

WHITEPAPER

Atlassian Data Center EOL: What It Means and What to Do Next

Your migration options as Extended Support ends February 2027

VP Engineering, CTOs, DevOps Leaders, IT Directors
March 2026 | v1.0

Feb 2027

Extended Support Ends

50,000+

DC Customers Affected

\$0

Per-Seat License

5 Days

Migration Timeline

OVERVIEW

Table of Contents

- ✓ 1. Executive Summary
- ✓ 2. Timeline & What's Happening
- ✓ 3. Your Three Options
- ✓ 4. Data Sovereignty
- ✓ 5. Migration Planning
- ✓ 6. Cost Analysis
- ✓ 7. Next Steps

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Decision You Must Make

Atlassian announced the end of Server licenses in 2024 and is now ending Data Center extended support in February 2027. Over 50,000 organizations running Jira, Confluence, and Bitbucket on DC must decide: migrate to Atlassian Cloud, find an alternative, or risk running unsupported software. This whitepaper analyzes each option and explores why Plane on Forge offers data sovereignty with modern governance.

TIMELINE

Atlassian's Path to End of Life

Date	Event
Feb 2024	Server end of support
2024–2026	Data Center transition period
Feb 2027	Extended support ends — no patches
Post-2027	Unpatched, unsupported software

What "end of support" actually means: no security patches, no bug fixes, no compatibility updates, and compliance audits flagging unsupported software as a risk.

Running unsupported software is not just a technical risk — it's a compliance risk. SOC 2 auditors flag unpatched systems.

STRATEGY

Your Three Options

01 Migrate to Atlassian Cloud

Atlassian-managed, familiar interface. Data leaves your environment, per-seat SaaS pricing increases, limited customization.

02 Stay on DC (Do Nothing)

No migration effort. No security patches after Feb 2027, growing compliance risk, no new features, integration gaps widen.

03 Migrate to Plane on Forge

AGPL-3.0 open source, self-hosted (data sovereignty), no per-seat licensing, modern UI, AI-native with governance, 5-day migration.

COMPARISON

Decision Matrix

Criteria	Cloud	DC Stay	Plane/Forge
Data Sovereignty	No	Yes (unsupported)	Yes, fully supported
Per-Seat Cost	\$8–16/user/mo	Existing	\$0 license
Security Patches	Yes	No after Feb 2027	Yes, Forge-managed
AI Governance	Atlas Intel only	None	Reign integration
Customization	Limited	Moderate	Full, open source

GOVERNANCE

Why Data Sovereignty Matters

Regulated industries cannot send project data to Atlassian's cloud. Plane is AGPL-3.0: you own the code, you host the data, you control the environment. Forge adds managed infrastructure, SOC 2 certification, and enterprise support.

Plane on Forge gives you the data sovereignty of self-hosted with the reliability of managed SaaS.

What You Get with Plane on Forge

- ✓ Your data stays in your environment
- ✓ Full source code control (AGPL-3.0)
- ✓ SOC 2 Type II certified infrastructure
- ✓ No per-seat SaaS pricing model

itmethods.com/forge
 ✓ Integrates with Reign AI governance

EXECUTION

Forge's 5-Day Fast Track

01 Day 1 — Discovery & scope

02 Day 2 — Environment provisioning

03 Day 3 — Data migration

04 Day 4 — Integration rebuilds

05 Day 5 — Validation & cutover

Start planning now. February 2027 is 11 months away.

ECONOMICS

The Cost Advantage of Plane on Forge

Solution	Annual Cost
Atlassian Cloud	\$115K–192K/yr
Atlassian DC (staying)	\$0 additional*
Plane on Forge	~\$80K/yr

* Staying on DC costs \$0 in licensing but exposes you to \$200K+ in compliance risk and unpatched vulnerabilities.

3-Year Savings

Organizations migrating to Plane on Forge save 40–60% vs Atlassian Cloud. Over three years, that's \$345K–336K in avoided per-seat licensing and infrastructure costs.

NEXT STEPS

Don't Wait for February 2027

Take the next step toward governed AI. Every day without visibility is another day of unaudited AI actions and blind spend.

01 Assess

Free migration readiness assessment

02 Plan

Custom migration roadmap with cost analysis

03 Migrate

5-day fast track to Plane on Forge

Included with Forge

- ✓ Full audit trail of every AI agent action
- ✓ MCP connection governance and approval workflows
- ✓ Real-time cost dashboards with token-level visibility
- ✓ 24/7 enterprise support with dedicated TAM

Schedule a demo: itmethods.com/forge

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