Is No–Code Suitable for Your Business?

Simplicity vs Capabilities – Or Both

We launched GW Apps with a mission to create the most capable cloud application development platform for business users, extending the power of No-Code to enable non-programmers, often called citizen developers, to create meaningful applications. This No-Code solution gives all users the power to digitize and modernize the business processes they manage: marketing teams creating applications to manage their events, operations departments improving the way they manage company assets, etc. A well–designed web application can replace the multitude of emails, papers, and spreadsheets created, and accelerate the move to a paperless office.

Low-Code or No-Code options provide users with the tools they need to create a well-developed cloud application without writing a line of code. For many businesses, this presents a huge plus: the ability to create these applications without spending valuable time and resources that they may not have. But with the multitude of products on the market, how can businesses choose the best Low-Code or No-Code solution?

Finding the best cloud development tools for your business can be challenging. There are multiple vendors offering No-Code/Low-Code products, but how do you choose the most appropriate one for your needs? We hope the following information will help in your search and evaluation.

Low-Code vs No-Code Platforms: Evolution and Differences

Low-Code development platforms have been around for a while. Vendors hide parts of an application's coding with graphical interface builders and prebuilt functionality. They have been a great disrupter for application development and a welcome addition to IT Departments worldwide. However, when using a Low-Code platform you will need developers to complete most applications, as some coding is still required. With Low-Code, IT is typically building the application.

With continued advances in cloud technologies, vendors have introduced No-Code platforms, eliminating the need for any programming skills, and extending the capability to create applications to non-developers. The business is then far more involved or is even leading the software development.

	Low–Code	No–Code
Target Users	Developers	Business users (IT and line of business)
Main Objective	Speed of development	Ease of use
Coding Required	Needed, although can be limited through the use of templates	No coding required
Customization	High level of customization possible	Medium level of customization possible
App Complexity	Can create high complexity apps	Can create simple to medium complexity apps
Cost Effectiveness	Faster development reduces costs compared to traditional development	No developer costs and even faster development increase ROI over Low-Code
Ideal For	Organizations with an existing team of developers	Organizations looking to have business users develop their simpler business apps or speed up their pace of development

Various major IT publications and research firms have all come to similar conclusions: if you aren't incorporating Low-Code and No-Code development in your portfolio, you will be at a competitive disadvantage, as those who are using this approach will be more efficient and effective. More recently, as the capability and awareness of No-Code platforms have risen, many are convinced that they will be far more transformative than their Low-Code cousins.

No-Code Delivers Benefits by Changing the Game

There are many benefits to a No-Code solution, the main one being that it allows one user to develop a full application independently. Still, it is important to understand all of the benefits associated with a No-Code approach and examine how this solution can provide business users with increased security and productivity.

No need to wait for Developer Resources

With No-Code development, business users can take care of many of the common applications themselves or with only minor support from IT. Now, they no longer have to wait on the availability of developer resources.

Faster Development at a Lower Cost

Low-Code reduces the time to build enterprise applications from months to weeks. No-Code allows you to shrink the development time even further, to a couple of days in most cases. As it doesn't require the involvement of developers and a project manager, the business developer is able to iterate and build their own applications very rapidly. Studies show that you can reduce development time by up to 80% with No-Code development.
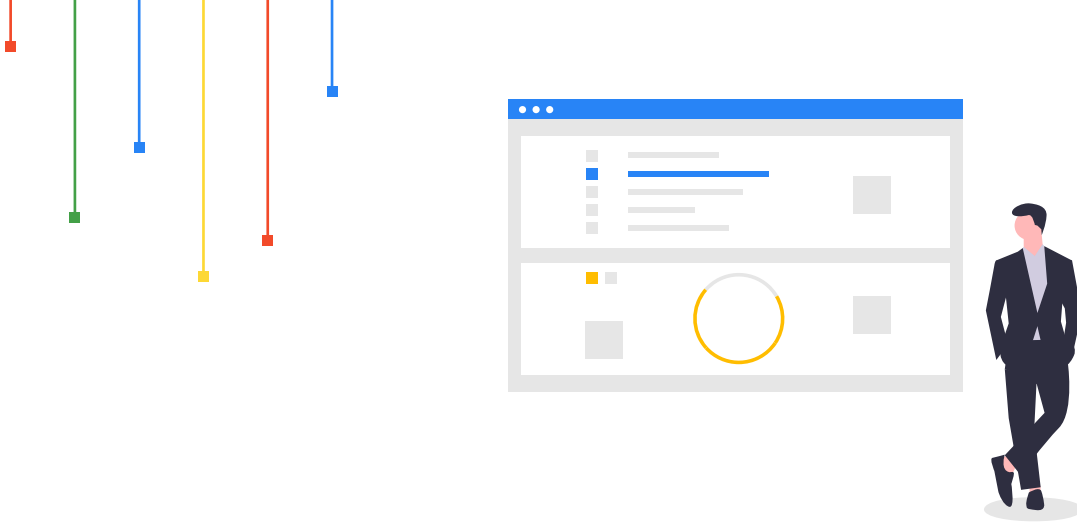
Update Applications at the Speed of Business

Because company requirements change, applications can quickly become outdated as business needs evolve. Making even minor functional changes to an existing application is complex and time consuming with traditional development. A No-Code platform makes such changes quick and simple, allowing for applications that evolve as quickly as your business.

Replace Shadow-IT with Business-IT

No-Code gives the IT department the capability to bring structure and sensible standards to business user development. When an enterprise does not embrace a No-code standard, business users will be tempted to introduce multiple SaaS solutions to help them manage their business processes. This can lead to an explosion of tools within the enterprise, issues with application security, and all around difficulties tracking data from multiple applications. By using one platform to build the most common business applications, you eliminate the emergence of a Shadow-IT environment. We now have Business-IT instead of Shadow-IT.

One product - Multiple applications

You achieve substantial cost savings by investing in one product that will enable your organization to deploy multiple applications. You also gain efficiencies with Single sign-on, sharing data between applications, and providing a consistent user interface while still allowing divisions and departments to have a distinct branding.

Why a Solution Like GW Apps Should Have a Place in Your IT Plans
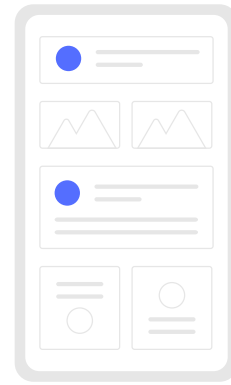
We believe that large organizations should utilize both a Low-Code and a No-Code platform in their environment, as each addresses a different need and group of users. Small and medium businesses should at a minimum embrace a No-Code platform.

While there are many Low-Code solutions available to businesses, No-Code solutions that allow application development for businesses are difficult to come by. GW Apps was born out of that need. Our product offers a no-code solution that allows users to develop enterprise grade applications in a simple, user-friendly way.

A key objective was to keep GW Apps easy to use and simple to learn while still providing advanced capabilities to build highly functional web applications. GW Apps core functionality is built on four key components:

Intelligent Form Builder – Versatile, flexible layout

Add Workflow – Record routing and approval

Manage Security – Control data access at the field, form and application levels

Build Reports & Views – Custom reports and dashboards

The form builder's ease of use will enable almost anyone to start building forms and turn them into applications, while the advanced configurations for workflow and data security would enable power users to build more complex applications.

We've achieved our goal and we have seen 2 distinct sets of users successfully use GW Apps in ways that suit them best.

1. Business users who don't have access to IT resources but have a business process they need to automate or improve.

2. Information technology professionals who need to create applications faster so they can meet their deadlines and their business' demands.

We have heard great success stories from both business users and IT developers. Business users have leveraged our templates to quickly deploy custom applications for common needs like time tracking, asset management and vacation requests.

Some of our more advanced IT customers have used GW Apps to build applications far more complex than we had ever imagined.
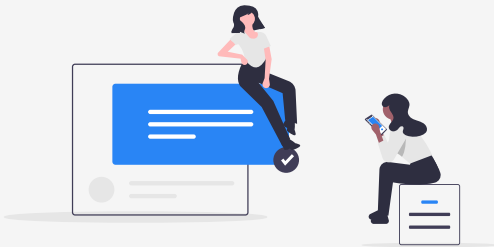
"GW Apps has given our organization the ability to evolve and push customer change requests to our applications within minutes. The responsive click-and-drag concept is well developed. This makes our no-code developer's applications look like it was produced by our Sr. Back End Developers. GW Apps platform supported our benchmarks for the 'National Institute of Standards and Technology' (NIST); bringing confidence to our auditors, clients, and team."

– Lee S. (Director of Information Services for a Health and Wellness company)
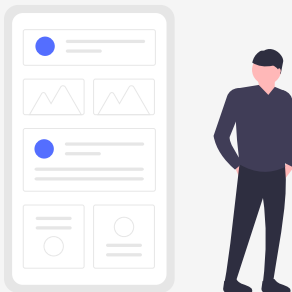
"I found GW apps to be very easy to use and get up and running almost instantly. It has a couple of typical departmental app templates ready to go out-of-the-box, and making customizations was simple and intuitive. Someone with moderate computer skills would be able to use this and create their own apps and without writing a line of code. Once the app is built, you can access it from your phone browser with pretty much the same functionality."
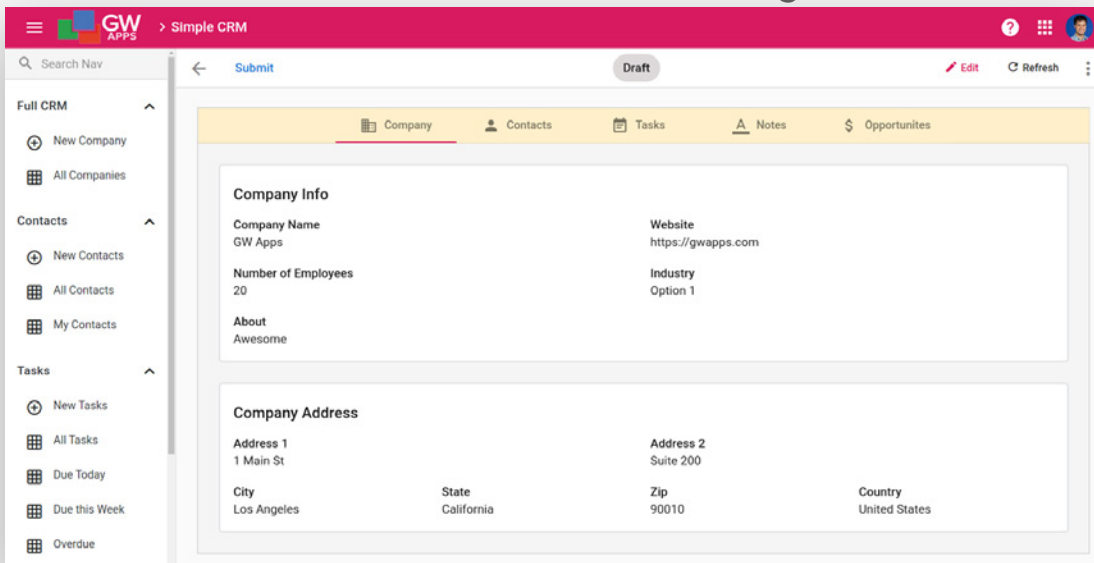
Vinay K. (Founder of an Information Technology and Services company)

Following are a few screenshots of typical applications developed in GW Apps

One product, multiple applications
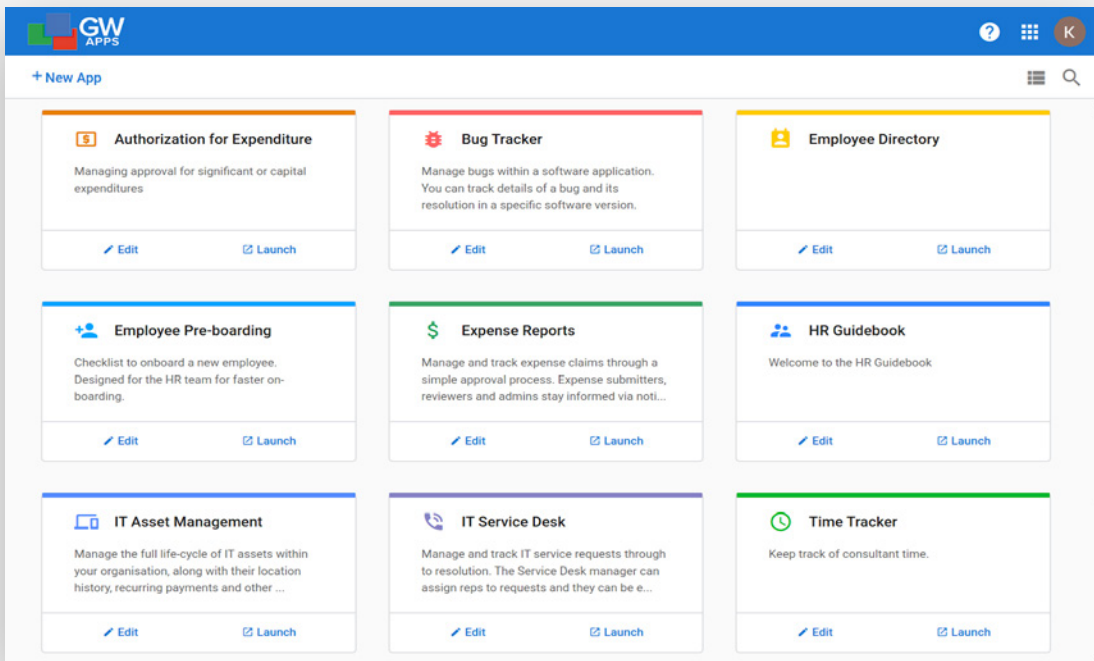
Form with grouped fields in accordion sections to eliminate infinite scrolling

Following are a few screenshots of typical applications developed in GW Apps

Dashboard view

Expense report application

Interested in learning more?

Book a Demo Today