



# Constructing Efficiency

DWS helps Brasfield & Gorrie optimize its ERP system by upgrading Oracle's JD Edwards EnterpriseOne solutions in less than 100 days.

## The Challenge

### About the Client

As it marks its 50th year in business, Brasfield & Gorrie has a lot to celebrate: it's one of the largest privately held construction companies in the nation and generates annual revenues of more than US\$2 billion. Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama with 2,500 employees in offices and projects scattered over six states in the southeast, Brasfield & Gorrie is a classic example of a company with a workforce that needs access to data and information systems while out in the field.

### JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Upgrade

As part of Brasfield & Gorrie's vision to be the best general contractor in the United States, its executives embrace innovative practices and



cutting-edge technologies to improve their quality and efficiency. In 2013, Brasfield & Gorrie decided to upgrade from Oracle's JD Edwards EnterpriseOne 8.12 to 9.1 to take advantage of capabilities such as mobile access and an enhanced user interface. IT Project Manager Brian Welch and Business Analyst Marti Smith knew that these particular features would have a dramatic and positive impact on employee efficiency. However, they had concerns regarding the amount of custom code, and the time, cost, and complexity of the upgrade. To help with the upgrade project, they called in DWS, a specialist JD Edwards EnterpriseOne upgrade services company.

## Snapshot

### The Client

Brasfield & Gorrie is one of the largest privately held construction companies in the United States.

### The Challenge

B&G had concerns regarding the amount of custom code, and the time, cost, and complexity of their E1 upgrade.

### The Delivery

DWS's Dimension Analyze reduced the B&G modified footprint by 38%, saving 60 days of upgrade effort.

### The Result

The new upgraded system is much more efficient than previously, and is generally faster and more responsive.

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# The Delivery

## Faster and More Responsive ERP

Welch selected Oracle Gold Partner DWS because of its unique ability through its Dimension Analyze tool to analyze their custom code to identify redundant objects, and then guarantee a fixed-price technical upgrade. Dimension Analyze reduced the Brasfield & Gorrie modified footprint by some 38 percent, which saved some 60 days of upgrade effort. This resulted in a significant saving in both time and money for Brasfield & Gorrie. The DWS Dimension Professional tool provided powerful upgrade management capability to ensure the whole project was managed professionally, kept on track, and delivered with an extremely low defect level. DWS planned 87 days of work for the project and completed it nearly two weeks ahead of schedule.

## The Result

### Go-Live

The end results have been well worth the effort. Smith says that

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JD Edwards EnterpriseOne 9.1 users can immediately access applications at least 75 percent faster than before the upgrade. “Users could suddenly get to about 95 percent of the applications that they use with one click,” Smith says. “That alone increased efficiency tremendously.”

Employees who work at the company’s 150 or so job sites also saw a complete transformation in their work once the update allowed them to access the enterprise resource planning (ERP) from their tablet computers—another JD Edwards EnterpriseOne 9.1 feature. “Once we got the software onto fieldworkers’ iPads, they could get the most up-to-date costs, schedules, and forecasting data in the field. Then they could more easily make on-the-job decisions that deal

directly with the things that matter most: safety, schedule, forecasting, and labor,” says Smith.

Welch notes that from an IT perspective, the upgrade to JD Edwards EnterpriseOne 9.1 reduced the number of servers Brasfield & Gorrie needed because the system was so much more efficient, and overall the system is now faster and more responsive.

## DWS: “Professional and Organized”

Welch believes that partnering with DWS made all the difference in terms of the smoothness and speed of the transition to JD Edwards EnterpriseOne 9.1, noting that DWS developers helped identify what the upgrade would do, identified significant savings by not upgrading redundant custom code, and then prioritized accordingly. “We never would have been able to accomplish what we accomplished in such a short timeframe without DWS’ help,” he says. “From the get-go, they were very professional and organized. They delivered on everything they promised, and they finished ahead of schedule.”

## About DWS

Since 1998, DWS has been providing specialist software development and CNC expertise to companies who want to customise, upgrade and support their JD Edwards E1 systems. Our award winning Dimension Analyze™ service has helped customers all around the World to realise significant savings on their EnterpriseOne Upgrades.

On the one hand, DWS is practical, down to earth and provides reassuringly robust value for money solutions. On the other, there is a lighter more imaginative, creative and inclusive culture; a culture that produces major innovations that push our people and our technologies. This duality is what makes DWS unique. Contact us to find out more on [sales@dwsconsultants.com](mailto:sales@dwsconsultants.com) or call:

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