

What Is Low-Code?

Have you heard about the “low-code” phenomenon? Maybe you saw a reference to it on Stack Overflow or perhaps you saw the OutSystems booth at a trade show and wondered what it was all about.

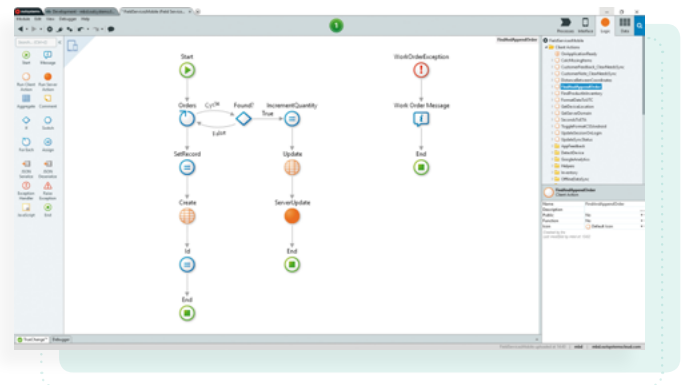
Low-code enables you to deliver business applications, software, and core systems with minimal hand-coding, setup, and training.

What Low-Code Does

Designing an app with a low-code platform involves all of the same planning and thought processes as developing by hand. When it's time to start modeling, though, things get different, fast! Here is what a low-code platform should enable you to do (at a minimum).

Create Applications Using Visual Models

When creating an application in a low-code platform, the developer works in a graphical interface to visually model the application by dragging and dropping front-end UI components, business logic and functions, workflow and processes, and database tables and schemas. The same drag-and-drop approach applies regardless of the layer of the application you are building and regardless of the target platform and device.

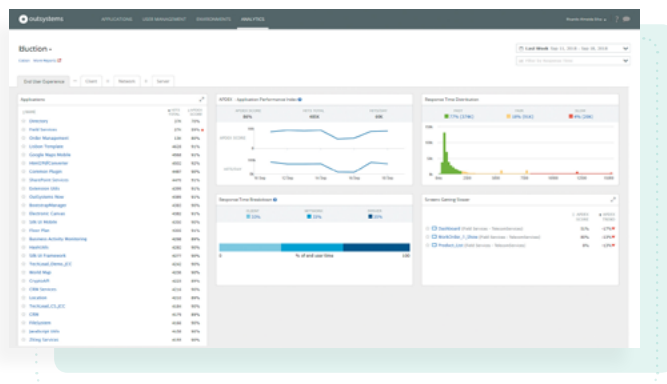


outsystems					
APPLICATIONS USER MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE ANALYTICS					
Applications - Select Applications to Deploy to Production					
Select Applications to Deploy to Production					
	Quality	CONTINUE	Production		
Sales	6.0 Mar 21, 11:52 Administrator	DEPLOY 6.0	6.0 Mar 21, 11:52 Administrator		
Mobile Sales	6.0+ Mar 21, 11:45 Administrator	DEPLOY 6.0	6.0 Mar 21, 11:45 Administrator		
Customer Services	2.6 Mar 21, 11:45 Administrator	DEPLOY 2.6	2.6 Mar 21, 11:45 Administrator		
Users	7.5 Mar 21, 11:52 Administrator	DEPLOY 7.5	7.5 Mar 21, 11:52 Administrator		
Embedded Change Technology	7.5 Mar 21, 11:49 Administrator	DEPLOY 7.5	7.5 Mar 21, 11:49 Administrator		
Directory	7.5 Mar 21, 11:45 Administrator	DEPLOY 7.5	7.5 Mar 21, 11:45 Administrator		

Worry-Free Application Deployment

Once the application is visually modeled, at the click of a button, the low-code platform uses intelligent automation to generate the application based on the provided model and then handles the deployment of applications to the selected environments. All application changes (to data models, logic, business processes, and screens) are taken care of by the platform, including making all the necessary updates and understanding dependencies between applications.

After deployment, a well-designed low-code platform will also manage the application throughout its lifetime. This includes providing detailed application performance management with actionable alerts and historical performance trending.



In case you have any preconceived notions about low-code, it's time to dispel them. You might have heard that it will replace human coders, that it's programming lite, and that it's picture-based programming. Here's the real scoop.

Low-code development enhances skills developers already have. Their business logic, expertise, and knowledge of their industry all work together with low-code development to make developers faster than ever before.

In years past, low-code was synonymous with mobile and web app development. Today, independent analysts recognize leaders in low-code as offering an enterprise-class development platform that meets up to 80 percent of enterprise development needs. As new functionality and features such as AI-assisted development add to low-code's feature-set, look for that number to move closer to 100 percent.

In as much as the models in the visual editor are represented as images, yes, there are pictures involved. But those images are self-contained modules of code and logic. Rather than typing (and retyping) the same code over and over, just drag and drop. Visual-based development yields the same results, but more intuitively and faster, without typos!

If you would like to learn more about low-code and how it can help your organization with its digital transformation efforts, or if you are just curious if low-code is right for you and would like to evaluate it on your own, visit us online at outsystems.com/low-code-platforms.

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