



**GO-LIVE  
FASTER**  
PREPARE TO LAUNCH

**Missed Your Last Implementation Date?**

# How to Go-Live Faster and Safer

## **Forewarned is Forearmed**

The pressure is on to get new products and services into market as fast as possible, but is your organization ready for the effort? Is it possible to quantify “readiness” and apply this learning towards making better risk-based decisions?

Let’s recall that the first predictive credit scoring algorithm was built by distilling thousands of consumer credit types and behaviors into a simple output – a number capable of predicting how likely it is that a borrower will repay their lender. This type of advanced modeling can now be used to predict implementation or product launch risk as well as data migration risk. It’s made possible through the use of advanced machine learning, deep banking domain experience, and the analysis of thousands of hours of project work and data migration efforts.

The result is a radical, new approach to predicting implementation risk that pinpoints your organization’s specific strengths and weaknesses. These new algorithms are called the Go-Live Score and the Go-Migrate Score.

In this paper, you’ll learn what they measure, how they work, and what benefits they offer organizations that use them to guide implementation risk mitigation processes.

## **The Strategy of Risk Mitigation**

Before we begin to examine these new scoring algorithms, let’s take a moment to consider what they measure. The problem banking executives face when it comes to implementation project risk is how to identify and mitigate potential points of failure in the future. However, we know that all risk is not equal. Risk can be objectively defined, but solving for risk is a strategic decision for the organization.

For example, going to market with some defects is entirely acceptable. The importance lies in knowing how to identify and prioritize risk and apply mitigation strategies where it counts most. This critical balance point between risk-reward is what the Go-Live Score and the Go-Migrate Score are designed to measure.

## **How the Scores Work**

Depicted in Figure 1 is an illustration of a Go-Live Score output for a sample financial institution. The graph depicts the relationship between an organization’s internal process readiness (x axis) and the readiness of the application and related technologies to be implemented (y axis) using a ranking of 1 to 10 (where 1 is not ready and 10 is ready). The final score is divided into segments of high, medium, and low risk.

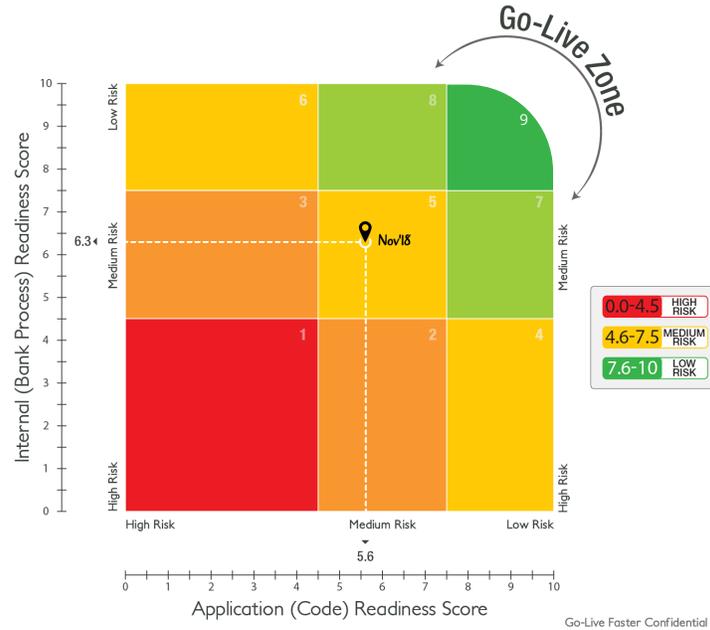


Figure 1- Go Live Score Enterprise Assessment - Illustration Only

The Go-Migrate Score is designed in a similar manner to the Go-Live Score and is derivative of the main model. The purpose of this score is to define an enterprise’s risk of migrating (converting) data from one host system to another based on four key criteria depicted in Figure 2 :

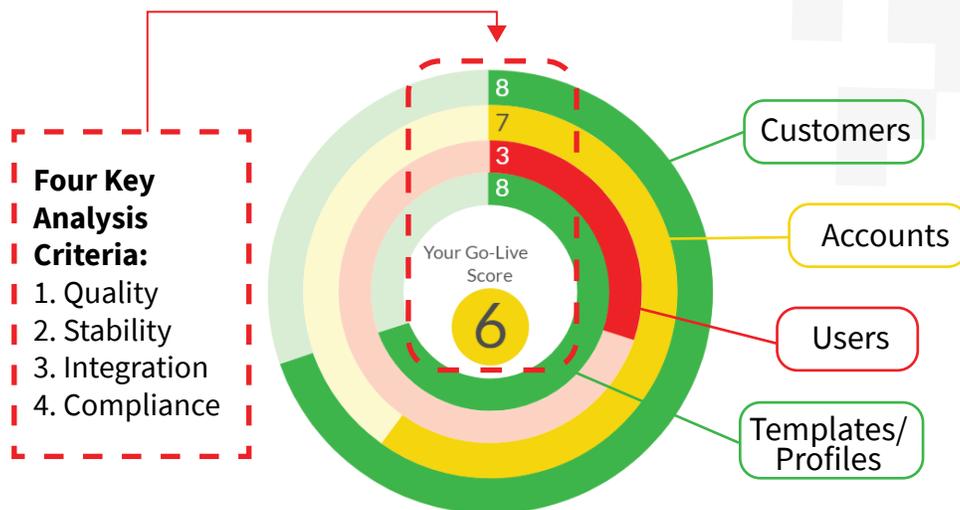


Figure 2 - Go-Migrate Score Result - Illustration only

In Figure 3, we depict the primary inputs to these algorithms. These categories of inputs, along with the observations of senior data analysts and experts in the financial institution technology domain, take into consideration a 360° view of the project from both an internal and external context.



Figure 3- Primary Data Inputs to Go Live Score

The output from the Go-Live and Go-Migrate Scores methodology is a predictive risk score (see Figure 1 and Figure 2) that identifies organization-specific potential project failure points. It provides the organization with action points and workaround strategies that can be used to prioritize risk and inform decision-making. Further, these scores act as a dynamic input to the organization's ongoing project risk management; the models can be updated as the project progresses, allowing the organization to reassess risk at critical development junctures.

**Go-Live Score Output: Real-World Evidence**

In Figure 4, we demonstrate how the Go Live Score output has been used to successfully guide actual implementation projects at financial institutions in the United States.

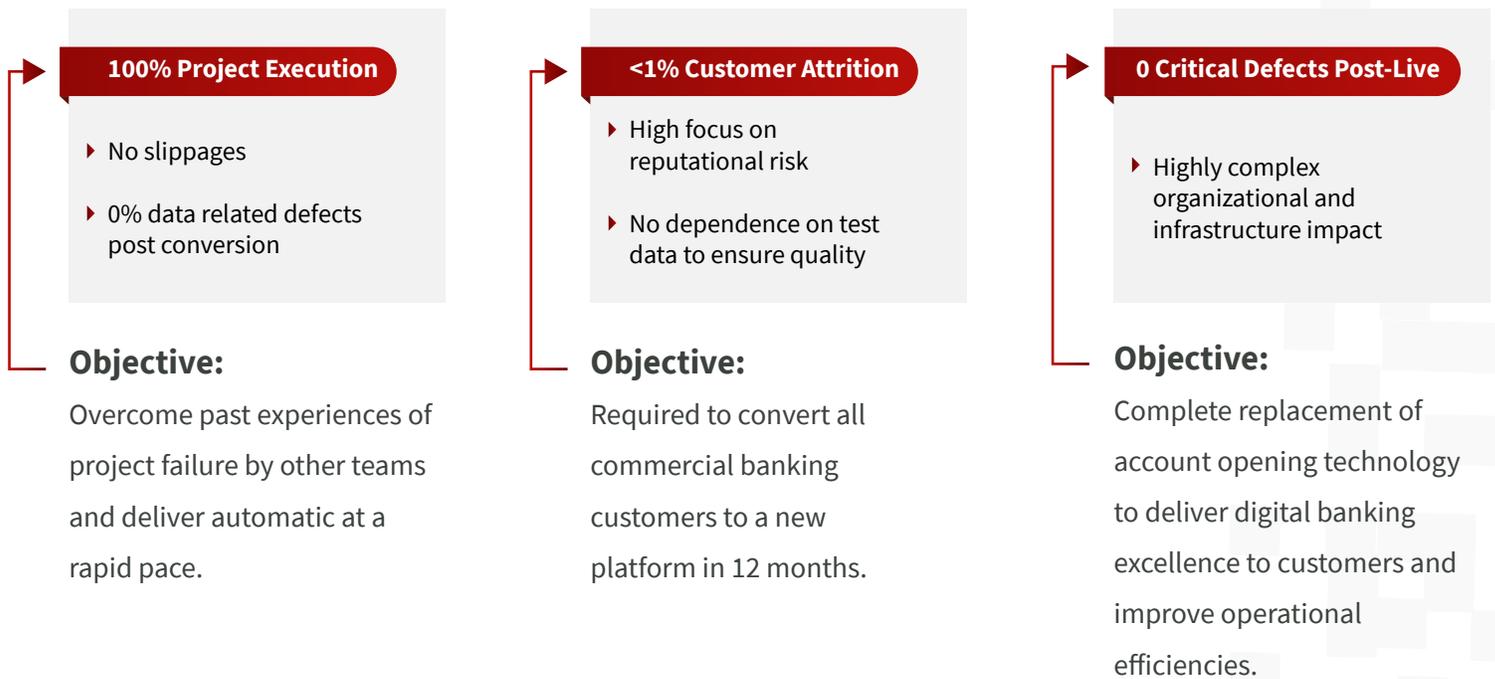


Figure 4- Go Live Score Impact to Implementation

## The Story of the Go Live Score

Is it possible to move products into market both quickly and safely? This is the challenge the banking domain experts and data scientists at Go-Live Faster took on when they began working on the Go-Live Score model.

Go-Live Faster (GLF) is a technology company whose core focus is improving the quality of an organization's entire value chain during complex or high-risk implementations.

Informing the scoring model is over a decade of historical data including current and past project results, defects analysis, risk priorities, data migration tests, and customer demographics. Deep banking domain experience combined with adaptive machine learning capabilities and continual model feedback are the foundational basis used by the GLF team to develop the Go-Live Score and its derivative Go-Migrate Score models.

## The Benefits of Using a Predictive Score to Manage Risk

In the years since GLF introduced the Go Live Score, its benefits and efficacy have been refined with each completed project. Speaking to organizations that have used a Go Live Score model to help direct their risk mitigation strategies, they have cited the ongoing gains earned from an objective, customized, and prioritized project risk assessment.

For example, as one of the inputs to the model, GLF banking domain experts facilitate workshops designed to challenge organizations to identify their potential failure points. Once the Go-Live Score or Go-Migrate Score is delivered, GLF works with the organization to help them design mitigation actions based on their specific priorities. Periodically during the project, new inputs are put into the models, allowing organizations to determine if their goals are being met or new actions are required.

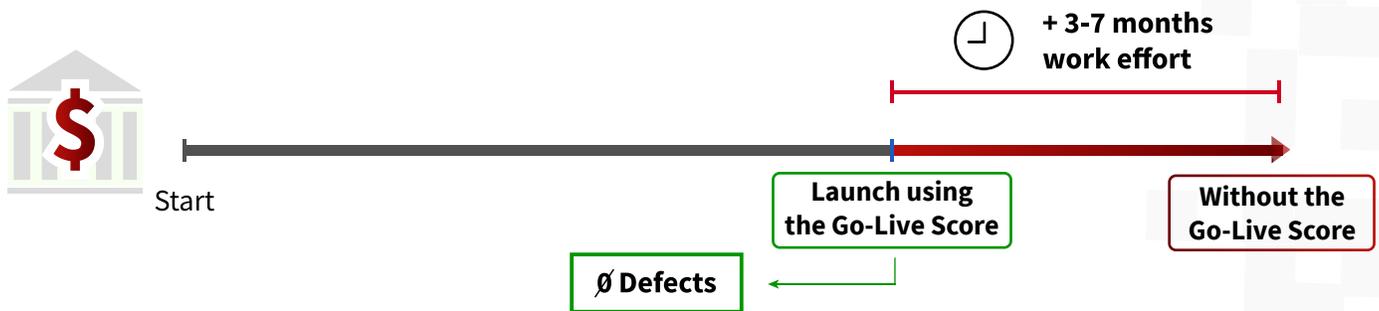


Figure 5- Launch Acceleration using Go-Live Score



*A typical financial institution leveraging the Go Live Score analysis can expect to save three to seven months' worth of work effort and experience an application launch with zero material application defects.*

**Benefits of using Go-Live Score Models:**



*An objective, data-driven score that pinpoints Go-Live readiness*



*Identification of potential points of failure across the work effort*



*Prioritization of project risks*



*Ability to effectively assign resources to a recommended risk mitigation action plan*



*Gap analysis for internal processes*



*Optimized assessment of the quality and stability of target system/interfaces*



*Continuous risk management analysis as model is updated with current project data*



*Understanding a defect's impact on profitability is the first step in the process of strategically managing risk and knowing exactly what to work on.*

Go-Live Faster has leveraged its deep expertise in banking technology to develop the Go-Live Score. Their science-based methodology identifies, correlates critical variables, and conducts a unidimensional analysis before calibrating the model.

Its' algorithm uses a multifactor, logistic regression model to predict the implementation score. Organizations use the output to objectively identify and prioritize risk mitigation activities. This ensures resources are efficiently allocated against prioritized project liabilities which accelerates speed-to-market.

The Go-Live Score and Go-Migrate Score are not simply a collection of data-crunching activities, but are dynamic tools designed by banking experts for banking experts. Organizations that use these scores to guide their risk mitigation activities gain important ongoing benefits. These include their ability to more objectively identify internal and external stresses that impact efficiencies and expose potential liabilities. For some organizations, using the Go-Live Score has become a foundational part of their risk-management processes, offering benefits that last long after the implementation project's been completed.

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## **About Go-Live Faster**

[Go-Live Faster](#) is a global fintech solutions firm that helps banks accelerate their product releases by making technological implementations predictable.

We are a team of analysts on a mission to help you solve complex product release problems while balancing risk.

If you would like to read more about how we have helped banks in the past, you can [read about it here](#).

## **Contact Information:**

✉ [reachout@golivefaster.com](mailto:reachout@golivefaster.com)