

Red Hat Java 8 Full Support Ends This Year. Azul's Doesn't.

Keep your Java 8 applications secure & supported longer, for less.

Red Hat will end full support for Java 8 on November 30, 2026. On that date, the Java 8 Red Hat Build of OpenJDK stops receiving security patches, CVE fixes, and quarterly updates. Red Hat's guidance is to purchase their Extended Life-cycle Support (ELS-1) offering or else upgrade your Java version – a complex, months-long project. But there is a better solution.

Three Options, One Solution

Red Hat customers have three realistic options, but only one that solves their business problem.

Do Nothing	Pay Red Hat ELS-1	Migrate to Azul Core
Security and Compliance Risk	Increase Costs for Less Value	Secure and Stable, Lower Cost
- No security patches or CVE fixes – runtime frozen after Nov 30, 2026 - Increased risk: 90% of JDK updates feature critical or high vulnerabilities - Fails PCI, HIPAA, ISO audits; can increase cyber-insurance premiums	- No security patches or CVE fixes – runtime frozen after Nov 30, 2026 - Increased risk: 90% of JDK updates feature critical or high vulnerabilities - Fails PCI, HIPAA, ISO audits; can increase cyber-insurance premiums	- AI Era Patch Velocity: - Quarterly and targeted monthly security-only updates on a strict SLA, plus out-of-band fixes and updates - Regulatory compliance and audit readiness - TCK-certified OpenJDK, 1-to-1 drop-in replacement with no code changes - Full Java 8 supported through Dec 31, 2030

Red Hat charges for support on a per version and per OS basis, which means multiple recurring charges for any enterprise that has deployed Java 8 and Java 11 applications on Linux and Windows. In other words:

- Red Hat Java 8 ELS for Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL), plus
- Red Hat Java 11 ELS for RHEL, plus
- Red Hat Java 8 ELS for Windows, plus
- Red Hat Java 11 ELS for Windows [VR1] [DC2]

Azul Core covers Linux, Windows and macOS as well as Java 8, 11, 17, 21, 25+ under one subscription.

100% Success Migrating From Red Hat to Azul

Both the Red Hat Build of OpenJDK and Azul Core are TCK-certified OpenJDK and are therefore 100% binary-compatible, decreasing risk. Azul provides tools that dramatically decrease the cost of migration by minimizing the time and resources required, including:

- A proven methodology that reduces risk through best practices.
- Risk mitigation strategies based on a knowledge base of issue resolutions.
- Azul JVM Inventory, which speeds JVM discovery and classification, and identifies whenever a Red Hat JVM reinfects the enterprise post migration.

The result has been a 100% success rate migrating hundreds of enterprises to date.

Azul Core vs. Red Hat ELS-1 Support

Consideration	Azul Core	Red Hat ELS-1	Unsupported
Quarterly security-only Critical Patch Updates (CPUs)	●	○	○
Quarterly Patch Set Updates (PSUs)	●	○	○
Targeted Monthly Critical Security Patch Updates (CSPUs)	●	○	○
Out-of-cycle Critical Security Fixes*	●	●	○
Linux, Windows and Mac support included	●	◐	◑
IP indemnification	●	●	○
24x7x365 Support SLA	●	◐	○
Incident Response/Root Cause Analysis	●	○	○
Regulatory Compliance/Audit Readiness	●	◐	○
Java 8 support ends	Dec 31, 2030	Dec 31, 2030	Nov 30, 2026
Java 11 support ends	Jan 31, 2032	Oct 31, 2027	Oct 31, 2024

**Critical issues only*

Why Red Hat Users Choose Azul Core



Longest Support Lifecycles

Support for more Long Term Support (LTS) versions of Java for longer than any other vendor, including starting with Java 6 and 7.



Security-only, Stability-first™ Updates

Quarterly Critical Patch Updates (CPUs) and targeted monthly Critical Security Patch Updates (CSPUs) delivered under a strict SLA, along with out-of-cycle updates to address zero-day vulnerabilities – all of which allow you to accelerate patch velocity to combat today's AI-driven threat landscape.



Flexible Deployment

Support for both 32-bit and 64-bit Windows, macOS, Linux (including Alpine Linux), QNX and Solaris operating systems running on x86, SPARC, PPC, MIPS and Arm desktops, servers and cloud platforms – at no extra cost.



Expert Technical Support

Channels include phone, email and web, including an SLA-driven 24x7x365 option with a one-hour response window from the largest dedicated team of Java experts outside Oracle.



Migration Expertise

A proven migration methodology, like-for-like Azul Core builds, automated migration playbooks and open source solutions for legacy technologies like Java Applets and Java Web Start – all of which contribute to our 100% migration success rate.



Regulatory Compliance & Audit Readiness

Meet compliance mandates with Azul Core's SLA-backed patch cadence that supports industry and government regulations like EU Cyber Resilience Act (CRA), Australia's Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018 (SOCi), and US National Institute of Standards and Technologies (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) requirements.

Beat the November 30, 2026 deadline.

Get a free migration assessment for your Java estate: [Contact Azul.](#)

Azul is the trusted leader in enterprise Java for today's AI-first world. Its open source-based Java platform empowers organizations to optimize the entire Java lifecycle to accelerate performance, strengthen security, reduce licensing and cloud costs, and boost developer productivity. Azul powers mission-critical systems for 37% of the Fortune 100, 50% of the Forbes Top 10 World's Most Valuable Brands, and the world's top 10 financial trading companies. Learn more at azul.com and follow [@azulsystems](https://twitter.com/azulsystems).