BizTalk Cloud Migration

Solita

SOLITA

Migrating BizTalk Server into cloud?

Integrations are key enabler for all digital service development. Expectation for agility and speed to deliver integrations has increased. At the same time on-going cloud adoption has made integration needs more versatile than ever.

BizTalk server has been designed against very different integration requirements than the ones faced today. BizTalk product road map is long and keeping the version up to date requires plenty of resources.

Migrating BizTalk server into a cloud native platform solves many problems faced today with BizTalk.

1. Increased ability to meet modern integration needs
2. Maintenance and operations costs savings
3. Future proof solution

BizTalk Server Support End of Life approaching


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BizTalk Server 2013 End of Life
Mainstream Support:      7.10.2018
Extended Support:       11.7.2023


BizTalk Server 2016 End of Life
Mainstream Support:      1.11.2022
Extended Support:       11.1.2027
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Microsoft offers long term support for each BizTalk version. Mainstream support includes full support without additional costs. Extended support is focused on security updates. After the extended support end of life BizTalk version upgrade is required to receive security updates.

Azure as an integration platform

Microsoft Azure cloud offers full capabilities for implementing modern integration platform. Microsoft has built integration capabilities into Azure as cloud native solutions.

Integration technologies follow general Azure design pattern: There isn't single product to tackle all integration needs but collection of components designed for specific integration need. This collection is called as *Azure Integration Services*. On-premises Data Gateway or VNET setup provides connectivity for on-premises resources. For demanding requirements, it is option to run parts of Azure integration services also in own data center.
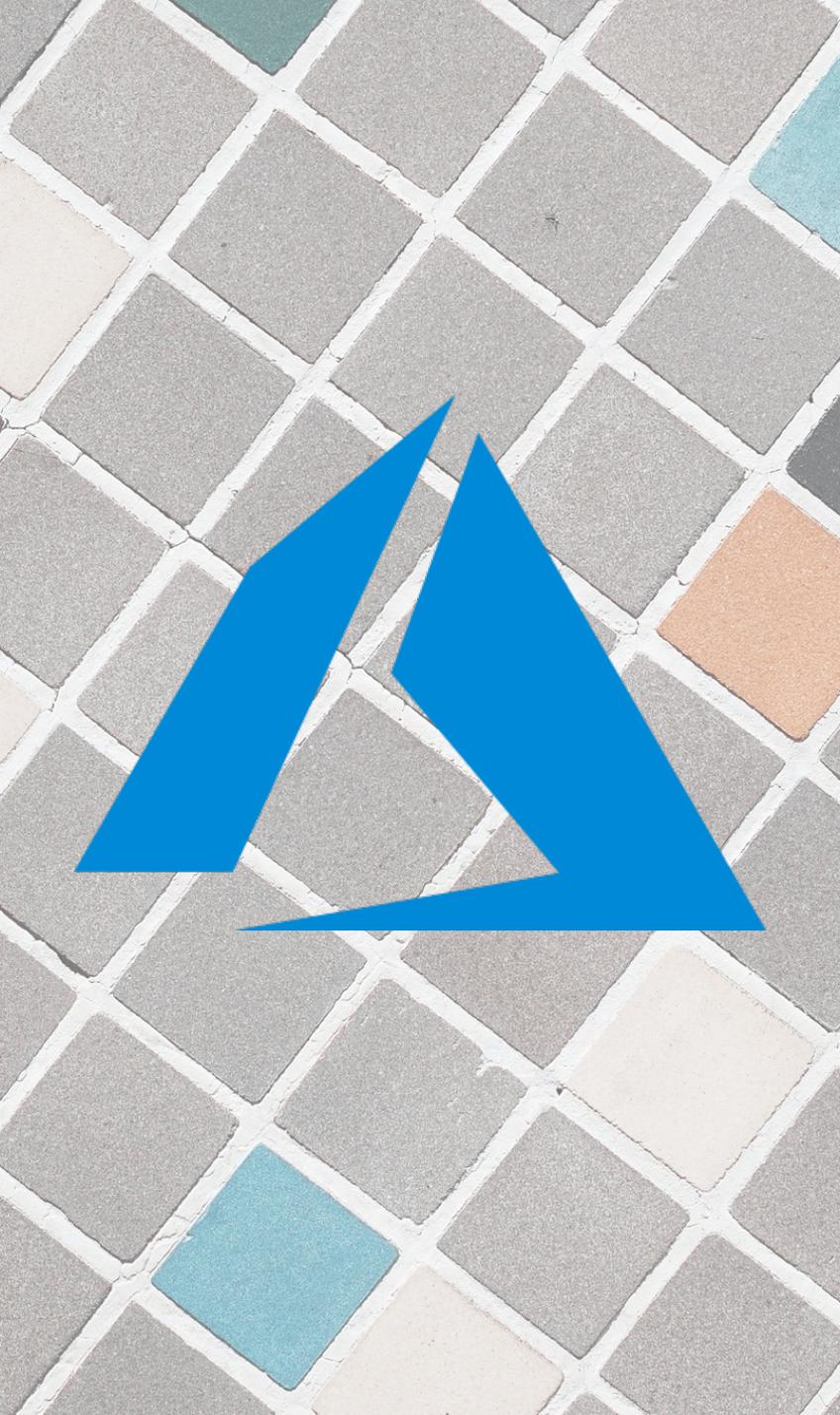
BizTalk Azure Migrator Tool

Microsoft has developed the BizTalk Migrator tool to help customers migrate from BizTalk to Azure Integration Services (AIS).

BizTalk Migrator has been released as an open-source project. Development is community driven and all BizTalk features are not yet supported. Benefits of BizTalk Migrator depend on customer's BizTalk implementation details and complexity.

https://github.com/Azure/aimtool

BizTalk Cloud Migration Assessment

What?
A compact consultation project to produce information needed to start effective BizTalk migration

Why?
Cost and time effective way to produce concrete plan for complex migration topic

How?
Solita gathers pre-defined information of existing BizTalk environment and performs analysis to create a road map suggestion for migration

BizTalk Cloud Migration Assessment

1.
BizTalk platform parameters gathering

2.
Integrations complexity analysis

3.
Azure migrator tool compatibility analysis

4.
Migration planning requirement gathering

Assessment report:
Migration Roadmap

1 BizTalk platform parameters gathering

Phase target: To gather technical information of existing BizTalk platform as input for migration planning.

Gathered information:

• BizTalk environments, deployment topology, server metrics and version information

• Message queues, databases, message achieves and reverse proxies

• Monitoring solutions

• Transaction and data volumes

• Platform utilization level

Customer input: Required information either as documents, as co-working or by assisting Solita in environment investigation.

2 Integrations complexity analysis

Phase target: To form documented understanding of complexity of existing BizTalk integrations as a whole.

Analysis contents:

- Gathering integrations list with basic information

- Integration level information: Complexity level estimate of transformations and orchestrations, Criticality level estimate per integration

- Summary level information: Number of end points per type, Number of orchestrations, Number of transformations, Overall complexity summary

Customer input: Providing existing integration information as documents, as CMDB or EA-tool access, as co-working or by assisting Solita in code level investigation.

3

Azure migrator tool compatibility analysis

Phase target: To form understanding of possible role of BizTalk Azure migrator tool in migration project

Analysis contents:

- Test run of migrator tool using an existing, real example integration

- Test run analysis

- Subjective compatibility analysis based on complexity analysis information

- Compatibility suggestion

Customer input: Assisting Solita in the selection of example integration

4

Migration planning requirement gathering

Phase target: To collect nonfunctional requirements and background information that affects on migration roadmap planning

Gathered information:

- Identified short term system changes affecting integrations

- Known shorts comings and repeating incidents of existing integrations

- Faced unmet integration needs of BizTalk and possible bypass integrations

- State of event management and incident management/resolution processes

- Current level and maturity of Azure adoption

Customer input: Co-working with Solita (in form of work shop or meetings) to collect required information. Phase work is lead by Solita, customer provides necessary information.

Assessment Report

Work is documented in form of Assessment report. Report contents:

- Existing BizTalk platform overview

- Complexity analysis summary and integration list as appendix

- Migration roadmap suggestion
  - Technical approach: BizTalk migrator usage
  - Azure architecture blueprint (required components and their roles)
  - Rough cost estimate of Azure capacity
  - Migration phasing and schedule preconditions

Report delivery:

- Assessment report is documented in presentation tool format (+ integration list as appendix)