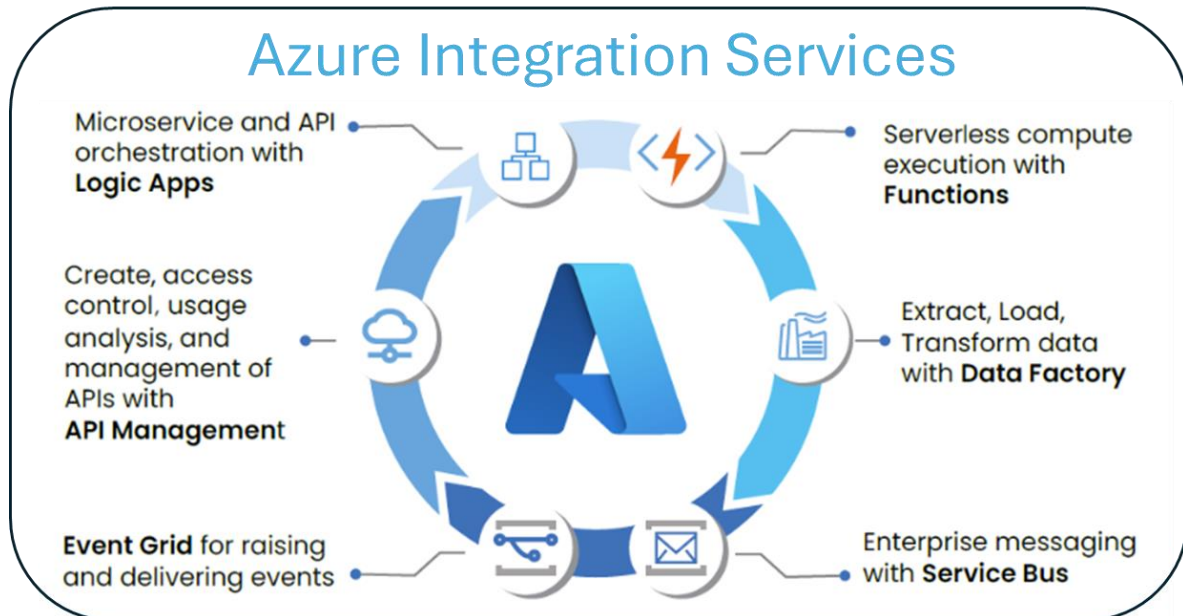


Migration approaches for BizTalk Server to Azure Integration Services



Migration Method Being Realistic About Expectations

The move to Azure is a continuous process, not a one-time action. It's more than just transferring your BizTalk solution; it's a chance to improve and transform your solutions. Remember that Azure's rapid pace and changing services may demand tweaking, code changes and even migrations within Azure itself. Having the right expectations will help you navigate your migration path more easily.

Seizing the Chance to Innovate

Migrating to Azure should not be viewed as a simple transfer of existing solutions. Rather, it offers a chance to innovate and rethink integration methods. By working with the business, trying out different formats, and using new technologies like service queues or topics, organizations can inject innovation into their integration solutions. Redesigning solutions with innovation as a goal can result in more productive and successful processes.

Preparing the Groundwork

Before you start the migration, set up your Azure environment. You will need different environments in Azure for development, testing and production, just like you have in BizTalk. You can opt for either a single subscription with various resource groups or

multiple subscriptions that offer a distinct separation between production and non-production environments, based on your organization's requirements and budget. It is essential to have a consistent technology stack to prevent disorder and your technology choices should be explained and recorded. Security policies, resource group administration and scripted deployments are key factors in keeping your Azure environments manageable.

Continuous Migration

Follow a Progressive Migration Method Rather than trying to migrate all at once, adopt a progressive method to migration. Divide the migration into smaller steps, make gradual changes, roll them out incrementally and retire the old solutions. This method guarantees a seamless transition, enables quick feedback and reduces complexity.

Migration Strategies

There are several options for migrating from BizTalk to Azure Integration Services.

The best approach will, of course, depend upon factors such as the complexity of your existing BizTalk integrations, the size of your organization, and your budget.

Here are some of the most common migration strategy options:

Lift and shift: Deploy your existing BizTalk servers as virtual machines in Azure and configure them to work with Azure Integration Services. This approach can be relatively quick and easy, but it may not take full advantage of cloud capabilities.

Re-Platforming: Migrate your existing BizTalk artifacts—schemas, maps, and orchestrations—to Azure Integration Services. This will require some changes to your existing integrations to ensure compatibility and can be more time-consuming than lift and shift but offers more flexibility and scalability.

Refactoring: Change the architecture of your existing integrations to take full advantage of cloud capabilities—including serverless computing and microservices architecture. Yes, this will involve significant changes to your existing integrations and may even require rebuilding them from scratch. Despite the time and cost, however, the reward is the highest degree of flexibility and scalability.

This can be more complex and require more planning, but it offers greater flexibility and control over the migration process.

Step 1 Discover/Analys

Analysis of the current BizTalk Server solutions, recognizing the elements, relationships and business operations that require migration. Documentation tools such as BizTalk Documenter and graphical diagrams will assist in comprehending connectivity and workflows among systems. This involves recognizing existing resources, applications and data models as well as assessing the suitability of Azure services with the present environment. The process also investigates possible hazards and difficulties related to migration and applies suitable countermeasures.

Step 2 Refactoring

Refactoring the current BizTalk Server solutions to match the patterns and capabilities of Azure Integration Services. Use Azure tools and services to reconstruct the integration solutions using connectors and APIs to connect with different systems and applications.

Design the target architecture for the migrated solutions in Azure considering scalability, modularity and performance requirements.

Develop a comprehensive migration plan with timelines, resource allocation and communication strategies.

Make sure the restructured solutions adhere to best practices, such as separation of concerns, error handling and monitoring, to improve maintainability and operational efficiency.

Step 3 Verify

Perform rigorous testing of the modified solutions including unit testing, integration and UAT testing to verify they work according to business requirements in the Azure environment. Establish appropriate monitoring and error-handling mechanisms to actively detect and fix issues during the testing phase.

Step 4 Deployment

Carry out thorough testing of the altered solutions including unit testing, integration and UAT testing to ensure they operate as per business specifications in the Azure environment. Set up suitable monitoring and error-handling mechanisms to promptly identify and resolve issues during the testing phase.

This migration is a strategic undertaking that demands meticulous planning, a thorough grasp of architectural variations and a committed endeavour to revitalize integration solutions for positive results.

Table that compares some of the Azure technologies or services that are comparable to the individual tools or features found in BizTalk:

BizTalk Server feature	Azure Intengration Service	Description
BizTalk Server Runtime	Logic Apps	A cloud service that enables you to create workflows and orchestrate business processes using a graphical designer.
BizTalk Server Adapter Pack	API Management	A cloud service that allows you to publish, manage, secure, and analyze APIs in a scalable and reliable way.
BizTalk Server Mapper	Integration Account	A cloud service that provides a central place to store and manage schemas, maps, certificates, and partners for Logic Apps.
BizTalk Server Business Rules Engine	Azure Functions	A cloud service that lets you run code without provisioning or managing servers. You can use Azure Functions to implement business rules and logic.
BizTalk Server EDI and AS2	Logic Apps EDI connector	A connector that enables you to exchange EDI messages with your trading partners using Logic Apps.
BizTalk Server BAM	Application Insights	A cloud service that helps you monitor the performance and usage of your applications.
BizTalk Server ESB Toolkit	Azure Service Bus	A cloud service that provides reliable and secure messaging and communication between applications and services.