

AASHTOWare Project™ Modernization **Open Lab**

Releases, Updates & Testing

Q: How often will updates be deployed? Updates will follow a two-week delivery cadence — similar to how AASHTOWare Project Data Analytics™ currently operates.

Q: How will agencies determine whether a newly deployed update affects their specific workflows or configurations? Will agencies be required to test after every deployment? New updates will be held on an evaluation site before going live, giving agencies time to conduct end-to-end testing, evaluate workflow impacts, and perform any necessary validations. After any reported issues in the evaluation period are addressed, the update is promoted to production.

Q: How will global changes that roll out to all users be communicated? Communication follows the existing model used for AASHTOWare Project Data Analytics: agencies are notified of new updates to the evaluation site, and release notes outlining any changes accompany each push to production.

Onboarding & Transition

Q: What does the onboarding and transition process look like? It will look different for every agency, by design. Before any transition support begins, each agency will go through a customization cataloging effort: an audit of existing workflows, configurations, and agency-specific processes. That report becomes the foundation of each agency's roadmap.

- Agencies with complex technical configurations will receive focused help converting those into the new environment.
- Agencies where change management is a bigger factor will get more training and adoption support.

The approach is guided and incremental. Transition support will meet agencies midway through their journey, with a tailored plan based on where they are on the adoption curve.

Database & Architecture

Q: What's changing with the underlying database and system architecture? Are databases staying the same or being fully migrated? The modernization moves AASHTOWare Project to one shared version for all agencies. This requires architectural changes, including how the platform stores and accesses data.

Key points:

- Each agency's data will remain **fully isolated and protected**.
- Agencies will **not** need to perform a data migration. The new experiences will be built to read from and write to the existing database, evolving incrementally until cutover, at which point everything is already in place.
- Agencies will retain **data warehouse functionality** in each tenant (production, testing, staging), allowing them to continue reading from their databases as they do today. The only change is updating the connection address.

AASHTOWare Project™ Modernization Open Lab

Parallel Operation & No-Force Cutover

Q: How does parallel operation work? Can some users stay on the old system while others move to the new one? Will there be a UAT/test environment? The new experience will continue using your existing database, so legacy and new workflows can run side by side — both hitting the same data. Agencies decide when and how to expose new workflows to their users.

Each hosted agency will also have a **pre-release (eval) site** where they can preview upcoming features and workflows before they go live, similar to how the existing web-based AASHTOWare Project works today.

Customizations & Legacy Investments

Q: What happens to existing customizations — Agency Views, Python code, direct database integrations? What carries over and what needs to be rebuilt? The new platform is one shared version; custom code and direct database changes **cannot carry over exactly as they are today**. The customization catalog will inventory everything each agency has changed.

Common customization types used across multiple agencies will be absorbed into the core product, so agencies no longer need to maintain them separately. Unique, agency-specific items will be addressed individually during the 5-year project.

Every type of customization will have an answer in the new system. Where something can't be addressed universally, agencies can still work with Infotech or AASHTO service units to make integrations or customizations happen.

Integrations & Third-Party Systems

Q: How will the transition impact integrations with systems like the EDOT portal, financial systems, OnBase, GIS, and BI tools? There are three integration types to consider:

- **Direct database reads** — Supported through the data warehouse. Most existing read-based integrations will continue working with only a connection address update.
- **Direct database writes** — Not a supported approach going forward. Infotech will help agencies identify alternatives, such as the AASHTOWare OpenAPI or other methods available in the modern interfaces.
- **AASHTOWare OpenAPI** — Fully supported through the entire project and into the foreseeable future. Any breaking changes would come with advance deprecation notices and API versioning, so agencies can set their own update schedule.

AASHTOWare Project™ Modernization Open Lab

Minimum Version Requirements

Q: Will agencies need to be on a minimum version of AASHTOWare Project before modernization can begin? Yes — the current minimum is **AASHTOWare Project 5.05**. As new releases come out, the minimum will update (e.g., 5.06 becomes the new floor this Fall).

Recommendation: **Become hosted first**, then let the hosting team assist with upgrades. Don't try to navigate all the upgrade steps independently.

Conflicting Data Integrity Rules

Q: If different agencies have different data integrity rules for the same table, how will a unified system handle that? Data integrity customizations will move out of the database and into the application. Agencies will still be able to configure their specific rules within the product, just not at the database level.

Agency Configurations (Metadata, Agency Fields, etc.)

Q: How will modernization affect agency configurations like metadata and agency fields? The customization cataloging effort is critical here. Where multiple agencies share similar configured processes, Infotech will standardize those into the core product so they're maintained centrally going forward. Year one of the project is focused entirely on this cataloging work, with a recommendation for each agency's configurations to follow.

Cloud Hosting vs. Multi-Tenancy

Q: What are the major differences between the current cloud hosting setup and the new modernization configuration? Currently, each hosted agency has its own independent instance. The modernized platform moves everyone into a **single shared version** (multi-tenancy). Benefits include:

- Faster, easier rollout of fixes and enhancements.
- Simplified performance scaling (no need to set scaling rules per agency).
- A more responsive product that's easier to improve for everyone.

Think of it as the next evolution: on-premise → hosted → multi-tenant, each step unlocking a new set of benefits.

Front-End UI & New Features

Q: What will the new front-end UI look like? Will navigation be simplified? What new features are planned?
Goals for the new interface include:

- **Intuitive navigation** — New users familiar with the job should be able to navigate the system without heavy onboarding.
- **Improved data continuity** across modules, eliminating places where data gets “lost in translation” between modules.
- **Automation and intelligent insights** — Surfacing data helpful to decision-making that may not be visible today.

AASHTOWare Project™ Modernization **Open Lab**

Customization Catalog Responsibility

Q: Who is responsible for building the customization catalog? Primarily Infotech. Infotech will handle the collection, organization, and analysis phases, and agencies will have access to their own catalog. The primary difference is in the initial data gathering:

- **Hosted Agencies:** Infotech handles the data collection directly when the necessary data agreements are signed and confirmed.
- **On-Premise (Self-Hosted) Agencies:** Your team assists by providing the raw data—essentially, dropping exports into your agency's shared drive folder.

Cost Questions

Cost-related questions were received but are best addressed by **AASHTO** directly. Infotech can forward those questions to the appropriate contacts.

AI & Proprietary Data

Q: How much will AI handle analysis and insights? How much access to agency data will Infotech grant to AI integrations? AASHTO and AASHTOWare are actively developing AI policies covering both internal development use and in-product AI features. State agency representatives involved in that process are advocating strongly for **agency control** over which AI features are enabled and what data they can access. As a software provider, Infotech must conform to the policies AASHTO and AASHTOWare establish.

Customizations After Full Migration

Q: After we're fully on the new platform, are customizations no longer allowed?

No, customizations are still supported. The way they work changes:

- Direct database access goes away, but robust **API access** (webhooks, OpenAPI) remains.
- Tools like **FME** and other integration/automation platforms remain first-class citizens in the modern platform.

The product can still be tailored to each agency's needs; the mechanisms just evolve to match the new architecture.