

# TECHNICAL DEBT: REDUCE LEGACY RISK, RECLAIM CAPACITY FOR INNOVATION

Legacy infrastructure, zombie servers and end-of-life/support systems quietly consume technology budgets while delivering diminishing business value. The real obstacle is remediating technical debt safely. Fear of breaking undocumented dependencies stalls transformation projects while debt continues accumulating and costs compound.



## THE CHALLENGE

- Zombie servers, end-of-life (EOL)/end-of-support (EOS) systems and legacy infrastructure consume budget and create security risk while incomplete discovery makes it impossible to identify what's truly obsolete
- Decommissioning decisions made without dependency mapping cause cascading failures and outages
- Legacy environments exist only in tribal knowledge, when those people leave, critical knowledge disappears
- Siloed teams with inconsistent inventories and unclear ownership prevent coordinated remediation

## WHY TRADITIONAL APPROACHES FALL SHORT

Most organizations tackling technical debt remediation face one or more of these common pitfalls:

### MANUAL AUDITS & TRIBAL KNOWLEDGE

*Workshops & individual knowledge to identify legacy system remediation*

#### Why it fails:

- Discovery captures an incomplete picture
- Knowledge exists in individuals, departures create blind spots
- Manual audits take months and are outdated immediately
- No dependency context means decommissioning is guesswork

### EOL/EOS TRACKING & PATCH MANAGEMENT TOOLS

*Track hardware and software EOL/EOS to prioritize remediation*

#### Why it fails:

- Single-dimension analyses miss high-cost, low-value systems
- No visibility into what business services depend on systems
- Tools can't determine what systems actually do or support
- Compliance prioritization ignores operational complexity

### CONFIGURATION MANAGEMENT DATABASES

*Rely on CMDB to understand scope and plan technical debt remediation*

#### Why it fails:

- Remediation plans built on CMDB data are unreliable
- Static records reflect what was deployed, not what systems do
- Can't validate dependencies before decommissioning
- Continuous manual updates required to stay current



# THE MUGATO DIFFERENCE

Unlike tools that track EOL/EOS dates or patch status in isolation, Mugato combines full OS lifecycle visibility with dependency mapping across every system. We enable dependency-aware decommissioning that eliminates the fear of breaking systems.

## CONTINUOUS DISCOVERY OF INFRASTRUCTURE



Mugato automatically discovers zombie servers, shadow IT and EOL/EOS systems that manual audits and agent-based tools routinely miss. The complete inventory updates continuously, ensuring remediation is always working from current data rather than a stale snapshot. **Why it matters:** Complete, continuously updated discovery eliminates the blind spots that cause teams to protect obsolete systems out of uncertainty rather than evidence.

## SEVEN-DIMENSIONAL TECHNICAL DEBT ANALYSIS



Mugato analyzes infrastructure across seven dimensions: utilization, age, cost, technical complexity, cybersecurity posture, management overhead and business impact. Analysis operates at the application-service level, ensuring remediation reflects true operational cost. **Why it matters:** Single-metric analysis based on EOL dates or utilization alone misses the highest-impact remediation opportunities.

## DEPENDENCY-AWARE REMEDIATION



Mugato shows exactly which systems depend on each decommissioning candidate, eliminating scream tests and the production impact they cause. Mugato generates prioritized step-by-step remediation plans that sequence changes to prevent cascading failures. **Why it matters:** Poor sequencing is the primary cause of outages during tech debt programs. Dependency-aware plans eliminate trial-and-error and scream test decommissioning.

## AUTOMATED LIVING DOCUMENTATION



Mugato's continuous discovery and dependency mapping creates living documentation derived from observed infrastructure behavior. When long-tenured staff leave, operational knowledge persists in the platform rather than disappearing with them. **Why it matters:** Dependency on individuals' knowledge stalls technical debt programs. Real-time documentation ensures remediation continues regardless of team changes.

## UNIFIED VISIBILITY ACROSS TEAMS



Mugato provides a single source of truth for infrastructure, operations and enterprise architecture teams, replacing the siloed inventories that create conflicting views and unclear ownership. All stakeholders work from the same continuously updated data. **Why it matters:** Siloed visibility is what turns technical debt remediation from a continuous program into a stalled committee exercise. Shared, factual data accelerates decisions.

## PAIN POINTS

## MUGATO PAINKILLERS

*“We know we're wasting money on zombie servers, but we can't tell which are safe to decommission”*

**Dependency mapping shows exactly what each server supports, enabling safe, validated removal**

*“We take systems offline to see what breaks and cause production outages in the process”*

**Dependency mapping shows the full blast radius before any action is taken, replacing scream tests with validated decommissioning**

*“Our CMDB says we have 400 servers. Our actual environment has over 600”*

**Continuous, agentless discovery identifies everything, including shadow IT & unmanaged assets**

*“Our senior engineers are the only ones who know how the legacy systems connect, when they leave, that knowledge walks out with them”*

**Continuous dependency mapping creates living documentation from observed behavior, ensuring operational knowledge persists in the platform**

*“We've been tracking EOL dates for two years but keep deprioritizing remediation because we can't prove the business impact to get budget approved”*

**Seven-dimensional analysis includes OS version and EOL/EOS status, quantifying the combined cost of technical debt, security exposure and licensing**

*“Infrastructure, operations and architecture all have different inventories and we spend more time reconciling data than actually remediating”*

**A single continuously updated source of truth replaces siloed inventories, enabling coordinated remediation with clear ownership**

## KEY OUTCOMES

By using Mugato for tech debt remediation, organizations reduce costs, eliminate risk and reclaim capacity for strategic initiatives:

**Reduce operational costs:** Potential to eliminate 15-30% of redundant, zombie or underused infrastructure, redirecting budget from legacy maintenance to higher-value activities

**Maintain service stability:** Dependency mapping prevents service disruptions throughout remediation, protecting critical capabilities and preserving stakeholder confidence

**Accelerate transformation delivery:** Eliminate month-long manual audits with automated discovery and dependency mapping

**Increase innovation capacity:** Free IT resources from maintaining legacy systems, redirecting effort to modernization, strategic initiatives and capabilities that drive growth

## MUGATO®

Mugato provides enterprises a real-time blueprint of their entire IT landscape used to map, plan, execute and monitor IT transformation projects. The platform reveals company-wide IT architecture through automatic mapping of applications, infrastructure and dependencies so organizations avoid making critical decisions based on outdated and inaccurate information. Delivering project and cost predictability with no setbacks, no rollbacks and no guesswork.

**IT'S NOT MAGIC, IT'S SCIENCE**