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Module 6 Assignment

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Around 2010 Blackboard Inc realized they were having issues with their old system that could not be ignored. Much of the code was legacy, some from 1997. Code changes were becoming difficult to implement, as testing and integration continued to become more complex. Due to this, their chief architect David Ashman looked at re-architecting the platform primarily starting in 2012. This was accomplished using the strangler pattern. This involved slowly breaking down the monolithic application into “building blocks” that were more independent and manageable. This allowed engineers to be much more productive. Any issues that arose would be more isolated instead of causing global impacts. This led to faster code implementation and exponentially more code commits.

This goes to show how monolithic architecture can hold back an organization. This is especially true in cases where an application has grown very large. A more loosely coupled architecture promotes productivity and reduces risk. One effective way to move from a monolithic architecture to a loosely coupled architecture is through the strangler pattern. This method is an effective and methodological way to break down the application and move to a better architecture over time.

References

Kim, G., Debois, P., Willis, J., Humble, J., & Allspaw, J. (2016). *The devops handbook: How to create world-class agility, reliability, and security in technology organizations*. IT Revolution Press.