



Modernise the core without the risk

The business case for building resilience
with composable architecture.

Executive summary

Today, banks face more pressure than ever. Fintechs move fast. Regulation changes. Customers expect more. While the conversation centres on agility and embedded finance, real, sustainable transformation starts at the core.

Legacy systems slow you down. They're costly and rigid. They make it difficult to deliver the instant, personalised, digital experiences customers now expect. Big bang core replacements sound bold, but they are highly complex and fraught with risk. Costs spiral. Disruption hits. And you end up with a new kind of inflexibility.

Now, there's a better way. Composable architecture lets you build a modern, cloud-native core step-by-step at your pace. You keep your business running, reduce risk and move products and services when you're ready.

Composable banking is more than technology. It's freedom. It means you're ready for anything, not just one future, but every possibility. Together, we can make...

...more possible.

Why legacy holds you back: Standing still is not an option

Monolithic cores belong in the past

Legacy systems were built for a world of paper and branches. They're rigid, hard to scale, and tough to change. Trying to bolt on new features adds cost and complexity, leaving you with a fragile IT stack that drains your team and slows you down.

The 'big bang' gamble is not worth it

Ripping out your core in one go is risky. Here's why:

- **Huge upfront costs.** Projects drag on and budgets balloon.
- **Business disruption.** One big switch means big risk and downtime you can't afford.
- **Data headaches.** Moving all your data at once? It's a compliance and accuracy nightmare.



Customers expect more

74% want digital experiences as smooth as the best in tech.

But old-school modernisation often means delays, blown budgets and failed projects.

A smarter way to modernise

What is composable banking?

Composable banking lets you build your bank your way. Choose the best-of-breed solutions, connect them with open APIs, and swap them in or out as your needs change. With composable, your architecture is flexible, future-ready, and always evolving whenever you're ready.

Your core is your launchpad for growth.

The core is the central platform that processes transactions and manages accounts. But it does much more than this. In a digital-first world, it's the foundation for growth, innovation, and resilience. You unlock new products, create better experiences, and move with real agility.

Modernisation is a journey, not a destination.

Every bank is different. Some stick with monolithic systems. Others go modular. Composable banking takes you further. You choose how far and how fast you move.

Transformation is a spectrum



Monolithic

- Inflexible and slow to evolve.
- Difficult to scale.
- Tailor-made to one need.
- Locked into one vendor.
- High maintenance costs.



Modular

- Combine pieces into one, pre-set picture.
- Difficult to swap out pieces.
- Locked into one vendor.
- High failure rate.



Composable

- Choose and combine best-for-purpose independent components.
- Re-use, swap in or swap out any component.
- No vendor lock-in.

Achieve more with a multi-core strategy

With a multi-core, composable strategy, you roll out a new core alongside your existing systems, one step at a time. The impact is real: banks quickly see faster innovation, smoother migrations and better customer experience.

Smart evolution *one step at a time*

PHASE 1

Cloud migration

Establishing a modern foundation

Shift from legacy infrastructure to cloud.

Build cloud-native applications.

Teams empowered with new skills.

PHASE 2

Platform migration

Introducing the new core & driving growth

Introduce new composable core for reliability.

Accelerate innovation to attract new customers.

Improve existing customer experience.

Seamlessly orchestrated timelines for go-live.

PHASE 3

Data migration

Phased, risk-mitigated data movement

Move accounts & transactions to new core.

Migrate customers in phases, based on lifecycle events.

Product migration that supports your commercial strategy.

Agility, your way

With a multi-core strategy, you're set up for progress, on your terms. Here's how:

Less risk, more control.

Forget the high-stakes 'big bang' launch. Running old and new systems in parallel makes sure your services continue to run smoothly while you migrate. No drama, no downtime.



Bank Muamalat built its Islamic banking greenfield on a modern cloud core, launching a pilot in just 9 months and advancing its long-term modernisation strategy.



Photo by Cmglee, licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons.

Smarter use of time AND money.

Your investments are smaller and easier to manage. You stay in control, focusing on what matters most and where you want your priorities to be, not on vendor upgrade cycles. Our customers report a 50% reduction in maintenance resources.



GoTyme Bank cut operational costs by 50% in just six months after moving 85% of its core operations to Mambu.



Scale and flex as you grow.

Composable architecture allows you the flexibility to decide what to migrate and when. Launch, test, and refine new products - one at a time and at your own pace.

N26

N26 reached over 4.8 million revenue relevant customers across 24 markets in Europe by building on a composable platform.



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Safer, simpler data migration.

Move your data in phases. It's less complex, easier to spot errors, and you can check data integrity as you go. That means smoother compliance and business continuity all the way.



Leeds Building Society

Leeds Building Society is modernising its core over multiple years to bring more flexible digital services to its 1 million+ members.



Architecture for true differentiation

Composable architecture puts Mambu at the heart of your bank. Start with the best SaaS core, then build out what makes you unique.

Stay in control

Stay flexible

Differentiated experience

Create standout digital customer journeys across mobile, web, and partner channels.

Engagement platform

MOBILE

WEB

POS

PARTNERS

API-first & event driven architecture

Our API-first approach means seamless data flow and total flexibility. APIs aren't an afterthought; they are built in from the start.

Integration & orchestration

Best of breed ecosystem

Connect with partners and third-party services to expand your offering, all through APIs.

Ecosystem services

SaaS core banking

Mambu's cloud-native engine powers your bank with speed and reliability.

SaaS core



Data enablement

Bring together data from everywhere. Stream in real time, unlock analytics and tap into ML & AI.

Data layer

WAREHOUSING

ANALYTICS

BI

Enhanced compliance and risk mitigation

Keep your core systems such as general ledger, compliance and risk mitigation, running smoothly as you migrate.

Enterprise assets

PAYMENTS

COMPLIANCE

FINANCE

LEGACY

Evolve, don't bypass.

The strongest, most competitive banks don't bypass the core, they invest in it. Your core is your launchpad for growth, resilience and innovation. Composable banking gives you the foundation to evolve, adapt and grab new opportunities every day. It's the future of finance.

You've got the strategy and the architecture.

Ready to take the next step?

Access our composable core playbook for proven migration models and practical steps to accelerate your journey and deliver success.

[Download the composable core playbook](#)



Start with the core. Build with Mambu. Build the future of finance.

Contact us

mambu.com