The Job of Sitecore Upgrades

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Why you should upgrade?

- Product support:

Product	Initial Release Date	Mainstream Support End Date	Extended Support End Date	Sustaining Support End Date
Sitecore 10.2	Nov 2021	31-Dec-2024	31-Dec-2027	31-Dec-2029
Sitecore 10.1	Feb 2021	31-Dec-2023	31-Dec-2026	31-Dec-2028
Sitecore 10.0	Aug 2020	31-Dec-2023	31-Dec-2026	31-Dec-2028
Sitecore 9.3	Nov 2019	31-Dec-2022	31-Dec-2025	31-Dec-2027
Sitecore 9.2	Jul 2019	31-Dec-2022	31-Dec-2025	31-Dec-2027
Sitecore 9.1	Nov 2018	31-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2024	31-Dec-2026
Sitecore 9.0	Oct 2017	31-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2023	31-Dec-2025
Sitecore 8.2	Aug 2016	31-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2022	31-Dec-2024
Sitecore 8.1	Oct 2015	31-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2022	31-Dec-2023
Sitecore 8.0	Dec 2014	31-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2022	31-Dec-2023
Sitecore 7.5	Oct 2014	31-Dec-2017	31-Dec-2020*	31-Dec-2022
Sitecore 7.2	Feb 2014	31-Dec-2017	31-Dec-2020*	31-Dec-2022

- New Features

Planing the upgrade

- How many version of Sitecore you need to jump with upgrade?
  - deprecated methods, breaking changes etc.
- How much is customized
  - custom implementations, custom pipelines, custom functionalities, integrations, custom tools etc.
- Any existing technical issues
- Inspect Project documentation
- Inspect code, configurations, branching strategies, environments setup
- Clarify with client every dependencies, risks, issues which you can met

Upgrade tools

- Upgrade Migration Tool:

  From **6.6** to **9.0.2**

- Update Center:

  From **9.0.2** to **10.1**

- UpdateApp

  From **10.1** to **10.2**

Note the upgrade steps

- Obsolete, deprecated methods fixes
- Removed classes, methods etc.
- Tools used, parameters for tools
- Database migration steps
- New packages introduced

Visual Studio

- Sitecore until XP 9.0 support Visual Studio 2017
- Sitecore after 9.1 supports Visual Studio 2019

Update .NET Framework

.NET Framework	XP 9.0	XP 9.1	XP 9.2	XP 9.3	XP 10.0	XP 10.1	XP 10.2
.NET 4.8	–	–	–	☐	☐	☐	☐
.NET 4.7.2	–	–	☐	☐	–	–	–
.NET 4.7.1	–	☐	☐	☐	–	–	–
.NET 4.7	☐	–	–	–	–	–	–
.NET 4.6.2	☐	–	–	–	–	–	–

Packages

- Migrate from packages.config to PackageReferences
- Use Igrnore Dependencies behavior instead of NoReference packages
- Upgrade Sitecore Packages
- Make sure to use the same package versions in entire solution (use Manage Package Manager in Solution instead on Project level)

Support packages and hotfixes

Check all of the Sitecore support dlls

- Check in the release notes if they were fixed
- If they were you can remove them safely
- If they were not you should ask sitecore for an upgraded support package

Check customizations

- Check in the solution the custom configurations
- Compare the clean and the customized solution showconfig.aspx files

Dependency Injection

- Use the built-in Microsoft Dependency injection
- MS DI supports most of you might need

Lifetimes:

1. Singleton
2. Scoped
3. Transient

Content migration

- Sitecore packages
- Database upgrade sql scripts + update tools (+ SXA content upgrade for SXA solutions)
- Sitecore Sidekick Content Migrator
  - free and open source
  - uses Unicorn and Rainbow serialization with multi thread operation
  - both servers require the tool installed
- Sitecore Razl
  - Visual DB comparison tool
  - requires license

Content Security migration

- Sitecore package
- Serialization – Unicorn, SCS, Sitecore built in serialization

None of the above migrate the passwords!!!

- Force Forgot Password or use TranswerPasswords.aspx tool

- To be sure of everything copy and upgrade core database with SQL scripts

Upgrade Glass Mapper

A lot of breaking changes between 4.x and 5.x

Blog post about upgrade:
https://gerhartmagdas.wordpress.com/2021/03/24/sitecore-upgrade-journey-part-2

Example of changes:

- ISitecoreConext is replaced
- GlassController gets obsolete
- GlassView needs to be replaced
- Attributes were removed like: IsLazy, SitecoreQuery etc

Introduce the new Sitecore Content Serialization

- Really easy to maintain
- Json configurations
- Headless
- You can connect from your local to the server sitecore instance really easily
- In future with containers will be more easy to migrate

Before Go Live

- Setup CI/CD for new environments
- Measure the database upgrades
- Measure the deploy times
- Performance/Load tests
- Setup the cachings
- Clarify and let client know about content freeze

Thank you!

Proud to be part of the Sitecore community
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