

# Five Good Reasons to Upgrade to Sterling Integrator™ (SI) 5.0 from Sterling Commerce

Connect, Compete, Secure, Enable

## Why upgrade to SI 5.0 (formerly Gentran Integration Suite or GIS) now?

In today's economic environment, it is more critical than ever companies look for ways to maximize their existing B2B technology investments to reduce costs, increase efficiencies as well as provide opportunities to expand global trading communities. By all analyst accounts, the B2B and multienterprise market is expected to grow steadily over the next five years with Global 2000 companies at least doubling their multienterprise traffic between 2007 and 2012. In fact, according to one Gartner report, medium to large enterprises are expected to invest as much as 50% more in B2B project than they did in 2006. Secondly, although just as relevant, it's important to maintain support for your existing mission critical software investments.

With improved performances, stability and new competitive-edge features, SI 5.0 allows companies to take advantage of technology advancements, implement new global tax compliance requirements and expand trading partner communities.

If your current version of GIS is reaching its end of support date or you are looking to expand your B2B trading partner community, here are 5 good reasons why it makes sense to upgrade now.



## 1. Leverage technology advancements

By upgrading to SI 5.0, companies can take advantage of the new system environments it supports as well as new features specifically designed to improve performance and reduce maintenance.

Specific advancements include:

- new deprecation tool to identify deprecated resources including adapters and services
- AS3 available as an alternative non-repudiation file transfer mechanism
- Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPV6) support
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux Version 5 support for 64 bit – X86 architectures
- support for 64 bit JDKs for all the supported UNIX variants
- IBM DB2.1 Standard and Clustered version support

## 2. Simplify partner community management

With the newly improved Sterling Community Manager, you can now manage partner communities more effectively with state-of-the-art partner on-boarding and partner management capabilities.

The Standard Version automates the creation and maintenance of partner-related configurations via out of the box on-boarding questionnaires for common communications protocols and standards.

The Enterprise Version is an additional module for SI customers with large trading partner communities. It offers partner self service, partner campaigns, questionnaire customization and internal routing to the features included in the Standard Version.

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## 3. Global tax compliance

Sterling e-Invoice Gateway helps you adapt to the complex, ever-changing business and technical regulations associated with international electronic invoicing. It automates business processes and tax compliance as part of a multi-enterprise service-oriented architecture (SOA) implementation that uses global integration standards to support buyer and supplier compliance in a single solution, while also maintaining conformity with tax regulations for multiple countries.

## 4. Improved Web services and security capabilities

SI 5.0 features a number of enhancements in Web services functionality including (i) compliance with the Web Services Interoperability Organization (WS-I) best practices for Web services interoperability; and (ii) the ability to specify a schema for Web Services Description Language (WSDL) output.

Security enhancements include (i) the capability to maintain multiple active certificates with overlapping timeframes to reduce system downtime and decrease the effort needed to maintain partner certificates; and (ii) SSL support for all standard interfaces.

## 5. Versions of GIS prior to 4.2 reach their end of support date on April 30th, 2009

Sterling Commerce has announced all GIS versions prior to 4.2 reach their end of support date on April 30th, 2009. Given the importance of partner integration to your environment, can you afford to be in a production down situation without supported software?

## Why use outside consulting support from Oxford Consulting to complete an upgrade to 5.0?

We recognize budgets are tight and staffing is limited, so it's understandable that you may hesitate to bring in outside consulting support for this upgrade. Here are just a few reasons to consider before going it alone:

- Your IT staff is not in the business of implementing software. Upgrades, while important, are not good strategic investments of internal resources as they occur infrequently
- Leveraging external resources reduces 'trial and error' attempts by benefiting from consultants' past experiences
- Professional implementation will undoubtedly take less time to complete
- Generally environments are complex and warrant a dedicated expert to effectively plan and manage the upgrade activity

With more than 50 dedicated Sterling Commerce consultants and having completed over 400 projects to date, can you afford not to partner with Oxford Consulting?

## Sterling Commerce relies on Oxford Consulting

Oxford Consulting has partnered with Sterling Commerce for almost 10 years and remains Sterling's largest professional services partner for the GIS and Integrator™ family of products. Working every day to support Sterling's most important customers, our consultants will be dedicated to your success.

