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When to Call in Experts for a NetSuite Rescue Mission

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NetSuite is an incredibly powerful enterprise resource planning (ERP) tool. From financial management to inventory control and customer relations, it offers businesses a comprehensive suite of tools to streamline operations. However, like any complex system, things can go wrong. When they do, it might feel like you're sinking in quicksand. That's when calling in the experts for a NetSuite rescue mission is no longer optional, but essential.

In this post, we'll explore key situations when businesses should bring in professional help to rescue their NetSuite implementation. Understanding the right time to ask for assistance can save time, money, and a great deal of frustration.

1. Implementation is Taking Too Long

NetSuite implementations can vary in complexity, depending on the size of your business and the modules you're deploying. However, if your project timeline starts to drag on with no clear end in sight, that's a red flag.

Common Signs You Need Help:

- Missed deadlines: When you're consistently falling behind schedule, something is off.
- Constant scope changes: If the project keeps expanding with new requests or goals, the scope may not have been defined properly.
- **Endless testing:** When testing drags on, it suggests configuration errors or data issues.

Expert consultants can step in, re-align the project with your original goals, and get things moving again. Their experience allows them to spot bottlenecks and inefficiencies that may not be immediately apparent to your team.

2. Your Business Processes Don't Fit the Out-of-the-Box Solution

One of NetSuite's greatest strengths is its customization capabilities, but those same features can also be its downfall if not handled properly. Businesses often realize mid-implementation that their processes don't fit with the default configurations.

Indicators of a Mismatch:

- Workarounds everywhere: If your team is constantly creating manual workarounds to handle business processes that don't align with the system, it's a sign that customizations are needed.
- **Frustrated users:** When employees struggle to get their work done because the system doesn't match your business operations, it can cripple productivity.
- Multiple failed attempts at customization: If your internal team has tried to adjust NetSuite but can't get it to work as needed, it's time to call in experts who specialize in tailoring NetSuite to unique business models.

Experts can customize the platform so it aligns perfectly with your company's workflows, improving both efficiency and user satisfaction.

3. Data Migration is a Mess

Migrating data from old systems to NetSuite is often one of the trickiest aspects of implementation. It requires careful planning and execution to avoid errors and ensure all historical data is accurately transferred.

Common Data Migration Issues:

- **Missing or corrupt data:** If you notice that records are missing, incomplete, or wrong, you've got a serious issue on your hands.
- **Inconsistent formats:** When data comes in different formats and fields aren't mapping correctly, it can cause confusion and operational slowdowns.
- **Duplicate entries:** Unchecked duplicates can make your system unreliable, causing everything from reporting inaccuracies to inventory issues.

If any of these problems arise, you're likely dealing with a poorly planned data migration. Calling in NetSuite experts can ensure that your data is cleaned up, structured properly, and migrated without errors.

4. You're Struggling with Custom Reports and Dashboards

One of the benefits of using NetSuite is its reporting and dashboard capabilities. However, creating custom reports or dashboards that give you the insights you need can be more challenging than expected.

Signs You Need Assistance:

- **Inaccurate or incomplete reports:** If your reports are pulling in the wrong data or failing to display key information, you need expert eyes on them.
- **Clunky dashboards:** Dashboards should make accessing critical data easy, not complicated. If yours is overwhelming or hard to navigate, it's time to ask for help.
- **Difficulty adapting to new metrics:** As your business evolves, so do the metrics you track. If adjusting your reports and dashboards to reflect those changes is too difficult, experts can optimize them for you.

Experts can create clean, accurate reports and dashboards that are easy to navigate and customized to your business needs.

5. Performance Issues and Slow System Response

A NetSuite system that's constantly lagging or crashing is not just an inconvenience—it's a full-blown productivity killer. If your team experiences slow page loads, frequent errors, or downtime, it's time to bring in outside help.

Signs of Poor Performance:

- **Delayed transactions:** If processing orders or running reports takes too long, it indicates a problem with your system's performance.
- **System crashes:** Regular crashes or unresponsiveness mean there are deeper issues that need addressing.
- **Heavy customization slowing things down:** Over-customization without regard for best practices can lead to serious performance degradation.

Experts can identify the root cause, whether it's inefficient code, server issues, or something else, and provide solutions to boost your system's performance.

6. Lack of Internal Expertise

While your team may be capable of handling the day-to-day operations of NetSuite, certain situations call for specialized knowledge that goes beyond their expertise.

Situations Where Expertise is Lacking:

- Advanced configurations: If you're looking to implement advanced features, like multi-currency management or advanced inventory, it's best to call in experts who have experience with these complex setups.
- **Upgrades and new releases:** NetSuite updates regularly, and while these upgrades are meant to improve functionality, they can sometimes break existing configurations if not managed correctly.
- Integrations with other systems: If you need to connect NetSuite with thirdparty applications (like CRMs, eCommerce platforms, or specialized industry software), a technical expert can ensure everything works seamlessly together.

When your internal team lacks the knowledge or time to tackle these challenges, bringing in a seasoned NetSuite professional can bridge the gap and ensure smooth operation.

7. You're Not Realizing the ROI

Investing in NetSuite is a big decision, and you expect a return on that investment (ROI). But if your implementation isn't delivering the expected improvements in efficiency, productivity, or profitability, it's a sign something isn't right.

Warning Signs of a Poor ROI:

- Rising costs without matching benefits: If the costs of maintaining and customizing your system are growing, but you're not seeing corresponding operational gains, the project needs a review.
- **Users still relying on old tools:** If your employees are sticking with spreadsheets or external systems because they find NetSuite too difficult to use, you're not maximizing the software's potential.
- **Confusing workflows:** If the workflows in NetSuite are overly complicated or don't match how your team operates, productivity will drop, and you won't see the gains you expected.

An expert can assess your system, find where it's underperforming, and optimize it to ensure that you're getting the full benefits of your NetSuite investment.

Summary

NetSuite is a robust tool, but it isn't immune to problems. Recognizing when to call in expert help can save you from prolonged headaches and financial losses. Whether it's during a prolonged implementation, a messy data migration, or persistent performance issues, bringing in a NetSuite consultant can turn a struggling project into a success story.

Don't wait until it's too late—if you see any of these signs, it's time to act and let the professionals get your NetSuite system back on track.