

Oracle Fusion Middleware 12c

END OF PREMIER SUPPORT - DECEMBER 2026

Your Roadmap to Risk Mitigation, Modernization



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1. Executive Summary

Oracle Fusion Middleware 12c, the foundational platform that powers WebLogic Server, SOA Suite, Oracle Service Bus, Identity Management, WebCenter, Oracle Forms & Reports, and Business Intelligence across thousands of enterprises reaches the end of Premier Support in December 2026.

Extended Support will follow, ending in December 2027, after which only Sustaining Support remains: no new security patches, no bug fixes, no certification updates, and no regulatory compliance assurance.

For organizations that rely on these components to run mission-critical workloads which include processing transactions, securing user identities, integrating enterprise applications, and delivering business intelligence, this is not a routine version change. **It is a strategic inflection point that demands executive attention, budgetary commitment, and a clear migration roadmap.**

With **fewer than four months** remaining before Premier Support expires, the window for proactive, well-planned action is closing rapidly. Organizations that delay risk operating on unsupported infrastructure, exposing themselves to unpatched security vulnerabilities, compliance violations, and escalating operational costs.

Key Deadline

Premier Support for Oracle Fusion Middleware 12c ends in December 2026. Extended Support ends in December 2027. After that, Oracle will not provide security patches, bug fixes, or platform certifications.

This white paper outlines the business impact, identifies the critical focus areas, presents both on-premises and cloud migration options, and explains how Clover Infotech, as a specialist Oracle technology partner, can help your organization to navigate this transition efficiently and with minimal disruption.

2. The Situation: What is changing?

2.1 Oracle's Lifetime Support Model

Oracle's Lifetime Support Policy structures product support into three phases. Premier Support includes full access to new updates, security patches, certification extensions, and tax/legal/regulatory updates. Extended Support continues critical patch updates but at an additional cost of 10–20% over the standard support fee, with no new feature development. Sustaining Support provides access to existing knowledge base articles and previously released patches, but no new fixes, no security updates, and no platform certifications.

2.2 Fusion Middleware 12c: The Timeline

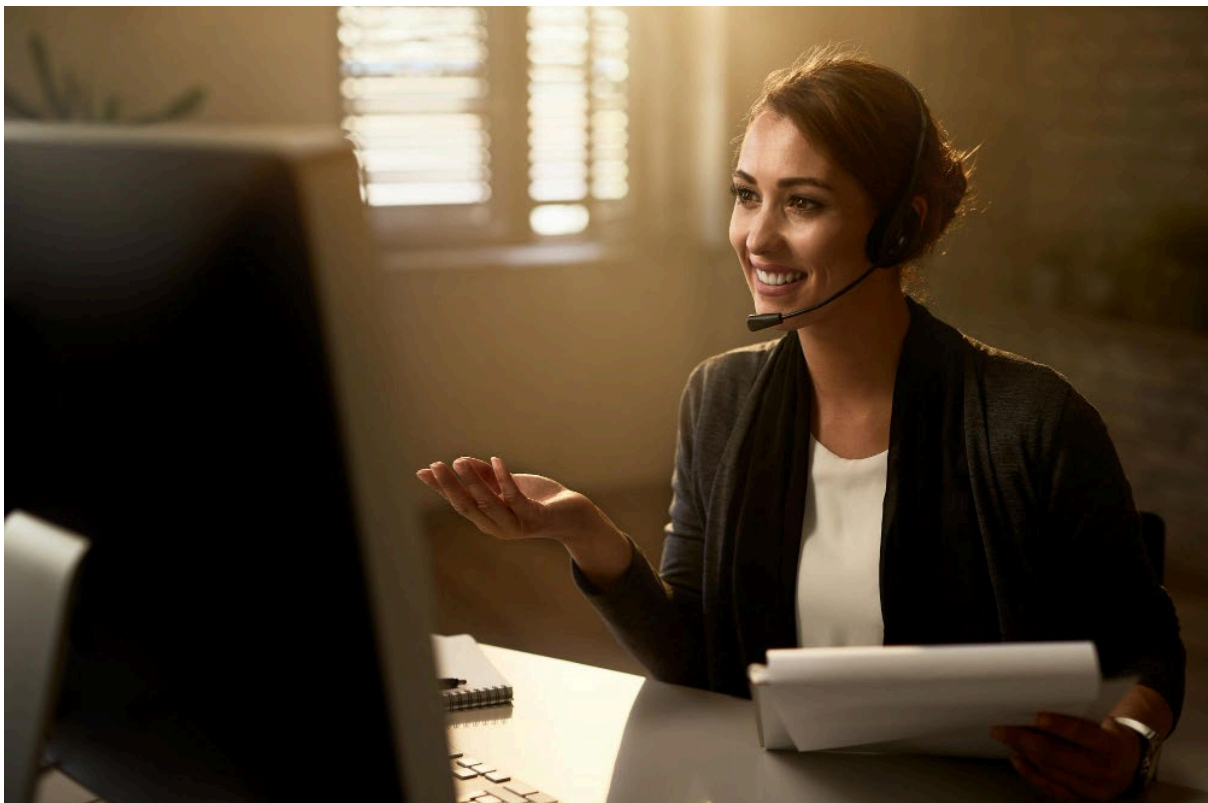
Milestone	Date	Impact
Premier Support Ends	December 2026	No new patches, updates, or certifications included in standard support fees
Extended Support Ends	December 2027	Final year of any active patch support (at additional cost)
Sustaining Support Begins	January 2028	No security fixes, no bug fixes, no compliance updates

2.3 Oracle's Lifetime Support Model

The Fusion Middleware 12c end-of-support event is far-reaching because numerous enterprise products are built on and tightly coupled with this platform:

- **Oracle WebLogic Server 12c**
the core application server for Java EE deployments
- **Oracle SOA Suite 12c**
enterprise service bus and orchestration engine
- **Oracle BPM Suite**
business process management and workflow automation
- **Oracle Service Bus (OSB)**
lightweight mediation and routing layer

- **Oracle Identity Manager (OIM) & Oracle Access Manager (OAM)**
identity governance and access control
- **Oracle WebCenter Portal & Content**
enterprise portal and content management
- **Oracle Forms & Reports**
legacy application front-end and reporting
- **Oracle Business Intelligence (OBIEE / Oracle Analytics Server)**
enterprise dashboards and analytics
- **Oracle HTTP Server & Traffic Director**
web-tier load balancing and routing. Many organisations are unaware of the full extent of their dependency on Fusion Middleware 12c because these components are deeply embedded within broader application architectures.



3. Why this matters: Impact on Your Organisation

3.1 Security Exposure

Once Premier Support ends, Oracle will no longer proactively deliver security patches for Fusion Middleware 12c under standard support agreements. Every new vulnerability discovered in WebLogic, SOA Suite, or Identity Management components will remain unpatched unless the organization purchases Extended Support and even that is a temporary reprieve lasting only until December 2027. After that date, no security remediation of any kind will be available.

For organizations with internet-facing WebLogic deployments, API gateways built on Oracle Service Bus, or identity management infrastructure handling authentication for thousands of users, this represents a direct and material cybersecurity risk.

3.2 Compliance & Regulatory Risk

Regulatory frameworks including PCI-DSS, HIPAA, SOX, GDPR, and other industry specific guidelines require that organizations operate on vendor-supported software with timely security patching. Running unsupported middleware in production environments can trigger audit findings, non-compliance penalties, and in some cases, cause existential threat to the business itself.

3.3 Operational Stability

Without ongoing bug fixes and platform certifications, organizations risk compatibility failures when updating operating systems, JDK versions, or integrating with newer applications. Over time, the middleware layer becomes a fragile dependency with operational incidents take longer to resolve, and workarounds continue to accumulate technical debt.

3.4 Rising Cost of Inaction

Extended Support carries a premium which is typically 10 to 20 percent above the standard support fee with diminishing returns. Sustaining Support, while still paid, delivers almost no active value. Meanwhile, the cost of an eventual migration increases as the skills pool for legacy

Fusion Middleware shrinks, and integration complexity grows as surrounding systems modernize while the middleware layer remains frozen.

3.5 Talent & Skills Availability

As Oracle's technology ecosystem shifts toward cloud-native architectures and Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, the community of engineers proficient in Fusion Middleware 12c administration, patching, and tuning is shrinking. Delays in migration compound the difficulty of staffing upgrade projects with experienced professionals.



4. Critical Focus Areas for Enterprises

4.1 Comprehensive Discovery & Inventory

The first step is establishing a complete, accurate inventory of every Fusion Middleware 12c component deployed across the enterprise. This includes production, staging, development, and disaster recovery environments. Many organizations discover middleware dependencies they were not fully aware of such as embedded SOA composites, identity connectors, or analytics integrations that are not centrally documented.

4.2 Business-Risk Assessment

Each middleware component should be assessed against a risk matrix that evaluates:

- **Internet exposure**
Is the component publicly accessible or limited to internal networks?
- **Compliance linkage**
Does the component support processes subject to regulatory audit?
- **Business criticality**
Would component failure directly impact revenue, customer experience, or operations?
- **Integration density**
How many upstream and downstream systems depend on this component?
- **Data sensitivity**
Does the component handle personally identifiable information (PII), financial data, or health records?

4.3 Target Architecture Definition

Before selecting a migration path, organizations must define their target architecture. This involves deciding which workloads should remain on-premises, which should migrate to cloud, and which should be re-architected using modern alternatives such as containerized microservices, cloud-native integration platforms, or SaaS-based identity management.

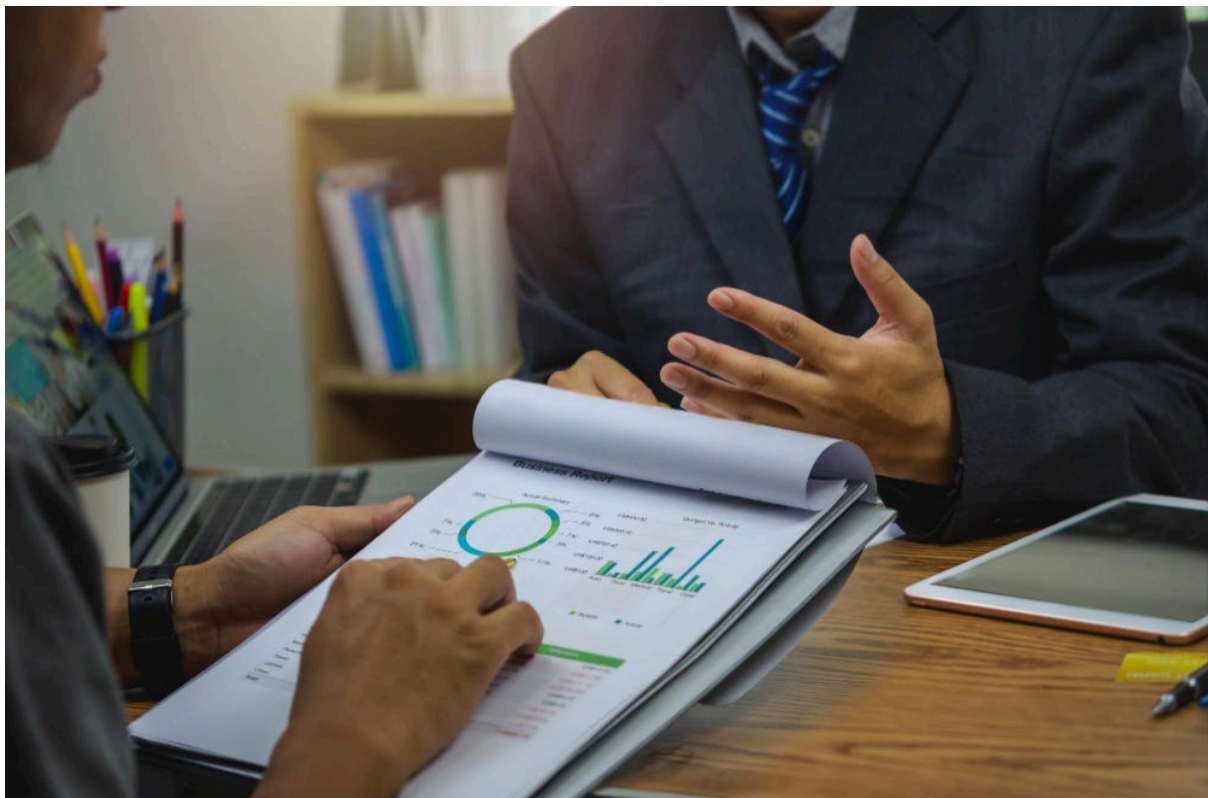
4.4 Licensing & Cost Optimization

A middleware transition is an opportunity to rationalize Oracle licensing. Many organizations are over-licensed for products they no longer actively use or can consolidate onto fewer, more

capable platforms. **A thorough licensing review during the planning phase can yield significant cost savings that help fund the migration itself.**

4.5 Testing & Validation Strategy

Middleware upgrades and migrations carry integration risk. A rigorous testing strategy covering functional, regression, integration, performance, and security testing is essential. This strategy must be defined early to ensure that testing timelines are built into the project schedule and not compressed at the end.



5. Your Options: On-Premises & Cloud Pathways

Organizations facing the Fusion Middleware 12c end-of-support deadline have several strategic options. The right choice depends on the specific application landscape, regulatory constraints, cloud readiness, and business priorities. Below are the primary pathways.

5.1 Option A: On-Premises Upgrade

For organizations that must maintain on-premises infrastructure due to regulatory mandates, data residency requirements, heavy customization, or existing datacenter investments, the most direct path is an upgrade to a currently supported version of Oracle Fusion Middleware.

Key Activities

- Upgrade WebLogic Server, SOA Suite, and related components to the latest supported release (e.g., 14c where applicable)
- Re-certify all integrations with upstream and downstream systems
- Update Oracle Identity Management to current supported versions or migrate to Oracle Identity Governance in the cloud
- Migrate Oracle Forms & Reports to modern web-based alternatives or Oracle APEX
- Upgrade OBIEE to Oracle Analytics Server (OAS)

Best Suited For

- Highly regulated industries (banking, healthcare, government) with strict data locality requirements
- Organizations with extensive customizations that would require significant rework for cloud migration
- Environments where on-premises infrastructure has significant remaining useful life

5.2 Option B: Migration to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) and / Or Oracle Multicloud

Oracle Cloud Infrastructure provides a natural migration destination for Fusion Middleware workloads, but it is no longer the only cloud pathway within the Oracle ecosystem. Oracle's

rapidly maturing Multicloud strategy now gives enterprises the flexibility to run Oracle workloads across OCI, Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services (AWS), and Google Cloud, either individually or in combination. This is a significant shift from the traditional "all-or-nothing" cloud migration model and is particularly relevant for organizations that have already standardized on a hyperscaler but depend heavily on Oracle middleware and database infrastructure.

Oracle's Multicloud architecture operates on the principle of co-location: Oracle installs its Exadata and OCI infrastructure directly inside Azure, AWS, and Google Cloud datacenters, delivering the same performance, features, and availability that customers expect from native OCI but consumed within their existing cloud environment. This eliminates the latency, data-movement complexity, and dual-management overhead that traditionally made cross-cloud deployments impractical.

Key Multicloud Capabilities Relevant to Middleware Migration

Oracle Database@Azure, Oracle Database@AWS, and Oracle Database@Google Cloud allow organizations to run Oracle Database services including Autonomous Database and Exadata Database Service natively within their preferred hyperscaler's environment. For Fusion Middleware workloads that are tightly coupled with Oracle databases, this means the database tier can be deployed within the same cloud as the organization's broader application estate, while still benefiting from Oracle's Exadata performance optimizations. Middleware components such as WebLogic and SOA Suite can then connect to these database services with low-latency, private networking.

Oracle Interconnect provides dedicated, private, high-performance cross-cloud connectivity between OCI and Azure, Google Cloud, and AWS. With latency as low as two milliseconds on some interconnects, organizations can distribute workloads across clouds without sacrificing performance. For example, an organization could run its WebLogic application tier on OCI while keeping its broader enterprise applications on Azure, with both communicating seamlessly over the Oracle Interconnect. Oracle and AWS announced an expansion of this capability in April 2026, establishing connectivity between Oracle Interconnect and AWS Interconnect—multicloud, further broadening cross-cloud options.

Oracle Cloud@Customer delivers a fully managed OCI experience deployed inside the customer's own datacenter. This is Oracle's distributed cloud model and is particularly relevant for regulated industries such as banking, healthcare, government where data residency, sovereignty, and compliance requirements make public cloud migration difficult.

With Cloud@Customer, organizations can modernize their Fusion Middleware stack onto current OCI services while keeping all data and compute within their own physical premises. Oracle explicitly recommends Cloud@Customer and Private Cloud Appliance as migration targets for customers running WebLogic Fusion Middleware workloads on legacy infrastructure such as Exalogic.

Oracle Integration Cloud (OIC) is increasingly positioned as the successor to on-premises SOA Suite and Oracle Service Bus for integration workloads. OIC operates natively on OCI but also supports multicloud integration scenarios spanning Azure, AWS, and Google Cloud. Organizations can migrate their SOA composites and service bus mediation flows to OIC while maintaining connectivity to applications and data sources running on other cloud platforms.

Key Activities

- **Lift-and-shift WebLogic Server domains to OCI Compute or OCI Container Engine for Kubernetes (OKE)**
- **Deploy SOA Suite on OCI Marketplace or migrate integration workloads to Oracle Integration Cloud (OIC)**
- **Migrate Oracle Identity Management to Oracle Identity Cloud Service (IDCS) or OCI IAM**
- **Transition OBIEE to Oracle Analytics Cloud (OAC)**
- **Leverage Oracle Cloud@Customer for hybrid deployments that require data to remain in the customer's data centre**

Best Suited For

- Organizations seeking to reduce datacenter footprint and infrastructure management overhead
- Enterprises pursuing digital transformation and cloud-first strategies
- Organizations looking to improve scalability, disaster recovery, and operational agility

5.3 Option C: Hybrid Approach

Many enterprises will adopt a hybrid strategy by upgrading certain on-premises components while migrating others to OCI or SaaS alternatives. For example, a bank might keep its core SOA integrations on-premises while moving identity management and analytics to the cloud. This approach allows organizations to balance risk, cost, and transformation ambitions pragmatically.

5.4 Option D: Modernization & Re-Architecture

For forward-looking organisations, the middleware end-of-support event is an opportunity to move beyond Oracle middleware entirely for certain workloads. This might involve replacing Oracle SOA Suite with cloud-native integration platforms, adopting containerized microservices architectures, or shifting to open-source middleware stacks. This path offers the greatest long-term flexibility but requires the highest investment in re-architecture and testing.

5.5 Comparison Matrix

Criterion	On-Premises Upgrade	OCI Migration	Hybrid	Re-Architecture
Time to Implement	Medium	Medium	Medium-High	High
Cost (Short-Term)	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Cost (Long-Term)	Higher	Lower	Moderate	Lowest
Risk Mitigation Speed	Fast	Fast	Moderate	Slow
Innovation Enablement	Low	High	Medium	Very High
Regulatory Suitability	Very High	High	Very High	Variable
Customization Retention	High	Medium	High	Low-Medium

6. Partnering with Clover Infotech

Clover Infotech is a specialist Oracle technology services provider with deep expertise across the Oracle Fusion Middleware, Database, and Cloud ecosystem. With decades of experience delivering complex Oracle infrastructure projects from middleware upgrades and identity management modernization to full-scale cloud migrations on OCI, Clover Infotech brings the practitioner-level knowledge and execution capability that enterprises need to navigate this transition successfully.

6.1 Why Clover Infotech?

- **Deep Oracle Expertise**

A team of 1700+ certified Oracle architects, middleware administrators, and database engineers with hands-on experience across WebLogic, SOA Suite, Identity Management, OBIEE, and OCI.

- **Proven Migration Methodology**

A structured, risk-managed approach to middleware upgrades and cloud migrations, refined across dozens of enterprise engagements.

- **End-to-End Capability**

From discovery and assessment through architecture design, implementation, testing, go-live support, and managed services, Clover Infotech covers the entire lifecycle.

- **Industry Experience**

Extensive experience serving clients in banking, financial services, insurance, manufacturing, healthcare, and government- sectors where Fusion Middleware is deeply entrenched.

- **Oracle Partnership**

As an Oracle Partner, Clover Infotech maintains direct access to Oracle's support engineering, product roadmaps, and migration tooling.

- **Cost-Effective Delivery**

Flexible engagement models including fixed-price, time-and-material, and managed services designed to align with enterprise budgetary demands.

6.2 Clover Infotech Service Offerings for This Transition

Service	Scope	Outcome
Middleware Discovery & Assessment	Comprehensive audit of all FMW 12c components, versions, dependencies, and risk exposure	Detailed inventory report and risk heatmap
Target Architecture Design	Define future-state architecture – on-premises upgrade, OCI migration, hybrid, or re-architecture	Architecture blueprint and migration roadmap
Licensing Optimization Review	Analyze current Oracle licensing position and identify rationalization opportunities	Cost savings report and license restructuring plan
Migration Execution	Hands-on implementation of middleware upgrade, cloud migration, or hybrid transition	Fully migrated, tested, and production-ready environment
Identity Management Modernization	Upgrade or migrate OIM/OAM to current versions or Oracle Identity Cloud	Modernized IAM infrastructure
Testing & Validation	End-to-end functional, integration, performance, and security testing	Validated, production-grade deployment
Post-Migration Managed Services	Ongoing monitoring, patching, performance tuning, and incident management	Reduced operational risk and assured continuity



7. Engagement Models

Clover Infotech recognizes that every organization's situation is different. We offer flexible engagement models designed to match the scale, urgency, and complexity of your middleware transition:

Rapid Assessment (2-4 Weeks)

A fast-track engagement to "inventory" your Fusion Middleware landscape, assess risk exposure, and deliver a prioritized migration roadmap. Ideal for organizations that need an expert assessment before committing to a full programme.

Migration Programme (3-9 Months)

A full-scope engagement covering architecture design, implementation, testing, and go-live. Delivered in phased sprints with clear milestones and governance, ensuring that business continuity is maintained throughout the transition.

Managed Services (Ongoing)

Post-migration operational support including monitoring, patching, performance optimization, and incident management. It ensures that your modernized middleware environment is maintained by expert hands, allowing your internal teams to focus on business innovation.



8. The Clock is Ticking

December 2026 is four months away.

Premier Support for Oracle Fusion Middleware 12c will end. After that, your middleware infrastructure enters a diminishing window of Extended Support that closes permanently in December 2027. Every month of delay narrows your options, increases your risk, and compresses the timeline for what should be a carefully planned and thoroughly tested transition.

The organisations that act now will complete their transitions on their own terms with adequate time for testing, stakeholder alignment, and business validation. Those that wait will find themselves managing a compressed, high-pressure migration under the shadow of an immovable support deadline, with fewer skilled resources available and less room for error.

This is not a decision that can be deferred to next quarter. The planning, architecture, procurement, and execution of a middleware transition for an enterprise-scale deployment requires months of disciplined effort. The right time to start is today.

Let's Get Started

An expert Oracle partner like Clover Infotech can help you navigate this critical transition from assessment through execution to managed services. We have the expertise, the methodology, and the urgency to match your timeline.

Contact Clover Infotech today to schedule your Rapid Middleware Assessment.

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Towards Global **Transformation**



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