

[*] BinaryStar

Myra Explained

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Table of Contents

Myra Explained	3
The Problem: Your Business Is Running on a Language Few People Speak Anymore	4
Why Not Just Replace It?	5
What Myra Does: The Rosetta Stone	6
1. Reading the Walls	6
2. Studying the Footprints	6
3. Recording the Experts	6
4. Reading the Manuals (and Spotting the Lies)	7
The Knowledge Library: Your New Permanent Asset	8
Why This Approach Works Better	9
The Real Cost of Doing Nothing	10
What a Myra Engagement Looks Like	11
Step 1: The Conversation (Free)	11
Step 2: The Pilot (7 Weeks)	11
Step 3: The Build (3 - 6 Months)	11
Step 4: The Future	11
The Retirement Clock Is Ticking	13
Frequently Asked Questions (in Plain English)	14
One Last Thought	15
See Also	16
Marketing	16
Business	16

Myra Explained

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The Problem: Your Business Is Running on a Language Few People Speak Anymore

Imagine your entire company — every order, every invoice, every customer record, every business rule about how things work — is written in Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics.

Not literally, of course. But something very close.

Thousands of businesses around the world run on software that was built in the 1970s, 80s, and 90s. This software still works. In many cases, it works beautifully. It processes millions of transactions. It runs warehouses, hospitals, retail chains, and government agencies. It is the invisible engine behind businesses that do hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue every year.

Here is the problem: **the people who can read the hieroglyphics are retiring.**

There are fewer than 5,000 developers left in the world who understand these systems. Their average age is over 55. In many companies, the entire operation depends on two or three people — sometimes just one — who understand how the software actually works. Not what it does on the surface, but *why* it does what it does. The shortcuts. The exceptions. The "oh, we handle Fridays differently because of that one client in 2003" kind of rules that are nowhere in any manual.

When those people leave, they take all of that with them. Every bit of it. Gone.

Why Not Just Replace It?

This is the first thing everyone suggests. "Just build a new system."

Here is why that is harder than it sounds. Think of it like renovating a house.

You have a 50-year-old house. It works. The plumbing is fine. The electricity runs. But nobody has the original blueprints. The previous owners made dozens of modifications over the decades — moved walls, rerouted pipes, added rooms. Some of it was done by professionals. Some of it was done on a Saturday afternoon with duct tape and good intentions.

Now you hire a contractor to gut the place and rebuild it. They walk in, look around, and say: "No problem. We will figure it out as we go."

That is how most legacy software replacements work. A new team walks in, looks at the old system, and tries to rebuild it from the outside in — guessing at what is behind the walls.

The result? More than half of these projects fail. Not "go a little over budget" fail. *Abandoned. Money gone. Years wasted.* The industry failure rate for legacy modernization is between 40% and 60%. A coin flip. And these are not small projects — they typically cost \$2 to \$5 million and take two to three years.

That is a very expensive coin flip.

What Myra Does: The Rosetta Stone

Remember the Rosetta Stone? The actual one, in the British Museum. It was the key to decoding Egyptian hieroglyphics — the same message written in three languages, so scholars could finally translate something nobody had been able to read for centuries.

Myra is a Rosetta Stone for your business software.

Before anyone touches a line of code, before anyone starts building anything new, Myra reads your old system and translates it into something everyone can understand. Not just the technical people. Everyone.

It does this in four ways — think of them as four different ways of understanding the same house:

1. Reading the Walls

Myra's AI reads the old software code the way an X-ray reads a building. It identifies every business rule, every process, every connection. "When a customer places an order over \$10,000, it triggers a credit review." "When inventory drops below 50 units, it sends an alert to purchasing." Thousands of rules like this, automatically extracted and catalogued.

Think of it as finally getting the blueprints — not the original blueprints that were lost, but brand new ones, drawn by scanning every pipe, wire, and beam in the building.

2. Studying the Footprints

Your business data tells a story. Myra looks at decades of actual transactions — orders, invoices, returns, exceptions — and discovers patterns that nobody documented. It is like studying the wear patterns on a carpet to understand how people actually move through a building, versus how the architect *thought* they would move.

Sometimes the most important business rules are not in the code at all. They are in the data — in the patterns of how people actually use the system day after day, year after year.

3. Recording the Experts

This is the part that gives people goosebumps.

Your senior people — the ones who have been running this system for 20 or 30 years — sit down with [Myra Capture](#)[↑]. They walk through the system the way they normally would. They click through screens, they explain what they are doing and why, they share the shortcuts and workarounds that only they know. The whole session is recorded — screen, voice, everything.

Then the AI watches the recording and extracts every business rule, every decision, every piece of institutional knowledge.

It is like having your master chef not just hand over a recipe book, but actually cook every dish in the restaurant while explaining every pinch, every timing, every "you have to feel when the dough is right" judgment call — and then writing it all down in a way that any competent cook could follow.

Your experts' knowledge stops being trapped in their heads and becomes a permanent asset that belongs to your organization.

4. Reading the Manuals (and Spotting the Lies)

Every old system has documentation. Some of it is good. Most of it is outdated. Myra ingests all of it and then cross-references it against what the code actually does and what the data actually shows.

It is like hiring someone to read every instruction manual for your house and then flag every place where the manual says "this switch controls the kitchen lights" but the switch actually controls the garage door. Outdated documentation is worse than no documentation — it sends the rebuilding team in the wrong direction.

The Knowledge Library: Your New Permanent Asset

All four of these streams — the code analysis, the data patterns, the expert recordings, and the documentation review — feed into a single, searchable knowledge library.

Think of it as an encyclopedia for your business. Anyone in your organization can search it in plain English. "How does the customer credit approval process work?" "What happens when a return is processed after 30 days?" "Why do we handle Friday shipments differently?"

The answers come back with full traceability — here is the business rule, here is where it lives in the code, here is the data that confirms it, here is the video of your expert explaining it.

This is not a one-time document that gets filed in a drawer. It is a living, growing library. When you build your new system, the knowledge library is where the requirements come from — verified, complete, and traceable. When you evolve that new system two years later, the knowledge library is still there, still relevant, still growing.

It is the difference between building on rock and building on sand.

Why This Approach Works Better

Let us go back to the house renovation analogy.

The traditional approach: Hire a contractor. They walk through the house, make their best guess about what is behind the walls, and start demolishing. When they discover surprises — and they always do — the project gets delayed, the budget expands, and sometimes the whole thing gets abandoned halfway through.

The Myra approach: Before the contractor picks up a single hammer, we spend seven weeks scanning every wall, tracing every pipe, recording every quirk the previous owner knows about. At the end, you have a complete, verified set of blueprints. You review them. You confirm them. And only then does construction begin.

No surprises. No guesswork. No expensive discoveries at the worst possible time.

The numbers tell the story:

	Traditional Approach	With Myra
Cost	\$2 - 5 million	\$300,000 - 750,000
Timeline	18 - 36 months	3 - 6 months
Success rate	40 - 60%	90%+ (target)
Knowledge preserved	Walks out the door with the experts	Permanent organizational asset

That is not a marginal improvement. It is a fundamentally different equation.

The Real Cost of Doing Nothing

Some people read all of this and think: "Our system works fine. Why fix what is not broken?"

Fair question. Here is the answer.

Your system *is* working. Today. But think about what is actually holding it together.

Imagine you own a restaurant. The food is fantastic. Customers love it. Business is booming. But your head chef — the one who created every recipe, who trained every cook, who knows that the sauce needs exactly 14 minutes on medium-low and not a second more — is about to retire.

And here is the thing: **the recipes are not written down.**

Not really. Oh, there is a binder somewhere in the kitchen with some notes. But most of what makes the food great lives in the chef's head. The adjustments for humidity. The substitutions for seasonal ingredients. The "I know it is ready by the smell" kind of knowledge that comes from 30 years of doing it every day.

When the chef leaves, the restaurant does not close immediately. The other cooks can follow the basics. But slowly, imperceptibly, the quality starts to drift. Dishes come out slightly different. New situations arise that nobody knows how to handle. Customers start to notice.

That is what happens to businesses running legacy systems when their senior people retire. The system does not crash on day one. It erodes. Slowly. And by the time the erosion becomes a crisis, the people who could have explained it are gone.

Myra captures the recipes while the chef is still in the kitchen.

What a Myra Engagement Looks Like

We do not ask you to sign a multi-million dollar contract on faith. Here is how it actually works:

Step 1: The Conversation (Free)

We talk. You tell us about your situation — what system you are running, who maintains it, what keeps you up at night. We tell you honestly whether Myra is a good fit. Sometimes it is not. We would rather tell you that upfront than waste everyone's time.

Step 2: The Pilot (7 Weeks)

This is the key step. For a fixed investment of \$50,000 to \$75,000, we connect to your system and run the full knowledge extraction process. At the end of seven weeks, you get:

- A verified knowledge library built from *your actual system*
- A complete map of your business rules, processes, and dependencies
- A prototype of what the modernized system could look like
- A detailed proposal for the full modernization, with costs and timeline

Here is the important part: if you decide to proceed with the full engagement, your entire pilot investment converts to credit — 100%. And if you decide not to proceed, you keep the knowledge library. It is yours regardless.

There is no scenario where you lose.

Step 3: The Build (3 - 6 Months)

If the pilot confirms what we expect — and it almost always does — we move into the full modernization. Your new system is built on top of the knowledge library, so every feature, every rule, every process is traceable back to the verified source.

Your new system runs on modern technology. It is maintainable by any competent modern developer — not just the three people in the world who understand the old language. It is built for the cloud, so it scales with your business. And the knowledge library continues to grow and evolve alongside it.

Step 4: The Future

This is where Myra is fundamentally different from a traditional software project.

A traditional rewrite gives you a new system. Full stop. When you need to evolve it three years later, you start the process over again.

With Myra, the knowledge library is permanent. When you need version 2.0 of your system, or version 3.0, the foundation is already there — verified, complete, and growing. You are not starting from zero. You are building on everything you have already learned.

It is like the difference between renting and owning. A traditional rewrite is renting a solution for a few years. Myra gives you a knowledge asset that your organization owns forever.

The Retirement Clock Is Ticking

We are not trying to create urgency that does not exist. The urgency is real.

The generation of developers who built and maintained these systems is retiring. It is happening now, not in some distant future. Every year, the pool of people who can maintain these systems gets smaller. Every year, the cost of finding one of those people goes up. Every year, the risk of a knowledge crisis grows.

You can wait. Many companies do. But waiting does not make the problem smaller — it makes it bigger. And more expensive. And more urgent.

Or you can act now, while your experts are still available, while their knowledge is still fresh, while you have the luxury of doing this deliberately instead of in a panic.

Seven weeks. That is all it takes to find out what you have and what it would take to modernize it. Seven weeks to turn a ticking clock into a permanent asset.

Frequently Asked Questions (in Plain English)

"How does the AI actually read old software?"

Think of it like Google Translate, but for computer code. Your old software is written in a specific language. Myra's AI has been trained to read that language — not just the words, but the meaning. It reads through the code and produces a plain-English explanation of what each piece does, how it connects to other pieces, and what business rules it enforces.

"Is our data safe?"

Absolutely. Myra runs in a secure, isolated environment. Your data never leaves your control. We use the same security standards that banks and hospitals use — encrypted connections, role-based access, and a complete [audit trail](#) of every action taken. We can deploy on your own infrastructure if that is a requirement.

"What if our experts have already retired?"

Myra still works with three of the four knowledge sources — code analysis, data pattern discovery, and documentation review. The expert recording is the most powerful source, but it is not the only one. If even one person with institutional knowledge is still available — even part-time, even as a consultant — the Capture sessions are incredibly valuable. But the platform produces useful results even without them.

"Do we have to throw away our current system?"

No. Myra does not require you to turn off your old system. The knowledge extraction runs alongside your existing operations. You keep running your current system until the new one is ready and verified. There is no downtime, no disruption, no "big bang" switchover.

"What industries does this work for?"

Any industry running legacy software systems — and that is a surprisingly large number. We see this in retail, distribution, healthcare, manufacturing, government, and financial services. If your business runs on software that is more than 20 years old and the people who understand it are approaching retirement, Myra was built for you.

"What does 'knowledge-first' actually mean?"

It means we understand before we build. Most modernization projects start by writing new software and hope they have captured all the requirements. We start by capturing and verifying all the requirements — from four different sources — and only then start building. It is the difference between studying for an exam and guessing.

One Last Thought

Every business has two kinds of assets: the ones on the balance sheet and the ones that live in people's heads.

Buildings, equipment, inventory — those are on the balance sheet. They are documented, insured, and transferable.

But the knowledge of how your business actually operates — the rules, the exceptions, the workflows, the "we do it this way because" wisdom accumulated over decades — that lives in the heads of your most experienced people. It is not documented. It is not insured. And when those people walk out the door for the last time, it is not transferable.

Myra moves that knowledge from people's heads to a permanent, searchable, organizational asset. Something your company owns. Something that does not retire.

That is what we do. That is all we do. And we think it might be the most important investment you make this decade.

To learn more or schedule a conversation, contact BinaryStar at binarystar.com.

See Also

Marketing

- [CIO/Architect Value Brief](#) — Technical value proposition for executives
- [Pilot Engagement Guide](#) — Detailed pilot structure and deliverables

Business

- [Investor Brief](#) — Business case and market opportunity