RENEVELL · WHITE PAPER



EA Sphere for Jira

One live map of your systems for enterprise architecture, change and impact, degradation management and business continuity.

Renevell LLC · Maryland, USA

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SUMMARY

What else is affected, and who needs to know?

When a system fails, those two questions decide the first hour. In most organizations the answers sit in someone's memory, a spreadsheet kept outside any process, or a continuity binder that was accurate the day it was printed.

EA Sphere for Jira keeps the answers in one place. It maintains a live map of an organization's systems, servers, interfaces and facilities and the dependencies between them, and puts that map to work in four disciplines that usually live in separate tools: enterprise architecture mapping, change and impact logs, degradation management and business continuity management.

Because EA Sphere works inside Jira, the map is kept current by the same work that changes the systems. A work item that delivers a new system adds it to the catalog when it is done; a work item that changes a system shows what sits downstream before the work begins. The continuity package, the notices sent during an outage and the tabletop exercises used for rehearsal are all drawn from those same records.

> **In brief.** EA Sphere is an Atlassian Forge app for Jira Cloud. It runs entirely on Atlassian's infrastructure, stores its data only in the Forge storage of your Jira site, makes no calls outside Atlassian, and is licensed per user through the Atlassian Marketplace.

THE PROBLEM

Dependency knowledge decays faster than it is written down

Work trackers, configuration databases and enterprise architecture suites each hold part of the picture. What is seldom kept together, or kept by the people who run the systems, is the combination that matters in an incident: the dependencies, their business context, the recovery objectives each system is held to, and the work currently changing them.

Change happens without context

Change boards approve work without a reliable view of what depends on the system being changed. Collisions with other work and freeze windows are found in production.

Continuity plans go stale

Plans name a system but not what it depends on, who owns those dependencies or how quickly each must be restored. Tabletop exercises expose the gaps once a year.

Outages are logged, not measured

Degradations are recorded after the fact, if at all, and rarely compared with the recovery objectives the business agreed to.

Heavy tools are not kept current

A full configuration database often costs more to maintain than it returns, so the map the organization relies on is the one in people's heads.

THE PRODUCT

One map, four capabilities

Every capability in EA Sphere reads from and writes to the same catalog of records. There is no separate continuity register or impact spreadsheet to reconcile.

Enterprise architecture mapping

Systems, servers, interfaces and facilities with owners, contacts, recovery tiers, lifecycle dates, data classification, business functions and dependencies, explored on a dependency map up to four levels deep, with the direction of data flow on every link.

Change and impact logs

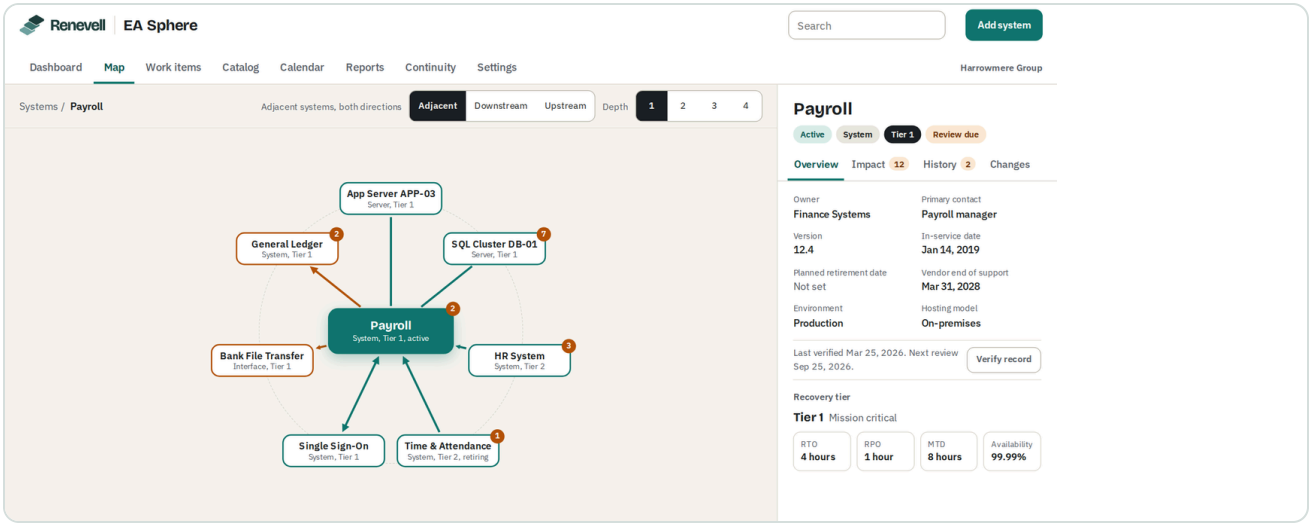
Reference systems from any Jira work item to see downstream impact, change collisions and freeze conflicts before work begins. Every change to a record is logged with who made it and why.

Degradation management

Outages and slowdowns recorded with stages, timestamped updates, root cause, mitigation and incident work items, measured against the recovery objectives of the system's tier.

Business continuity management

The contact sheet, recovery sequence, cyber incident sheet and continuity package generated from live data; tabletop and recovery exercises; and briefings for every team and incident role.



The dependency map centred on Payroll. Teal relationships lead to upstream dependencies, amber relationships to downstream dependents; badges show open work.

HOW IT WORKS

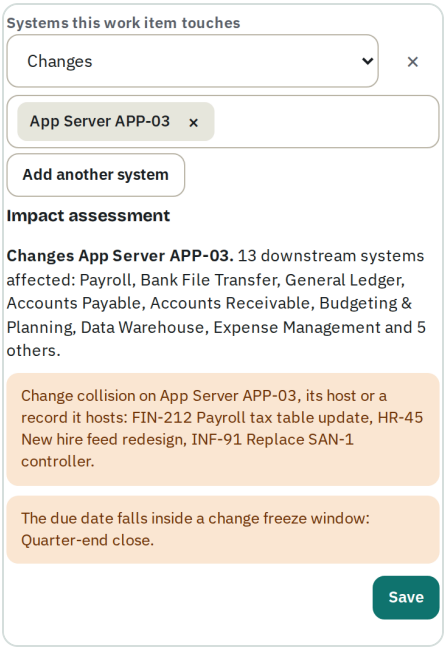
A map that the work keeps current

Recovery tiers, defined once

Administrators define recovery tiers with a recovery time objective, recovery point objective, maximum tolerable downtime, availability target and review interval. Every record inherits its tier’s objectives, and EA Sphere flags a tier gap when a critical system depends on something held to a less demanding tier.

Impact on every Jira work item

The EA Sphere panel on a Jira work item lists the systems the work changes, delivers or retires and everything downstream of them, with any collision with other open work and any conflict with a change freeze window. When a work item that delivers or retires a system is done, the catalog is updated and the change is written to the record’s log.



The EA Sphere panel on a Jira work item.

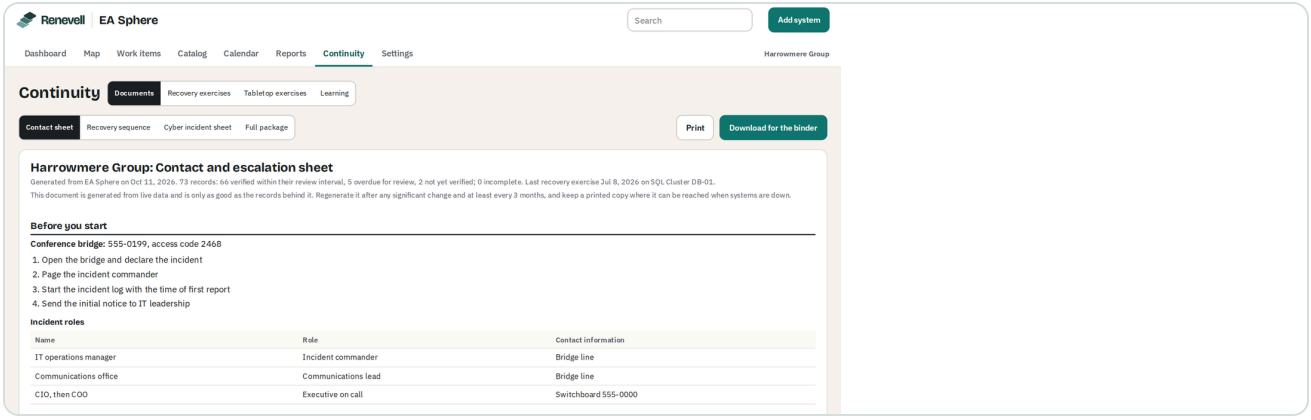
Degradations measured against objectives

A degradation moves through stages with timestamped updates. While it is open, the affected record and everything downstream are highlighted on the map. Notices are composed from the degradation and its downstream impact for the audiences an administrator has configured; notices to restricted audiences can be recorded only by members of permitted Jira groups, and every notice is kept.

BUSINESS CONTINUITY

Documents, exercises and readiness from the same records

The continuity package is generated each time it is opened, so it is never older than the records behind it. Its cover states when it was generated and how many of its records have been verified by their owners.



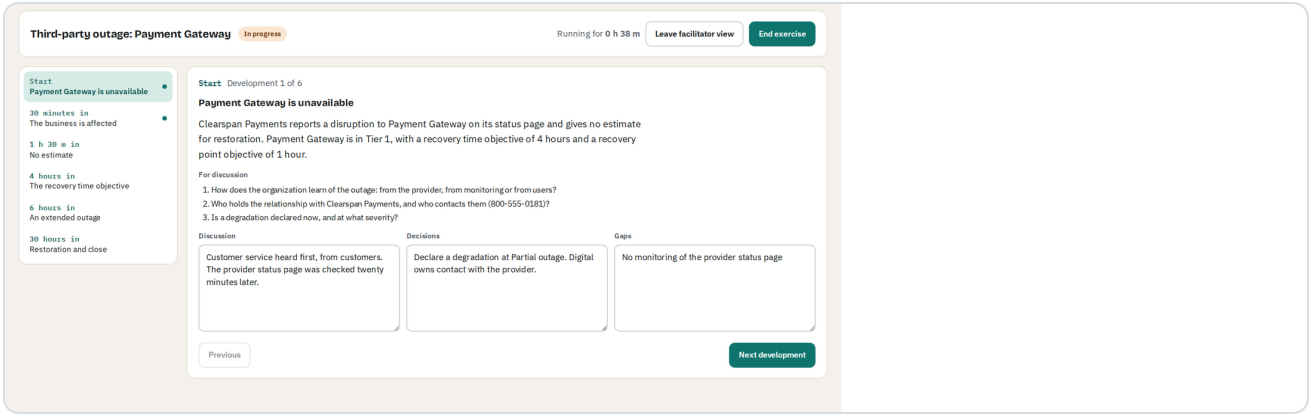
The contact and escalation sheet, generated from live records.

Tabletop exercises written from your own map

Scenarios are generated from the organization's real dependencies, contacts and known gaps, so each exercise tests what would actually happen. A facilitator view records discussion, decisions and gaps against each development; the after-action report summarizes objectives met and creates follow-up work items in Jira. Recovery exercises are timed against the objectives of each tier.

Readiness that can be shown

Each team and incident role has a briefing drawn from the records, with knowledge checks and acknowledgments. Coverage is reported by Jira group, so continuity and risk teams can show who is prepared, not only that a plan exists.



The facilitator view of a tabletop exercise.

ARCHITECTURE AND SECURITY

Runs on Atlassian, with nothing leaving it

Topic	EA Sphere for Jira
Platform	Atlassian Forge. Functions run on Atlassian-hosted compute; the interface is served by Atlassian.
Storage	Forge storage allocated to your Jira site. No external database, file store or cache.
External calls	None. The app declares no external permissions and loads nothing from outside Atlassian.
Data residency	Follows the data residency of your Jira site. Designed to meet Atlassian's Runs on Atlassian criteria.
Analytics and tracking	None.
Access control	Access follows Jira permissions and groups. Settings, data replacement and deletion require the Administer Jira permission, checked on the server for every request.
Integrity	The server decides every save and applies changes one at a time, so simultaneous edits never overwrite each other. Notices and degradation updates are append-only.
Personal data	Atlassian account IDs are stored to attribute changes and are reported to Atlassian weekly; closed accounts are erased. Names, emails and avatars from Atlassian profiles are not stored.
Data protection roles	Renevell processes customer data only to provide the app, with Atlassian as its sub-processor under the Forge Data Processing Addendum. Renevell's staff have no access to the records you keep.
Export and deletion	Administrators can export all data as JSON and delete all data, settings included, at any time.

The full security and data handling statement, privacy policy, terms of service and data processing addendum are published at **renevell.com/ea-sphere**.

DEPLOYMENT

From install to a working map

1. **Install from the Atlassian Marketplace.** A Jira administrator approves the app's permissions, each listed with its purpose in the security statement.
2. **Start with the sample company or an empty catalog.** The sample demonstrates every function with realistic data and can be replaced in one step.
3. **Complete the settings in order:** general, reference lists, recovery tiers, data quality, degradation (freeze windows, sender groups and audiences), continuity, and the Jira spaces for incident and mitigation work.
4. **Add records** one at a time, as a list of names, or by CSV import, with dependencies and hosts resolved by name.
5. **Reference systems from Jira work items** and let delivered and retired work keep the catalog current from then on.

Built for the people who run the systems. Forms are short, defaults are sensible, and the dashboard is a single page of drillable snapshots rather than a configuration project.

LICENSING AND SUPPORT

Licensing and support

EA Sphere for Jira is licensed per user through the Atlassian Marketplace and billed by Atlassian with your Jira Cloud subscription. The Marketplace free trial applies.

Support is provided by the people who built the product, through the Renevell Support portal or support@renevell.com, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Urgent issues receive a first response within four business hours. Every release is documented in the release notes.

Renevell LLC builds software for the teams that operate enterprise systems: the infrastructure, application, security and continuity functions that keep an organization running.
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