

WELL ARCHITECTED REVIEW

REVIEW OF CURRENT WAYS OF WORKING

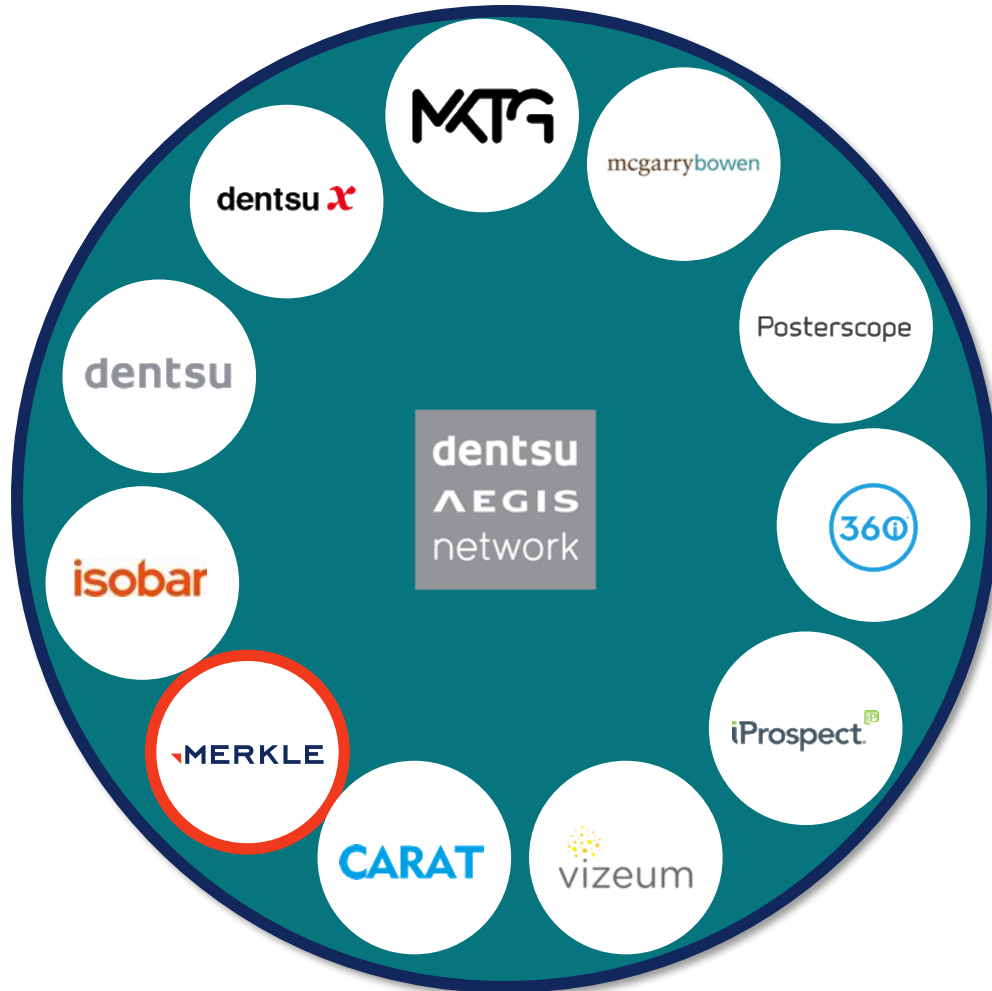
Part of the Dentsu Aegis Network



In 2020, Merkle became the largest agency in the **Dentsu Aegis Network**, a worldwide leading network of powerful marketing specialists, with 45,000 resources at our disposal across the globe.

We are a data-driven, tech-enabled, performance marketing agency.

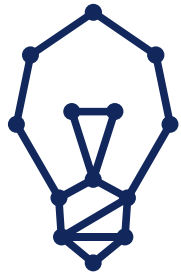
We help the best brands in the world create competitive advantage through **people-based marketing**.



WELL ARCHITECTED REVIEW

Reviews client cloud infrastructure against a set of guiding principles to identify opportunities for improvement or validation of current state

- Based on the Microsoft Azure Well-Architected Framework
 - Specific focus on Data & AI
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THE OUTPUT

- Rank of organization's cloud maturity
- Recommendations for improvements
- Roadmap to help you meet your goal

WELL ARCHITECTED FRAMEWORK

PILLARS TO BE MEASURED

Architecture guidance and best practices to optimise workloads for success based on 5 aligned and connected pillars:

Sub items may vary per implementation



01 Cost Optimisation

- Production alerting and monitoring

02 Operational Excellence

- Architecture + Development Review
- Machine Learning + Documentation

03 Performance Efficiency

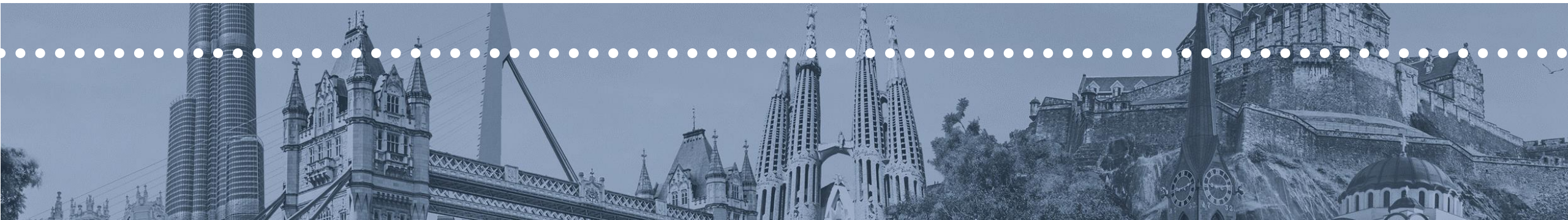
- DevOps

04 Reliability

- Data Governance, QA and Testing

05 Security

- Information Security



PROCESS



- Full review of the initial questionnaire responses and any provided documentation

- Followed by clarification discussions with stakeholders across the business including IT, InfoSec and Data AI

- Documentation write up and playback sessions with next steps

SCOPE OF SERVICES TO REVIEW

Technical dependencies overview

Architecture

Development Review

DevOps management of pipeline

Machine Learning

Information Security

Production alternating and monitoring

Documentation

Data Governance, QA & testing

- Architecture overview
- Data storage technologies
- De-coupled architecture

- Software development standards review
- Existing standards and guardrails
- Management of secrets

- Data Ops
- ML Ops

- Standards used
- ML Ops
- Production quality
- Testing approach

- Alignment on security
- Compliance score vs Azure

- Guard rails
- Operationalization
- Azure monitoring

- Location
- Standards
- Enforcement

- Data QA
- Test plans
- Automation
- Control



EXAMPLE OUTPUT

SUMMARY

High level impressions



Highly Organised team



Limited feedback from
Data & AI Team



Objectives sometimes
unclear



Architectural decisions
signed off but require
documentation updates



Clearly defined use cases
with requirements and
dependencies



Exceptionally well
documented



Identifying and
addressing gaps
requires documentation



Strong DevOps practices



Clearly defined sprint
approach



Very good development
practices using Agile
methodology



Test cases fully
documented



IAC used in infancy

01 Cost Optimisation

Production alerting and monitoring



Iterative development of the architecture to minimise costs.



Design decisions do not appear to have a cost element clearly defined.



Make use of Azure cost management alerts. This can help prevent spiralling costs especially in areas such as Databricks where scaling can be automatic.



Regularly review the resources deployed to ensure they are optimally used.

INTO THE FUTURE



Now you have an experienced team that are going to deliver value to the business, what next?



Identify the next use cases



Manage demand and requirements

- Review code and processes and try to identify technical debt that has built up over the delivery process.
- Cost management is a concern and must be addressed and Azure has multiple built in features for this including tagging strategies.

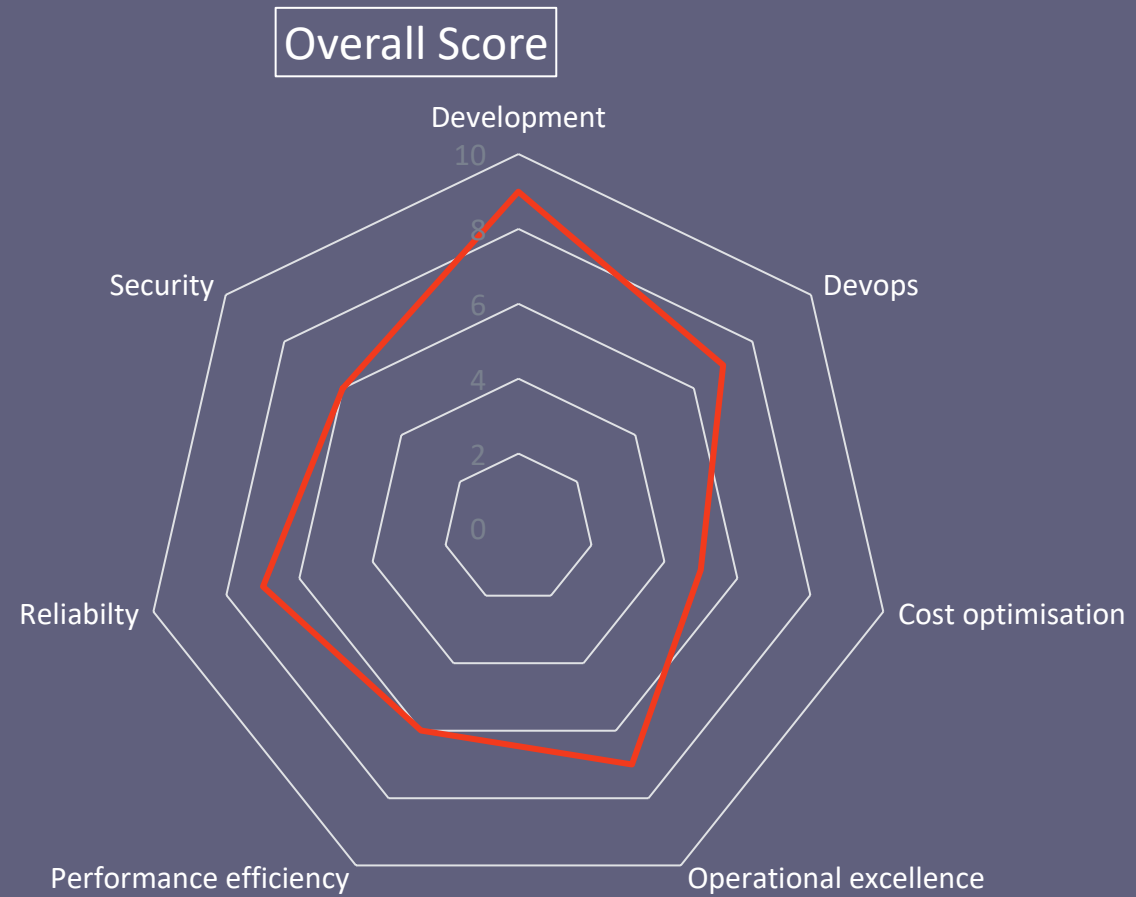
- Engage with areas of the business to identify the new next uses cases. An area might be going after business process automation using MS Power Platform. Identifying manual processes in the business and offer to automate them within Azure.
- Consider the implementation of Data Fabric organisation design.

- Effective management of demand through prioritization process.
- Ensure DevOps boards are updated and that Agile sprints are used to ensure an updated platform.

OVERVIEW

OVERALL SCORE

Development	9
Operational Excellence	7
Security	6
DevOps	7
Reliability	7
Performance Efficiency	6
Cost Optimisation	5



QUESTIONS ?

