

Three weeks to turn an inherited platform into business decisions

Mass catering and logistics business, United States. Newly separated from its European parent.

3 weeks

From start to scored findings

8

Recommendations, prioritized

3 / 5

Overall maturity – sound enough to build on

THE CHALLENGE

- A split from the European parent left the business with a data platform built by and for someone else
- The handover was three hours of video and documentation that had lost its context
- Nobody could say what the platform did, whether it was sound, or what to build on top of it
- No budget for a wholesale replacement, and no evidence to say whether one was needed

WHAT WE DID

- Assessed the platform itself, not the documentation describing it
- Scored every area one to five as a traffic light report for a non-technical board
- Ranked eight recommendations: three quick wins, four medium-term, one long-term
- Selected tooling against the weaknesses the assessment found

Every area scored 1 to 5

	1 Missing	2 Developing	3 Functional	4 Mature	5 Optimal	
Data structure and organization	■	■	■	■	■	4/5
Security and goernance	■	■	■	■	■	3/5
Orchestration and CI/CD	■	■	■	■	■	3/5
OVERALL	■	■	■	■	■	3/5

A solid three, approaching four. Testing and compute were also reviewed, as supporting practices.

Eight recommendations, in priority order

3 quick wins

4 medium-term

1 long-term

BEFORE

- An inherited platform nobody could explain
- Layers repeated project by project
- Transformation code with no version control
- No agreed order of work

AFTER

- Every area scored, weak points named and ranked
- Architecture direction set on the Medallion Method
- dbt in daily use, with pull requests every day
- No rebuild needed, so money went to the fixes that mattered

ENGAGEMENT

Advisory — platform health check, architecture and tool selection

TIMELINE

Three weeks

STAKEHOLDERS

CIO and the internal IT team

TECHNOLOGY

Databricks

dbt

Fivetran

Medallion Method

Inherited a platform you did not build?

A short health check tells you what you own and what to fix first, in language your board can act on. Contact us to discuss a similar challenge.

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