Is your product salvageable?

A 21-point evidence checklist for a better rescue decision.

Use this guide to identify what you know and what still needs investigation. Mark each item Confirmed, Unknown or Needs work, then record the evidence and responsible person.

Do not turn the total into a finish, rebuild or retire verdict. A serious access or data-integrity defect can matter more than several positive answers. Unknown information is an investigation task, not proof that the software is worthless.

Review the business need and engineering options separately. TDAT can investigate the current product and turn the findings into a scoped recommendation.

Discuss your product with TDAT

1 / EVIDENCE REVIEW

Product direction

1. The customer problem is still specific.

Identify the person, task and result the product is intended to support. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

2. Demand evidence is recorded.

Separate a paid purchase, a waitlist signup, an interview and a compliment. They provide different evidence. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

3. A route to customers is plausible.

Name a channel and the evidence you have tested, including what remains unknown. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

4. Alternatives are understood.

Compare existing products and manual work as well as competing custom applications. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

5. The commercial model is explicit.

Explain who pays, what they receive and the recurring costs to operate it. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

6. The important journey is named.

Write the customer and employee actions from arrival to a usable result. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

7. The next decision is clear.

Identify what the next release should help you learn or accomplish. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

2 / EVIDENCE REVIEW

Implementation and data

8. The current version can be inspected.

Record the deployed or staging URL, version and any access limitations. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

9. The agreed journey has been demonstrated.

Use realistic test data and inspect the record or result on the receiving side. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

10. Setup instructions have been tried.

Have an authorized engineer attempt setup without relying on the original laptop. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

11. Dependencies are maintainable.

Review support, compatibility, constraints and available expertise; popularity alone is not a verdict. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

12. Failure modes are recorded.

Distinguish visual defects from lost records, duplicate actions and inconsistent state. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

13. Data migration has a plan.

Identify which records must be retained, exported, reconciled or moved. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

14. Operations have an owner.

Name the person responsible for deployments, incidents, backups and recovery. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

3 / EVIDENCE REVIEW

Access and handover

15. Data locations are understood.

Identify providers, environments, access and the information stored in each. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

16. Permissions have been tested.

Use authorized test accounts to check forbidden reads and writes, not only hidden buttons. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

17. Secret handling has been reviewed.

Inspect source, deployment configuration and logs; address exposure through an authorized rotation plan. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

18. Security obligations are recorded.

Identify customer requirements and review evidence without treating a checklist as certification. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

19. The business controls its repository.

Confirm the organization, authorized collaborators and a practical handover route. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

20. Operating accounts are recoverable.

Check domain, hosting, database, app stores and provider-account control without sharing secret values. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

21. Completion and support are agreed.

Define acceptance evidence, known limits, recurring costs and post-release responsibilities. Status: Confirmed / Unknown / Needs work. Evidence or owner: _____

Decide from the evidence.

Repair, replace in stages, or pause the investment.

Repair can be appropriate when the useful product journey and foundation can be retained. A phased replacement may be justified when specific constraints prevent the required behavior. Pausing can make sense when the business question remains unresolved. None of those recommendations follows automatically from a checklist score.

Compare options

For each option, record what stays, what changes, access and data dependencies, the investigation required, acceptance evidence, likely disruption and the unresolved risks. Ask what evidence would change the recommendation.

Hire TDAT to investigate and carry out the right scope.

Bring the product, available access and the result you need. We will discuss the current state on a project call and define the investigation before recommending implementation.

Book your TDAT project call

Call (919) 289-1231

Explore Project Rescue

Revised November 9, 2026. This is a preparation guide, not a security certification or a substitute for examining the actual implementation.