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Emergence of Low Code No Code Platforms

Low-code or no-code (LCNC) are methods of developing and designing applications with the help of intuitive ‘drag and drop’ tools. This approach requires no technical developer to write the code, leaving the user with the ability to create and customize the application quickly.

According to reports, the global low-code platform market is projected to reach approximately **$65 billion** by 2027. This growth is driven by the demand for rapid digitalization and the efficiency of visual software development environments. The adoption of LNC tools comes with a commitment to user accessibility which fosters innovation and reduces work pressure on IT departments.

The Rise of Citizen Developers

For years, there have been two ways for businesses to go for application development: purchase a ready-made from the vendor or create and customize them from scratch with the help of skilled developers. Here the challenge was, that ready-made apps could not fully meet the business requirements, due to their generic features and customized apps being out of budget.

The emergence of the low-code no-code trend has enabled non-technical employees in the organization to create software applications without extensive knowledge of programming. This is made conceivable by its user-friendly tools and platforms that allow people to create applications through visual interfaces, drag-and-drop features, and pre-built components.

The citizen developers are typically business users who understand their department's needs and can quickly create solutions to improve workflows or resolve different problems. They don't replace skilled developers but complement them by managing simpler tasks, freeing up IT teams, to concentrate on intricate projects.

Key Features and Capabilities of LCNC Platforms

LCNC platforms came out as an easy solution for enterprises seeking ways to uplift their business digitally without incurring significant expenses. Following are some of the key features of these platforms, making them the choice of many businesses:

Click-and-drag Interface: It is one of the key features of LCNC platforms is their easy-to-use “click-and-drag” feature that allows users, especially non-developers, to visually design applications by dragging and dropping components.

Predefined Templates & Modules: LCNC platforms are equipped with some predefined templates, modules, and components that businesses can quickly modify as per their goals, significantly reducing the processing time of development.

Cross-Platform Compatibility: As businesses are increasingly going digital, the demand for cross-platform compatibility features is rising in app development. LCNC platforms offer cross-compatibility and can be deployed across various devices to deliver a seamless user experience.

Workflow Management & Automation: LCNC platforms offer workflow management and automation features that automate repetitive tasks and processes. By leveraging this feature businesses can dedicate their time to other important tasks.

Integration with Existing Systems: Organizations often seek integration of their business platforms with other enterprise tools and systems for better efficiency. LCNC platforms offer flawless integration with other enterprise systems, enabling a cohesive IT ecosystem.

Flexibility & Scalability: Whether it is a simple application or a complex one, with the support of the LCNC platform app development organizations can scale their business as and when needed, ensuring long-term viability.

Compliance & Security: In terms of security, these platforms are equipped with built-in features and other compliance tools to protect the sensitive data of the organization and make sure the applications diligently follow industry regulations.

Challenges and Considerations

While LCNC offers countless benefits, they often come with their challenges. Businesses must consider these carefully to ensure a successful implementation.

1. **Reduced Flexibility:** With a traditional coding approach, developers had the access to customize their applications as per the user's need but LCNC solutions and plugins have built-in functionality.
2. **Security and risk:** LCNC platforms rely on their platform providers to mitigate IT risks and security defects because the application providers do not have control over the source code.
3. **Vendor lock-in:** It becomes difficult to switch to a different platform for applications using specific LCNC platforms for their IT solutions. This results in increased dependency of the businesses on the LCNC providers which can complicate their long-term strategy by limiting their flexibility and innovation. Further, this dependency can drive up costs over time as businesses encounter higher fees and extended contracts.

In Closing

Low-code/no-code (LCNC) platforms are revolutionizing application development by making it accessible to non-technical users through intuitive design interfaces. This

democratization facilitates hassle-free development for non-technical users to make tailored apps. By empowering users to create custom applications, LCNC platforms alleviate the workload on IT teams and streamline business processes while fostering a collaborative environment.

However, businesses must carefully handle the challenges associated with LCNC platforms which can complicate long-term strategy and increase costs. Effective planning and a clear understanding of business needs are essential to determine if these platforms are the right fit to maximize their benefits.

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