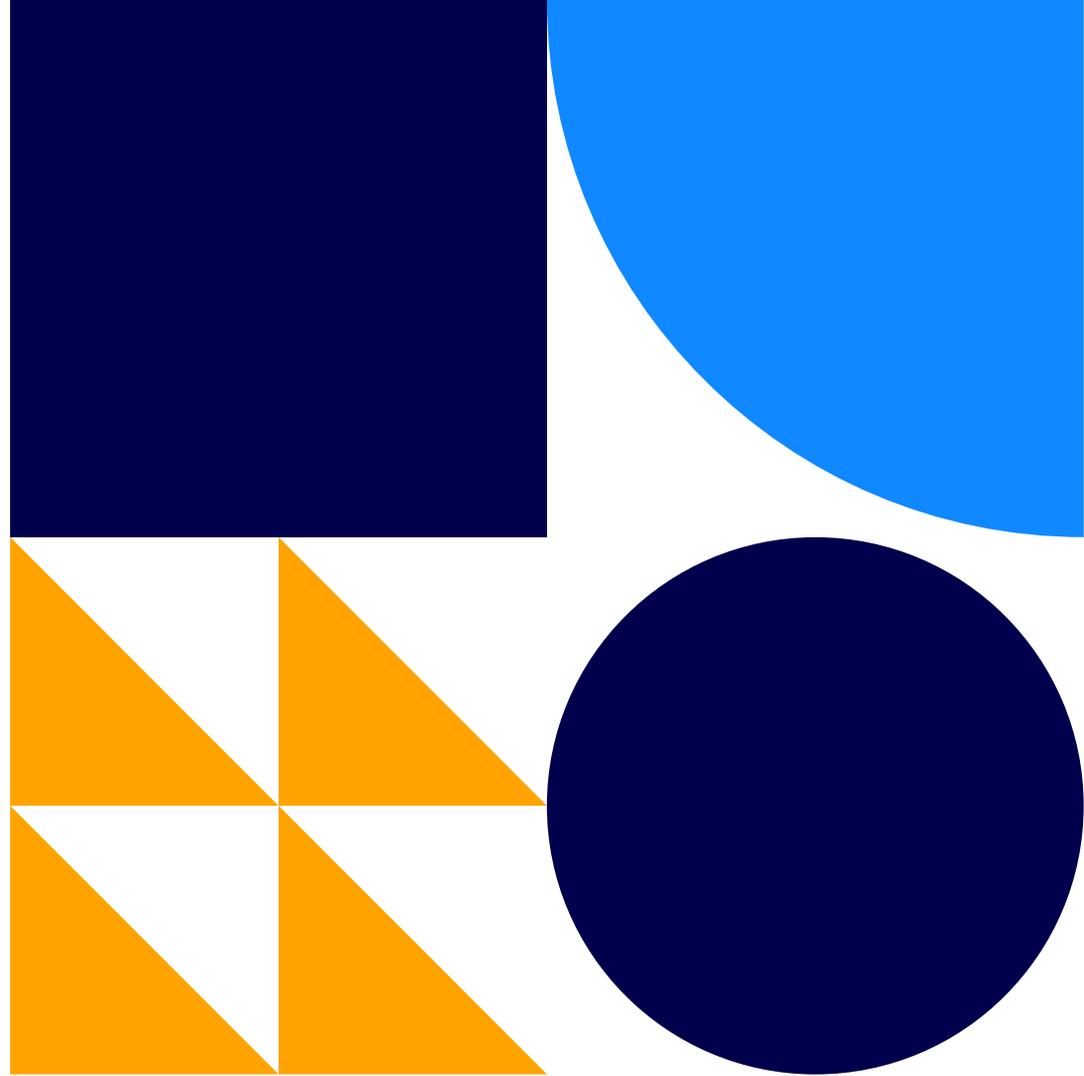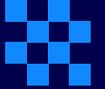# Assessing Your Infrastructure and Building an IT Modernization Roadmap

eBOOK

Mature organizations need access to data from anywhere at any time. Success in today's business landscape hinges on real-time, distributed data and workload access to accommodate the increasing reliance on hybrid infrastructure. But too often, legacy data management and automation systems prove insufficient.

Maybe you're a multinational firm with offices around the world. You need to sync file servers between different locations to ensure your distributed teams have access to the same, up-to-date information. Or maybe you're a creative and design studio facing delays on a high-priority project due to inefficient data synchronization between your on-premises data center and cloud environment.

Does any of this sound familiar? If so, then you know that legacy centralized storage solutions result in data sprawl, cost overruns, and other scalability issues.

While workflows and IT needs vary across industries, the challenges posed by traditional infrastructure look similar across the board. Ask yourself these five questions to determine whether your current infrastructure makes the grade — and determine what steps you need to take to modernize it.

Trends driving the need to access data everywhere

Hybrid work and geographically dispersed teams

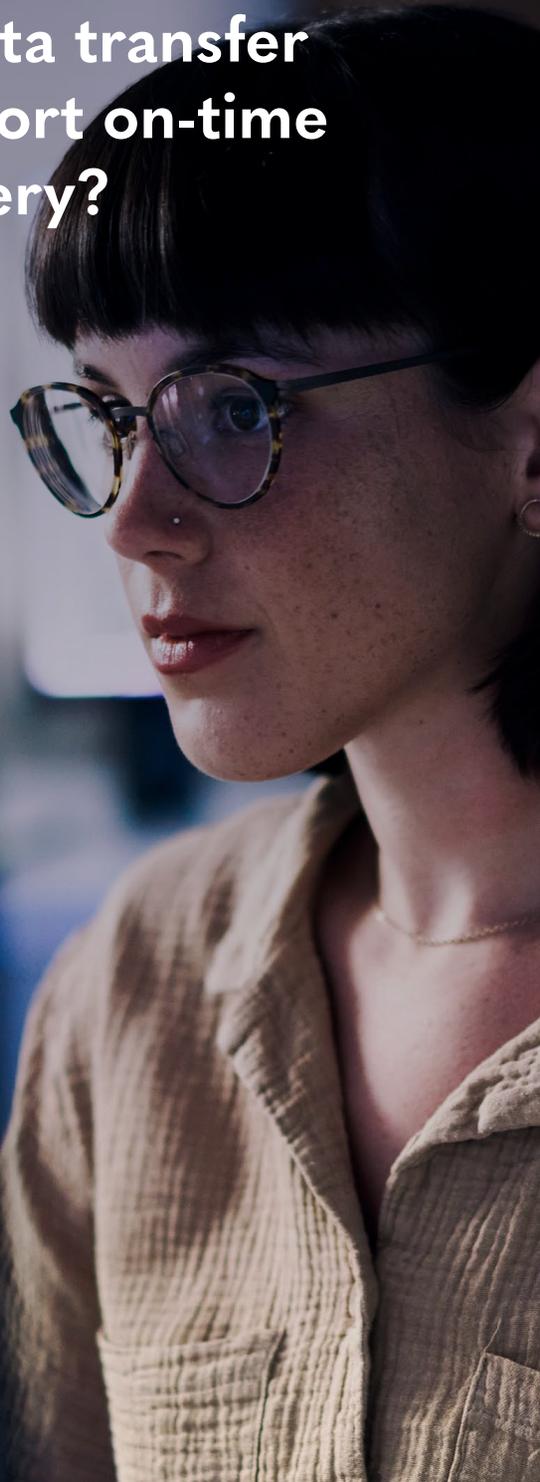Globalization and international operations

The increasing complexity of technical environments

Rising cost pressures and urgency to bring products to market

Does your data transfer process support on-time project delivery?

Problem: With critical deadlines and client trust on the line, falling behind schedule isn't an option. But if you can't efficiently share files across multiple storage environments and devices, cost overruns and delays are practically inevitable.

How it unfolds in the real world: Editors at your video production studio need to share a large video file with the visual effects team, but your legacy data transfer system encounters network congestion and delays the project's timeline.

Solution: Accelerate data transfer by shifting to a distributed architecture model such as peer-to-peer (P2P) architecture. P2P facilitates simultaneous data sharing across multiple nodes, letting you transfer large video, audio, and design files faster than with a traditional, client-server model. P2P networks are also more scalable. Since every user can both send and receive data, data "supply" automatically scales with data "demand" without the need to spin up new servers.

Result: Fast, reliable file-sharing that won't hold up important deadlines, even as your network scales.

Can your local storage provider communicate with the cloud — and vice versa?

Problem: Hybrid infrastructure should offer the best of both worlds, combining cloud flexibility with on-premises speed, security, and control. However, without unified data access and real-time syncing, your teams can encounter a host of challenges, from data lags to redundancies in data management.

How it unfolds in the real world: There's a lag in syncing a large CAD file between your architecture office's data center and your remote team's cloud storage environment. As a result, a member of your team uses outdated information to make critical design decisions — a mess that takes significant time and resources to fix down the road.

Solution: Bridge the gap between local and cloud storage solutions by managing all file-based data through a single platform, regardless of location. Your platform should be flexible and integrate with both your on-premises infrastructure and cloud for seamless data access.

Result: Streamlined data synchronization eliminates workflow bottlenecks and enhances collaboration by providing your teams with accurate and up-to-date information.

36%

of organizations struggle to sync data between local and cloud environments.

Is data readily accessible to your workforce?

Problem: Employees and vendors need real-time access to data and workloads regardless of where they live — whether it's in your data center, cloud, or edge networks. However, data silos and other challenges make it difficult to ensure that access without running into scalability challenges and cost overruns.

How it unfolds in the real world: Your macOS-based artists work in one studio, while your Windows-based production team operates in another state. For your latest project, you also need to onboard several third-party vendors in yet another location. You explore extending secure access to them via your existing infrastructure, but the cost is so high it would make the project barely profitable.

Solution: Break down data silos and unite data across disparate devices and operating systems by building a unified view of all your files. If your current infrastructure can't handle this without experiencing delays or incurring excessive costs, it's time to revisit your data access capabilities.

Result: Consistent, real-time access to data stored on premises or in the cloud, no matter where a user is located — without prohibitive expense.

Does your file management platform allow for automation and integration with your data processing systems?

Problem: Effective data management hinges on automation and synergy between your file management platform and data processing systems. Incompatibility creates bottlenecks and impedes accurate data flow, while a lack of automation increases manual work and error rates.

How it unfolds in the real world: Your sound engineer ships off 10 terabytes of data for project revisions using a legacy file transfer protocol. For the same project, your design engineer sends a batch of files from a separate platform. Siloed systems obstruct visibility to your data, and you later discover the final audio mix needed for a client presentation is missing or stuck in transit, resulting in costly troubleshooting efforts and project delays.

Solution: Lean on platforms that integrate with your data systems and support automation to streamline data management and enable timely error resolution. By automating and configuring logic for data synchronization, you can save time by eliminating the need for team member intervention.

Result: Seamless, automated data movement and processing that initiates as soon as new files are transferred, ensuring workflow continuity without the need for manual intervention — and significantly reducing human error.

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Is your file storage optimized to avoid high storage costs at branch locations?

Enhancing data transfer processes can help organizations reduce operational costs by up to

25%

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Problem: Your teams need secure access to important data, but storing more files than necessary in on-premises solutions is costly. Redundant and outdated files take up valuable storage space, leading to increased costs and reduced efficiency.

How it unfolds in the real world: Your engineering firm spans several locations, each branch storing thousands of terabytes of data in its own local storage solution. While some documents contain important information for an active project, a large percentage of the local files are non-critical, such as old project drafts. Your file storage costs skyrocket as a result, making it difficult to allocate budget to more strategic initiatives and level up your offerings.

Solution: Implement a file gateway to object storage, which houses data as individual objects for greater scalability and cost-effectiveness. This approach allows you to consolidate files and keep infrequently accessed data in long-term, low-cost object storage.

Result: Lower storage costs and more free space to keep only the files you need in your on-premises storage solution — without compromising performance or productivity.

Unify your data and teams with modern solutions

If you answered "no" to any of the above questions, it may be time to rethink your IT infrastructure. Whether you're a global media and entertainment company syncing millions of files across studios or a national engineering firm ensuring real-time collaboration among dispersed teams, you need IT infrastructure that empowers every member of your organization with data — no matter where they are or what devices and systems they use.

The distributed, hybrid architecture of the Resilio platform helps you navigate modern data demands so you can mitigate data sprawl, maintain control over your data, and access it across all your environments. As a result, you can leverage your data sooner, ensuring faster speed-to-market, increased productivity, and greater cost efficiency.

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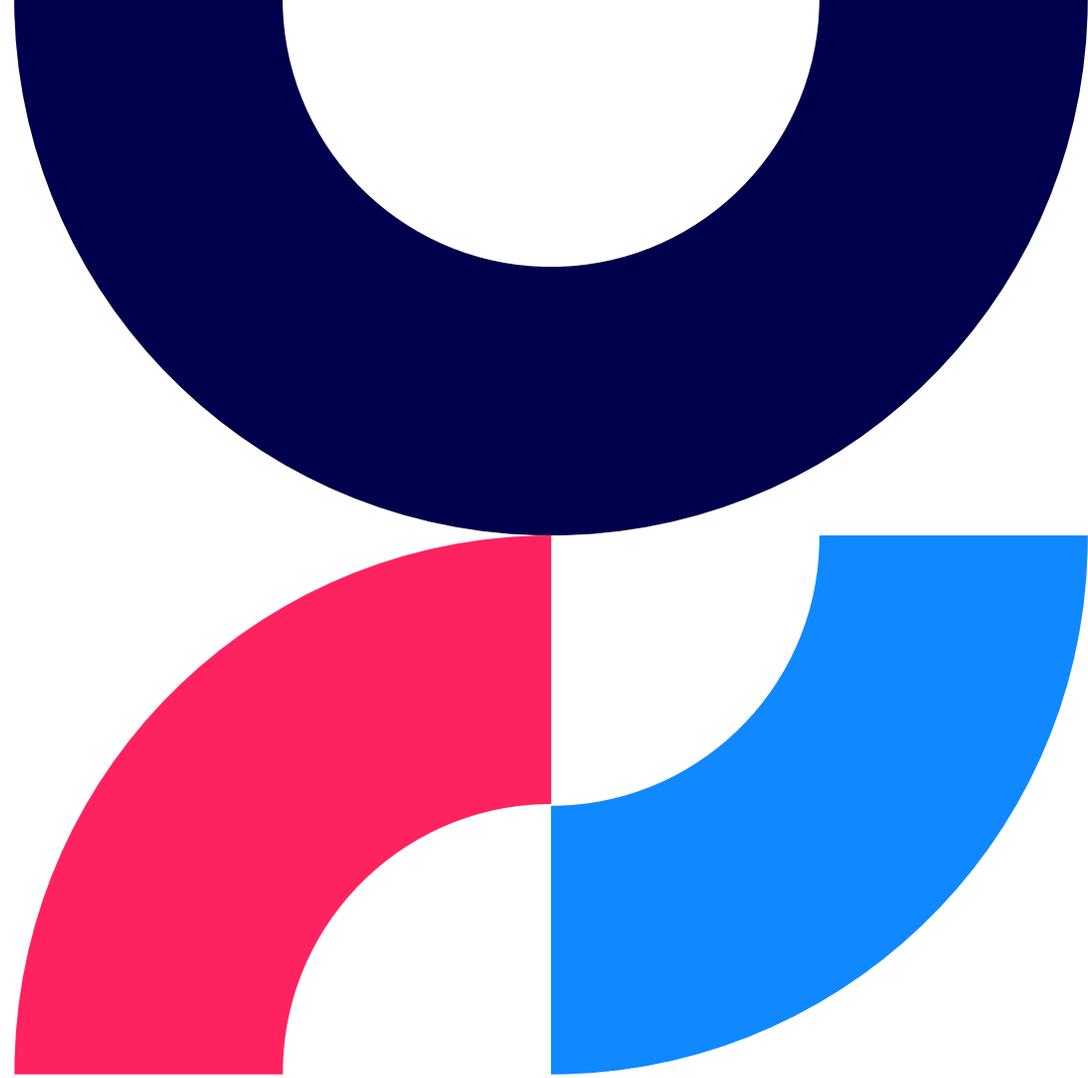
Get active everywhere— see how with a personalized demo.

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