

Decision Checklist: Is Your Platform Selection Process Sound?

Use this checklist before committing to any low-code platform:

- Have you completed a full automation inventory that maps every candidate's workflow to its integration dependencies, data sensitivity, and regulatory requirements?
- Are your architecture requirements (integration patterns, deployment model, data residency, access control) defined before vendor engagement?
- Have you built a five-year TCO model that includes integration, operations, oversight, error remediation, and exit costs?
- Has your proof of concept used real production data and actual integration endpoints, not sandbox environments with synthetic data?
- Have you tested the platform at projected Year 3 transaction volumes, not just pilot scale?
- Does the platform support the governance controls required by EU AI Act, applicable state laws, and your industry's compliance framework?
- Can applications be exported in standard, portable formats, or does the platform use proprietary runtime engines and domain-specific languages?
- Have you estimated the cost and timeline of migrating 100 applications to an alternative platform?
- Is platform selection being led by enterprise architecture (not procurement alone)?
- Do you have a defined plan for where citizen-developed applications fit within your governance framework?

If the answer to more than two of these questions is no, pause. The cost of a structured evaluation is a fraction of the cost of remediation after an ill-fit platform has been embedded across the organization.