Odyssey Logistics legacy platform rebuild with an AI software engineer

IMPLEMENTED 2026 (START DATE OF THE WORK NOT REPORTED) · TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS · US · BAND C · CLAIMED ONLY
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Odyssey Logistics used Cognition's AI software engineer Devin, with a seven-person Cognizant team, to rebuild legacy Microsoft Access and VBA forms as cloud-native applications for its transportation management platform. By the companies' account, delivery throughput rose by roughly a third and Odyssey recorded a 37 percent net cost saving against a conventional approach.

ABOUT THIS SYNOPSIS

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AT A GLANCE

AI used: AI software engineering agent: Devin from Cognition, delivered by Cognizant engineers.

Implemented: 2026 (start date of the work not reported). Grade: band C, Process change, Claimed only.

Headline result, as reported: 37 percent net cost saving and roughly a third more delivery throughput in a legacy rebuild with an AI software engineer, by the companies' account

1 · The case

The facts, as reported by the 3 sources listed at the end. Where a source is silent, the field says "Not reported".

Organisation

Odyssey Logistics. Global multimodal logistics provider with a freight network of more than $3 billion, serving industrial customers in chemicals, metals, food-grade product and other specialised markets, per the Cognizant release. Headcount: Not reported. Canvas block: 6. Data and technology. Also 4. Operations and process.

Business challenge

The challenge. Odyssey set out to consolidate order intake and the full shipment lifecycle onto its OdysseyONE platform. The workflow logic sat in legacy Microsoft Access and Visual Basic for Applications forms, which the release describes as hard to scale, maintain or integrate, and the original business rules had to survive the migration. A fixed budget and a tight delivery window ruled out a conventional rewrite.

How it was addressed. A seven-person Cognizant team used Devin, Cognition's AI software engineer, to convert the legacy forms into cloud-native applications and to generate tests, deployment pipelines and documentation. Every change was reviewed and signed off by a Cognizant technical lead or architect before merging. Before committing, Odyssey tested the approach on a separate standalone legacy application; that project closed 21 days after kickoff. The transportation management platform work is now in production and the programme continues. [1] [2] [3]

Who implemented it

Cognizant (Systems integrator): Led the solution and delivery with a seven-person engineering team that reviewed every change..
Cognition (Software vendor): Supplied Devin, its AI software engineer..
Cognizant is headquartered in the US, with large delivery operations in India. The release is joint with Cognition and quotes Odyssey's CIO and CDO.

Technology (SEAM pillar E)

SEAM types: T7 AI agents. Deployment: Not reported. Vendors and products: Cognition, Cognizant, Devin.

Where it was built in: In the software engineering work on Odyssey's transportation management platform, rebuilding legacy Microsoft Access and VBA forms as cloud-native applications for the OdysseyONE platform.

What changed

Before: workflow logic in legacy Access and VBA forms, with a conventional rewrite ruled out by budget and timeline. After, by the companies' account: Devin does much of the conversion and testing alongside a small Cognizant team, with human sign-off on each change. [1] [2] [3]

What it cost

Not reported

What it saved

By the companies' account: delivery throughput up roughly a third, and a 37 percent net cost saving against the conventional approach. How the net saving was calculated, the baseline and the absolute sums: Not reported. [1] [2] [3]

Governance and control

Every change was reviewed and signed off by a Cognizant technical lead or architect before merging, by the companies' account. Odyssey's CIO and CDO said the aim is to keep people in control of the decisions that matter. Accountable owner, vendor assessment, agent access

S2 · Accountable owner · Claimed
Odyssey's CIO and CDO speaks of clear accountability around every change, and Cognizant says the client deals with a single accountable partner. A named internal owner for the AI work: Not reported. [1]

A1 · Safe use · Not reported
Not reported.

A2 · Human in the loop · Claimed
Every change was reviewed and signed off by a Cognizant technical lead or architect before merging, per the joint release. [1] [3]

A3 · Monitoring and assurance · Not reported
The release says Devin generated tests, deployment pipelines and documentation. Quality or defect measures and any independent check of the results: Not reported. [1]

A4 · Vendor AI · Not reported
Not reported.

A5 · Agent controls · Claimed
The agent worked alongside a seven-person Cognizant team and its output was reviewed before merging, by the companies' account. Access limits and logging for the agent: Not reported. [1]

A6 · Standards and regulation · Not reported
Not reported.

What worked, what did not, what is unproven

WORKED

– Throughput up roughly a third, by the companies' account.

– A 37 percent net cost saving against a conventional approach, by the companies' account.

– A 21-day standalone pilot gave Odyssey the confidence to apply the model to its transportation management platform, per the release.

DID NOT

– Not reported

UNPROVEN

– How the 37 percent saving was calculated, and whether an independent party has checked it.

– Whether the saving and quality hold as the platform is maintained after go-live.

– Results for later phases of the programme.

Timeline

2024 Cognizant and Cognition begin working together [1]

Jan 2026 Cognizant and Cognition enter an AI engineering collaboration [1]

Sept 2026 Cognizant and Cognition announce production results at Odyssey, including a 37 percent net cost saving [1]

Oct 2026 Trade press reports the results, attributing them to the companies [2]

2 · Grade and SEAM assessment

MarLuc's opinion, made on the evidence above. How cases are graded: marluc.co.uk/case-studies/how-we-rate

Level of change and impact

Claimed: Not applicable. Grade: C, Process change. Proof: Claimed only. Level of change: Process change.

Process change (Level 2, band C). A modernisation process redesigned around an AI agent with human sign-off, with cost and throughput figures reported by the seller and the client's quoted executive only.

A process redesigned around an AI agent with human review of every change, with cost and speed figures reported. The figures come from the seller and the client's quoted executive only, so the marker is Claimed only.

The SEAM view and lessons learnt

The design puts a person at each point of accountability: the agent writes and tests code, and a technical lead signs off every change before it merges. A small pilot came first and the budget was fixed. For a larger organisation, the transferable idea is to test an agent on a standalone application before the main platform. The saving is reported by the companies and the method is not published.

1. Pilot an AI engineering agent on a standalone application first.
2. Require named human sign-off on every change an agent proposes.
3. Publish the baseline behind any saving figure.

Evidence

Score 1 of 4. Self-reported: the figures come from a joint release by Cognizant and Cognition, with Odyssey's CIO and CDO quoted; trade press repeats them.

Evaluation method. Self-reported company figures: a joint vendor release with a client quote, repeated by trade press; baseline and method not published.

Sources disagree. No material disagreement. IT Brief Canada attributes the 37 percent figure to Odyssey, Intelligent CIO attributes it to the companies, and the release says Odyssey recorded it.

Status. Ongoing: the current phase is live and the programme continues, per the September 2026 release.

3 · Original sources

Read these in full. To challenge a fact or a grade, use the contact form at marluc.co.uk or the link on https://marluc.co.uk/case-studies/odyssey-logistics-cognizant-devin

[1] Cognizant (PR Newswire): Cognizant and Cognition put autonomous AI engineering into production at Odyssey Logistics, with a 37 percent net cost saving
https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/cognizant-and-cognition-put-autonomous-ai-engineering-into-production-at-odyssey-logistics-with-a-37-percent-net-cost-saving-302886961.html

[2] Intelligent CIO North America: Odyssey Logistics achieves 37% cost savings through autonomous AI engineering
https://www.intelligentcio.com/north-america/2026/10/20/odyssey-logistics-achieves-37-cost-savings-through-autonomous-ai-engineering/

[3] IT Brief Canada: Cognizant & Cognition save 37% at Odyssey Logistics
https://itbrief.ca/story/cognizant-cognition-save-37-at-odyssey-logistics

Odyssey Logistics website: https://www.odysseylogistics.com

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