Cloud Migration Services

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What is Cloud Migration

The Process of moving business operations to the cloud.

Generally, a cloud migration focusses on migrating on-premise "Legacy" workloads to the Cloud although it can also refer to a migration from one cloud to another.

Unlike a "lift and Shift" data centre move, a cloud migration involves the migration of data, applications, and IT processes from one on-site or cloud architecture to another cloud architecture. Migrating applications to new architectures often involves re-engineering of the applications themselves to ensure that they function efficiently in the new environment.

Whilst many workloads can be moved across architectures and will run adequately, real business gains and improvements are seen when the applications are tuned to take advantage of the specific architecture on which they run.

Key Benefits of migrating to the cloud

- Scalability – Easily scale capacity up and down with demand.
- Cost – Reduce IT Operations costs
- Performance – Improved speed, accuracy, and user experience
- Flexibility – Access Securely from anywhere on any device

Key Challenges of migrating to the cloud

- Re-Platforming – Moving large databases to the cloud is hard.
- Data Integrity – Moving interconnected data requires considerable skill and repeated testing.
- Operations – Maintaining systems operation during the migration can require overlap of live systems.

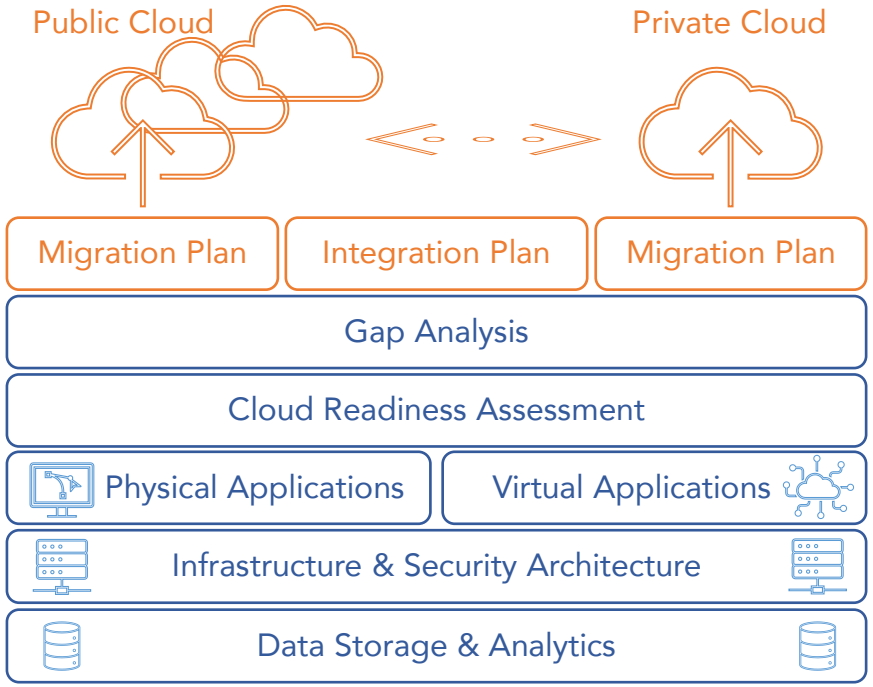
The importance of Cloud Migration expertise

Cloud Migration is far more than just a "Lift and Shift" Operation

- It requires an understanding of business goals and objectives.
- It requires "buy-in" on the part of the entire organization as well as re-training and education of staff.
- It requires a substantial workload for an already busy IT department (if the transition is to be accomplished internally).
- It requires a deep understanding of Cloud services. Security, and infrastructure.
- It requires testing and re-testing of applications as they are migrated.
- It requires the secure transfer of large volumes of data without loss of access.

Keeping all of this in mind, it is common for businesses to contract out Cloud migration. Or at least involve external expertise to help guide the migration. Outsourcing ensures:

- That a Cloud Readiness Assessment and associated GAP analysis can be objectively conducted.
- That specific recommendations and suggestions for moving forward come from those who are able to extend the time and energy required to do it right.
- That Migrations are carried out by experts who understand the risks and pitfalls to avoid.
- That external analysis informs business decision making helping to obtain business buy-in.



Cloud Migration – Key steps

1. Understand the current situation (CMO)

A good Cloud Readiness Assessment should be undertaken in order to establish the goals, objectives and current architecture of the baseline environment.

2. Determine the Migration Strategy

- It is likely that multiple strategies will be used within the migration plan in order to handle different application categories.
- Rehost – simple migration to cloud servers
- Refactor – adjust code to run on new platform.
- Revise – partial adaptation of code base.
- Rebuild – rewriting code for the new platform.
- Replace – switch to new cloud ready applications

3. Determine the deployment style.

What is the Cloud deployment and architecture style best suited to the business objectives.

- Single Cloud – utilising a single cloud vendor for all applications and workloads.
- Multi-cloud – implementing workloads across two or more cloud providers.
- Hybrid cloud – mixing two or more environment types: Public cloud, Private cloud, On-Premise.

4. Create a migration plan

The Migration plan should identify the different workloads and all stakeholders as well as set out the individual migration steps taking into account the categorization of workloads, Risks, Constraints, and timelines for each workload.

5. Obtain agreement and sign off for the plan.

It is important that the plan has buy in from all stake holders prior to the migration beginning.

- Migration Sponsors.
- Executive Sponsors.
- Business owners.
- Employee representatives

Due to the potential business risks in such transformations, it is common for the executive board to also sign off on the plan.

6. Implement a project management framework

The Project management framework will address the governance of the project including:

- Identifying Sponsors and responsible parties
- Agreeing terms of reference and scope.
- Setting and tracking the budget for the project
- Implementing a change control process for the Migration plan
- Setting out the milestones and decision points for the migration plan
- Managing a register of risks
- Reporting and update schedule.
- SPOC for customer

7. Review of Risks, mitigations, & communications

Before the migration plan is implemented a review of all identified risks and their mitigations should be undertaken. A full communications plan which includes timelines, mitigation processes, and reporting schedule should be in place and approved.

8. Implement the migration plan.

Implementation of the migration plan takes place in phases with checks and testing at each phase. Often the new environment is built in parallel to the existing environment with either a single switch over or multiple switches as each phase of the migration is completed.
Enhanced support should be deployed during and in the days following each switch over to ensure business processes are not interrupted other than as planned for in the migration plan.

9. Training and education process.

The training of end users and other stake holders regarding the new cloud-based environment will often be carried out by specialist training resources. Depending on the level of change and complexity of the end user systems, specific training courses may be adopted. For simpler migrations with less impact on business processes, online or written training may be provided.
In complex environments training may start before the migration itself and continue after its completion.

10. Finalise architecture Documents.

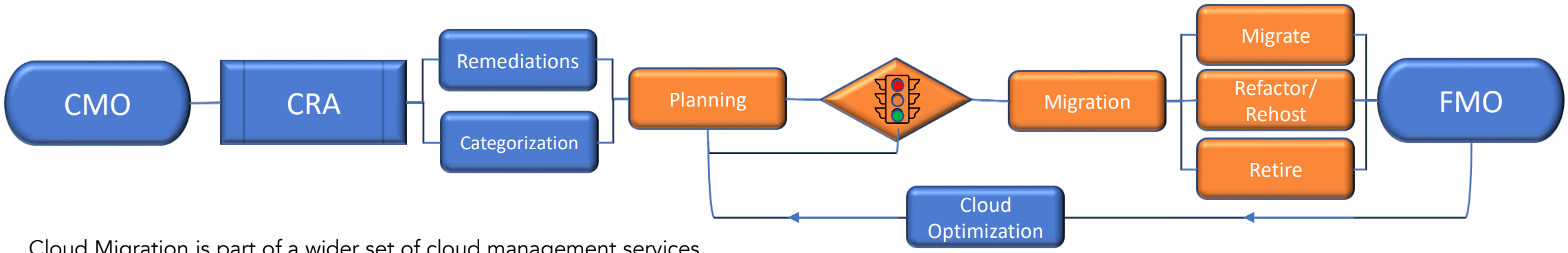
Finalise the documentation of the new environment:

It is at this point that Migration needs to hand over IT management of the environment to the ongoing support services

How we can help

Services And Resources

- Formal Cloud Readiness Assessments using skilled cloud experts and specialized tooling.
- Certified Cloud architecture specialists and cloud migration project teams.
- Experienced data management and analysis experts.
- Application development teams that understand the Cloud platform requirements.
- A history of Data centre operations management and Hybrid architecture operation.



Cloud Migration is part of a wider set of cloud management services

Our Company

History

2020	IOC created by merging SOC NOC and ITOC capabilities
2019	Multi –cloud assessments & deployments
2018	Cloud Managed Services Provider on Azure & Office 365
2012	Opening of Remote Services Centre in Suceava, Romania
2011	Support Services based on Microsoft Technologies
2010	Start of Cloud Implementation Services Technology reach extended VDI, BYOD, CYOD
2006	Company formed by the current Directors Initial focus on Datacenters and IT Strategy

Competences

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Technology Transformation	• Data Centre Infrastructure Design, Build & Migrations	• Desktop VDI & Unified Communications	• Enterprise High Availability Design & Build	• Application migrations & upgrades
Support Services	• Remote Monitoring & Alerts	• On Site & Remote Support (OS/DB/Apps)	• Server & Desktop Imaging	• BYOD/CYOD Workspace Management
Cloud	• Microsoft Cloud Solution Provider (CSP)	• Azure Provisioning & Migration (including O365)	• Multi-Cloud integrations & Data Management	• Network Connectivity & Design for Cloud and Hybrid Cloud
Security	• Vulnerability & Threat Management	• Monitoring & Alert Handling	• Patch Management & Reporting	• Network Access Control
Business Intelligence	• SAP BW/BO, MS BI Suite	• Batch Job monitoring and support	• Database/Cube Modelling	• Report Development
Custom Web Development	• Contract Authoring Scan +OCR to ERP workflow	• Printer Inventory & Toner Management	• Self Service Identity & Access Management	• Invoicing Library and account reporting to O365

Service Model

- 12/24h support with granular service levels
- Combination of on-site and near-shore, multilingual resources
- Alignment with customer service catalogues & processes
- Complimentary skills, covering build and run activities
- Self-service insights and provisioning through Expertware toolset
- Service management & reporting through dedicated SPOC

Education & Certifications

- Framework agreement with the University of Suceava for:
  - Joint research & development programs (NAC, SIEM, Cyberdefense AI/ML)
  - Opportunity to hire graduates from the IT faculty
  - 95% of employees graduated with IT or scientific degree

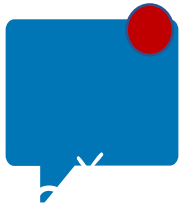
- 4 Microsoft partner accreditations including Data Centre, Development, and Cloud Productivity
- 28 Microsoft MCP certifications held or undertaken within the company covering; Data, Cloud, and Development competences.
- Certifications held across Cisco. Linux, Checkpoint, SAP, Palo Alto, f5, and other solutions.
- Partnerships with SIEMonster, F-Secure, Crowdstrike, Packet Fence, VMware, Elastic, and others
- Member of the Belgium Cybersecurity Coalition
- Internal training program requires each technical resource to keep their certifications up to date and develop these along certification roadmaps.

Interested?

Visit our web site for more information

Contact us to discuss your specific requirements

Or follow us online



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