



Adding value to your software investments

Maximo Upgrade

Removing the need for Downtime

Introduction

- Eliminate downtime to your Live Maximo server
- Possibility of 'offsite' upgrade
- Allow testing / training with 'Live' data
- Track all changes made to your database during the upgrade
- Automatic email generation of any changes made
- Send changes from any point in time from change capture start date
- Run as a scheduled task silently
- Lightweight – minimal processing power from your database and server

Our solution utilises the current IBM upgrade process for Maximo to version 7.1 to keep any user configurations in place. By utilising the official IBM upgrade process, the resulting database schema is assured to be correct for the version of Maximo in use and subsequently fully supported by IBM.

Our solution, as well as being dynamic for the upgrade process, can also be utilised for prolonged durations where the client may require more rigorous testing for the upgraded database or for clients that have remote Maximo installations it provides the option to upgrade the headquarters first whilst enabling remote sites to remain on the previous version until their upgrade can be scheduled.

Process

An overview diagram of the process is shown below:

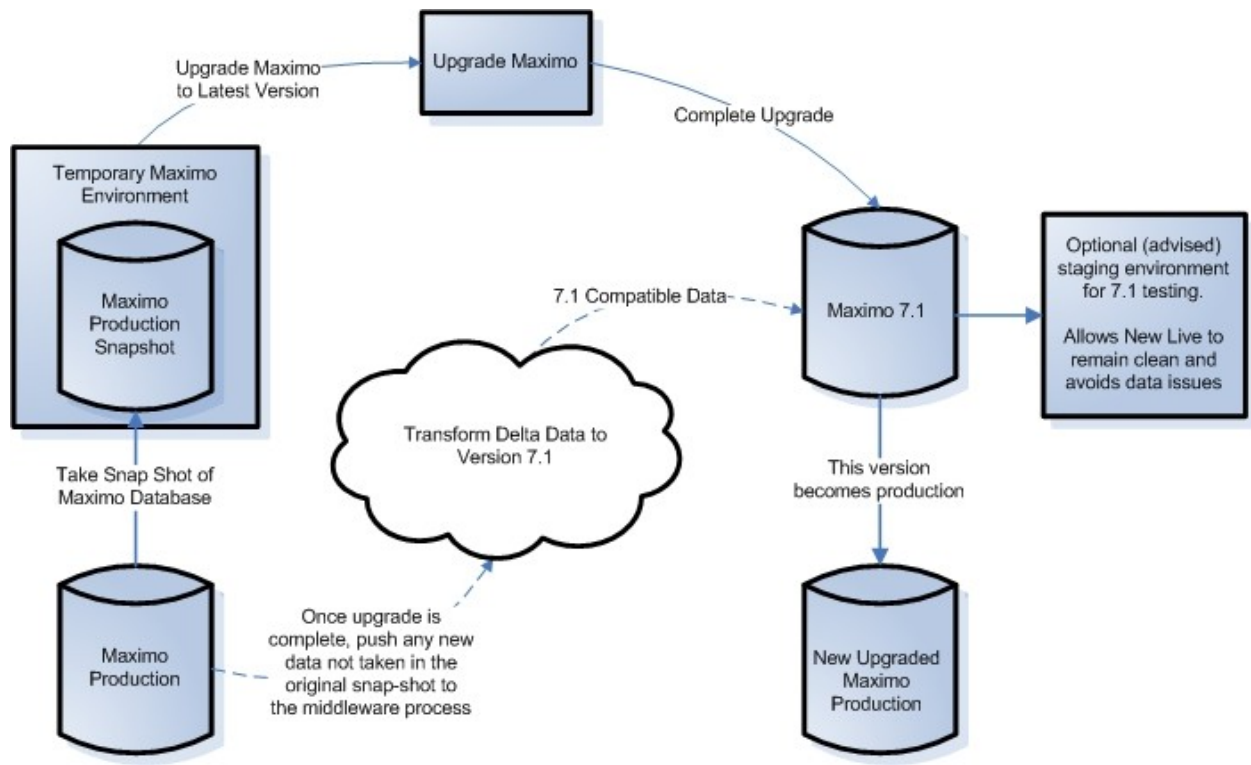


Figure - Maximo Upgrade Overview

- **Eliminate downtime to your Live Maximo server**

By moving a snap shot of your live database into a duplicate instance of your live system, you can continue working as per normal without any impact to users of the server itself. The duplicate instance can then be upgraded to 7.1 using the current IBM process whilst all changes to your live database are recorded by our solution.

- **Possibility of 'offsite' upgrade**

This process can potentially be carried out offsite, removing the need for onsite consultancy, expenses and allows the project to continue in more of a 'Pay As You Go' approach. Once the upgrade is complete, the upgraded 7.1 database is placed back onto your server.

- **Allow testing / training with 'Live' data**

Once upgraded the data that has been captured in your current live system can start to be moved into your 7.1 system. It is advised to have a separate staging server for testing or simply a separate database where any testing and training can be completed without impact to the new live database. The data can either be sent to both databases from current live (impacts on processing power and network data transfer) or the new live database can be restored to the staging system.

- **Track all changes made to your database during the upgrade**

All supported changes that are made in current live that are sent to the 7.1 database are logged and stored on disk each and every time the process is run. These are compressed to save disk space in case huge amounts of changes have been made.

- **Automatic email generation of any changes made**

Any change logs that are created can be automatically emailed to interested parties. If any errors occur during transfer a member of support is automatically notified by email so they can proactively start working on correcting any issues. You can also be notified when these errors occur.

- **Send changes from any point in time from change capture start date**

If for any reason the new live database needed to be re-synched to mimic current live during testing or training for example, the data can be re-sent from current live for anything that has changed since we took the original snapshot to upgrade. This can also be done on a time basis; we can reset any table to send its changes from current live to any point in time from when the solution began capturing changes (pre-upgrade).

- **Run as a scheduled task silently**

The solution is run as a scheduled task on your server on a schedule that suits you (subject to how long any single transfer session takes). No user input is needed unless you wish to stop or manually run the task.

- **Lightweight – minimal processing power from your database and server**

Testing and customer implementation has shown very little impact to the current live or new live servers including network traffic. This will produce best results when run on a regular schedule to ensure the amount of data being sent each time is kept to a minimum. The initial data send will/should be the highest impact on the servers/traffic but from experience has not caused any end user impact.

Further Options

Once upgraded to Maximo 7.1, you may be running multiple Maximo instances i.e. Development, Test and Production. Our solution can further be implemented to enable you to synchronise your live data to your development and test environments. This can remove the need for backup/restore procedures to keep your other Maximo systems up to date.

This also means any server specific information you have remains intact as that data would not be sent which in turn means no extra configuration is necessary to keep your live data in-synch across your Maximo installations.

Future Development

Your Maximo implementation may not be as straight forward as one single database that needs to be updated. It may also be that you have any number of Maximo installations to upgrade before truly being able to go Live fully on 7.1, for instance in a shipping scenario where your ships replicate their data with the main office.

It could take weeks/months or longer to upgrade all of your fleet to 7.1 and therefore you still require replication with the Maximo X.X version back in the office. Some ships you may simply choose not to upgrade at all as they are going out of service.

Future development of our solution looks to tackle this challenge by sending data to and from your current version with version 7.1. Once the office is upgraded to 7.1 and happy to go live we can shut the old version down from a front end perspective meaning new office data is only created in 7.1. This data can be transformed to match version X.X and then continue to be replicated out to your fleet of ships.

Whenever a ship is upgraded to 7.1, they can then begin to replicate their data with the 7.1 office database. When no ships are left to be upgraded then the version X.X database is removed and you continue working with version 7.1 only.

