Lifecycle Vector: Keep or Sunset

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What the Lifecycle Vector Is

The lifecycle vector is a label iDNA assigns to every focus application. It describes the trajectory the application is on: should you keep it, or can you retire it, and what has to happen first? It is the first step of the Application Lifecycle (see Application Lifecycle in iDNA Applications).

The label is built in two steps.

1. Direction, based on usage. An application goes to **Sunset** only if nobody used it in the last 90 days and its usage across all recorded history is very low at most. This is the same rule as iDNA's Consolidation Potential analysis. Every other application goes to **Keep**: any recent activity, or meaningful usage in the past, keeps an application.

2. Disposition, what to do with it. Within each direction, iDNA adds what the application needs:

Label	Meaning	What to do
Keep /Modernize	Kept, and in considerable use: at least medium usage in the last 90 days.	Make it ready for the target platform. These applications come first in modernization.
Keep /Qualify	Kept, but used little in the last 90 days.	Look at the application before investing in it: is it worth modernizing, or on its way to sunset?
Sunset /Archive	Ready to retire, but some replica still holds documents within your retention period.	Consider putting the application on a read-only archive server.
Sunset /Delete	Ready to retire, and no replica holds documents within your retention period.	Application can be deleted if reducing the number of databases is relevant.
Sunset /Qualify	Would be retired, but something prevents a safe decision, for example no retention configured, or replicas that disagree.	Resolve the named issue first. Until then, iDNA recommends neither archiving nor deleting.

Both **Keep** dispositions continue to modernization: every kept application gets a modernization vector (see Modernization Vector: The Route to Ready). **Sunset** applications get none, because an application you retire needs no modernization.

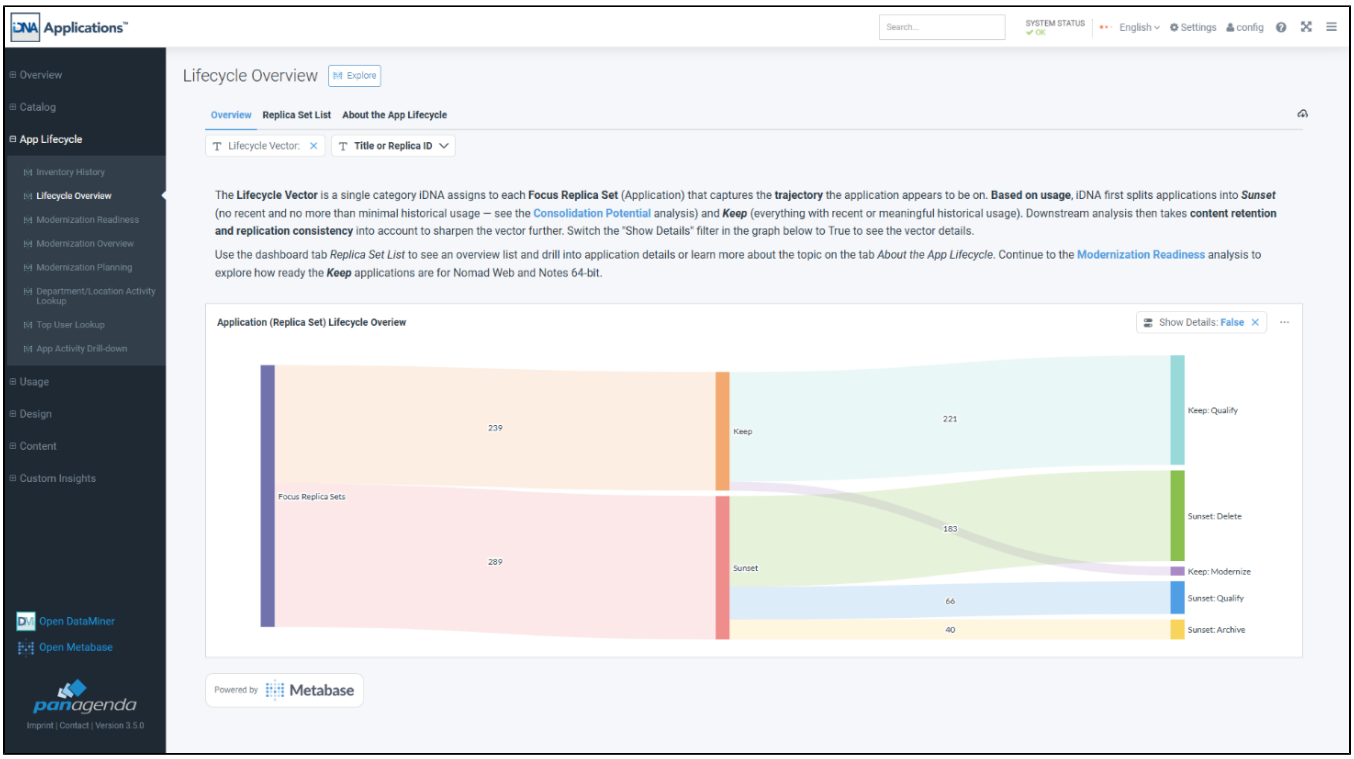
Conflicts and Warnings

Some labels carry a third part that names a reason, for example **Sunset/Qualify: Conflict - Replication Inconsistency** or **Keep/Qualify: Warning - Check Status**. The rule behind them is simple: **a conflict blocks the destructive path and only flags the safe one.** On the **Sunset** path, archiving or deleting cannot be undone, so any doubt about the content (a missing retention configuration, replicas with different retention settings or document counts, a failed content scan) moves the application to **Sunset/Qualify**. On the **Keep** path nothing is removed, so the same issue is simply a flag next to the disposition.

What each reason means and how it is detected is explained on the dashboard's [About the App Lifecycle] tab.

Where to Find It

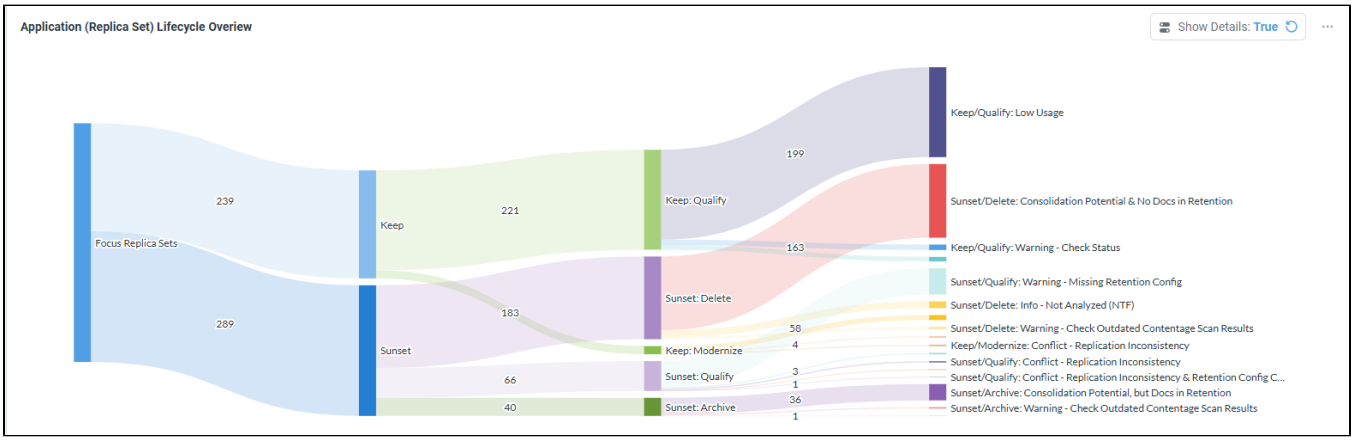
In the iDNA Portal: [App Lifecycle] [Lifecycle Overview].



How to Read It

Overview Tab

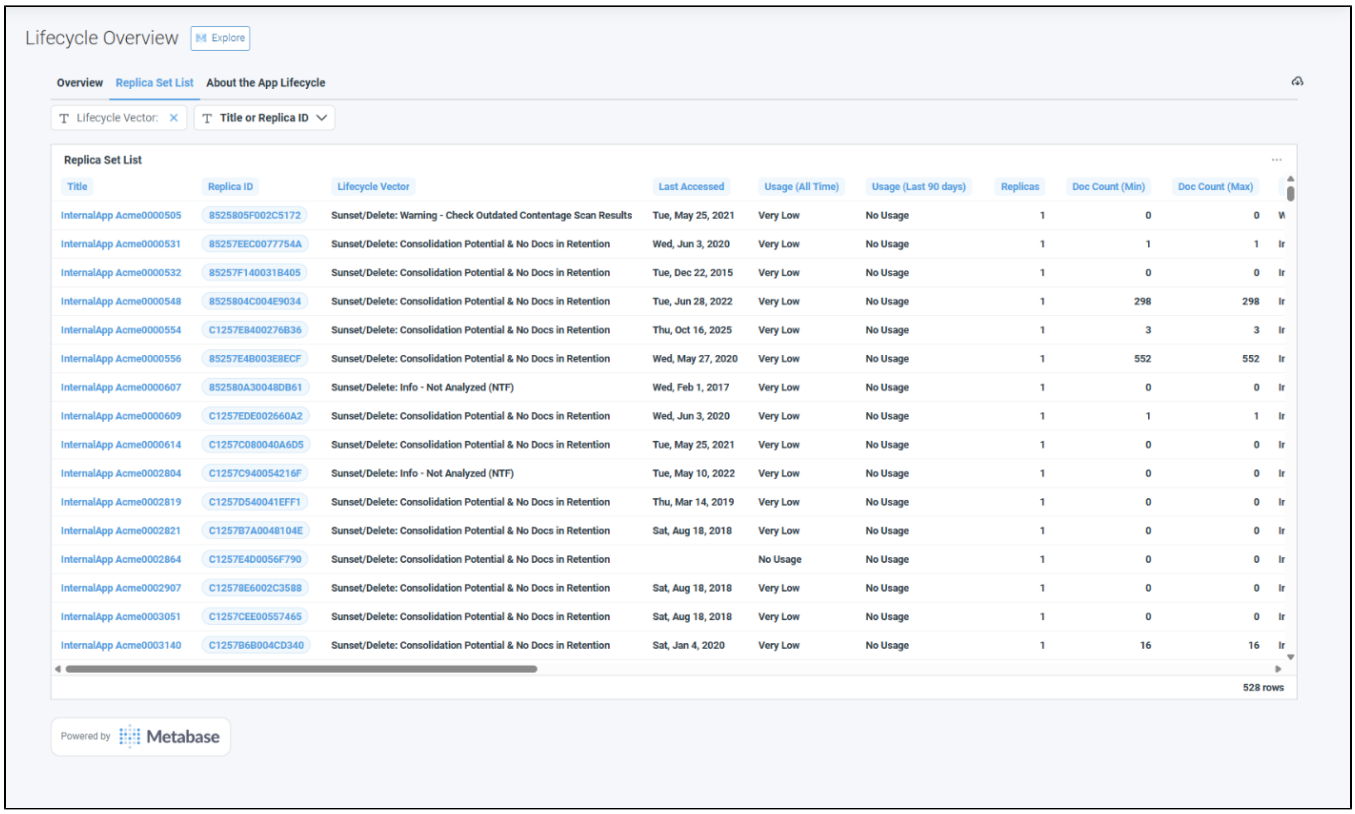
The Sankey chart reads from left to right: all focus applications (**Focus Replica Sets**), split into **Keep** and **Sunset**, then into the dispositions. The numbers are applications. Set the [Show Details] filter on the chart to True to add the reasons as a fourth column:



Hover over a band to see its count; click a node to narrow the dashboard to it.

Replica Set List Tab

One row per application with its lifecycle vector and the facts behind it: when it was last accessed, its usage across all recorded history and in the last 90 days, the number of replicas, the document counts across the replicas and the retention analysis results. Click a title or replica ID to open the application in Application Insights.



Filters

- [Lifecycle Vector]: matches the beginning of the vector, so **sunset** shows all sunset applications and **keep/modernize** only those.
- [Title or Replica ID]: narrows the dashboard to applications by title or replica ID.
- [Show Details]: adds the reasons to the Sankey chart.

About the App Lifecycle Tab

iDNA's built-in explanation: what the vector is, how it is calculated, what every label on the dashboard means and where the vector is used in iDNA.

Did you know?

You can copy a screenshot of this dashboard, paste it into your AI client and ask the iDNA Applications Companion what it means for your estate: *"Here is our Lifecycle Overview. What stands out, and where should we start?"* With the Companion connected to iDNA's MCP server, it can then go beyond the picture, for example list the **Sunset/Qualify** applications with the issue that blocks each of them. See Setting up iDNA Applications Companion.

What to Do Next

- **Sunset/Delete and Sunset/Archive:** before you retire an application, check who used it last, so nobody loses something they still need: [App Lifecycle] [Top User Lookup] and [Department/Location Activity Lookup]. For **Sunset/Archive**, move the application to a read-only archive server; for **Sunset/Delete**, delete it where reducing the number of databases matters. iDNA identifies the candidates; the action itself happens in your Domino environment.
- **Sunset/Qualify:** resolve the issue the label names, for example configure retention for the application or bring its replicas back in sync. The next nightly run re-evaluates it.
- **Keep/Qualify:** decide per application whether it is worth keeping. Low but steady use by a key department can justify it; a slow decline points towards sunset.
- **Keep/Modernize and Keep/Qualify:** continue with Modernization Vector: The Route to Ready to see how each kept application gets ready for the target platform.

Did you know?

The iDNA Applications Companion can prepare a retirement for you. Ask, for example, *"Which departments still work with this application?"* before you retire it, or, for a **Sunset/Archive** application with several replicas, *"Which replica should we archive?"* The Companion answers from iDNA's usage and content data and explains why it picks that replica.

Related Topics

- [Catalog] [Consolidation Potential]: the usage analysis behind the sunset direction.
- Content Age and Data Retention Analysis in iDNA Applications: how iDNA finds documents within the retention period, the difference between archive and delete.
- [App Lifecycle] [Top User Lookup], [Department/Location Activity Lookup] and [App Activity Drill-down]: who uses an application, and how much.
- Application Insights: everything about one application, including its lifecycle details.