards. You are the sole owner of your data. Only Mendix Cloud Infrastructure Engineers can access data and will only do so for troubleshooting. Your data is backed up for one year, and the backups are retained for one year after project deletion.

### Essential Questions When Evaluating Low-Code Vendors?

- Can the vendor demonstrate a go-to-market strategy for its development platform across mobile apps, the web, and conversational experiences?
- Can the development environment support cross-platform development such as Android and iOS? Specifically, you should not require separate vendor involvement or services to generate or build responsive web apps. It must also support at least two of the following categories:

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### Able to support PWA within the development tool.



- **Chatbot:** Built-in chatbot framework or tight integration of development tool with external bot frameworks (such as Alexa/Amazon Lex, IBM Watson, Dialogflow, and Microsoft Bot Framework).
- **Voice app:** Built-in NLP and speech-to-text, or tight integration of development tool with voice platforms (such as Alexa Skills and Actions on Google).
- **Wearable:** Wearable UI support within development tool (such as for Apple Watch, Wear OS, and Microsoft HoloLens).
- **Augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR):** Immersive UI support within the development tool (using, for example, ARKit, ARCore, or Wikitude).
- The vendor must offer back-end services within the platform for all the following:
  - Offline data synchronization
  - User authentication services
  - Push notifications
  - Location services

### Can I deploy apps in 10% of the time?

Yes, we have specific use cases where our customers stated that what would have taken them six months on ABAP, .NET, or JAVA was deployed in weeks with Mendix. Ask your Titan Consulting Director for the business cases for these results.

### The most frequent question we get asked, "If I have Fiori, why do I need Mendix?"



A simple question, but there is not a simple answer. By comparison, it is like saying, if I have SAP, why do you need any other software?

SAP's traditional sterile GUI layout was, for years, the subject of significant criticism. Fiori was a

fresh, clean, award-winning UI/UX that appealed to its millions of users.

However, a gap still existed. Fiori is a robust and stable UI/UX, but not ideal as an app development platform. For performing SAP-centric activities and services such as workflow approval of Purchase Orders or Vacation Requests, Fiori is a great choice.

For industrial-strength application development, SAP needed a robust, mature platform to keep pace with the growing demand

for apps. To their credit, SAP recognized this gap and went down a path of selecting the right partner. After performing an extensive evaluation, SAP chose Siemen's Mendix platform to address the problem.

We have a quick story comparing **Mendix and Fiori app** development. One of our consultants certified in both Mendix and Fiori worked on a Fiori time-tracking project. The three app solution took six months from design to deployment for all apps in Fiori. In our Mendix development lab, we developed the same apps on Mendix. We duplicated and deployed the same functionality in 13 days – a 90% reduction in development time and effort. This was our consultant's first project after receiving his Mendix certification.



Ask your Titan Account Executive for the article comparing Mendix and Fiori.

### How can we take advantage of Mendix?

We live in a software-driven world. Would you like to see our comparison of Mendix and Fiori and find your Break-Even point? Titan is a leader in the Mendix low-code delivery model that scales, delivers results in less time, and extends your enterprise data.

### How can I Jump-start my Mendix App Development skills or project?

- The first thing you should do is click the [Start for Free](#) link at [www.mendix.com](http://www.mendix.com) and begin your low-code app development experience. The onboarding process only takes a few minutes.
- The Mendix Platform provides several starter apps as part of the onboarding process. These starter apps are complete app frameworks that can be used as a starting point when building a new app on the Mendix Platform. They provide the framework required to ramp-up your development, including branding, design assets and patterns, navigation, and security models.
- For additional examples, see the [Mendix App Gallery](#) or ask your Titan Consulting Director for our portfolio of apps.

Learn how Titan and Mendix can satisfy your business's appetite for custom-developed applications. Contact Keith Johnson, [keith@titanconsulting.net](mailto:keith@titanconsulting.net), 214.289.0924, or your Titan Consulting Director. You can see additional information on our Mendix capabilities at [www.titanconsulting.net/mendix/](http://www.titanconsulting.net/mendix/).