



# IBM Consulting Offerings for Mainframe Application Modernization on Azure

Let us Co-execute your Mainframe Application Modernization journey

IT leaders are tasked with integrating and extending mainframe capabilities to drive agility and business innovation. In fact, four out of five organizations believe they must rapidly modernize mainframe-based applications to keep up with the competition.<sup>1</sup> The challenge, however, is in finding the best approach to application modernization—one that offers the best ROI.

IBM Consulting helps you design a hybrid cloud strategy with a single integrated operating model. It includes common agile practices and interoperability of applications between IBM® Z, mainframes and Microsoft Azure. IBM places applications and data on the right platform and helps keep it secured, encrypted and resilient. It's an agile, seamlessly integrated hybrid cloud platform with IBM Z at the core.

IBM Consulting works to accelerate mainframe application modernization, develop cloud-native applications and drive IT automation with IBM Z and Azure. The joint approach allows businesses to innovate faster, maximize investment value and reduce the need for specialized skills. For IBM Z clients, the [IBM Z® and Cloud Modernization Stack](#) on the Azure Marketplace provides a flexible and integrated software solution to support application modernization on the IBM z/OS® operating system, cloud native development and API creation. The result is faster modernization at a lower cost.



*"With Z DIH, M&T is able to reimagine the ways our core banking platforms can share information and events with our consumers—whether for data analysis or application consumption—and become a full-fledged member of our digital ecosystem transformation."*

*Russell Plew  
Technology Senior Manager, M&T Bank*

IBM Consulting has identified four initial patterns in support of a hybrid cloud approach:

1. **Azure DevOps for z/OS applications** can increase speed and agility by shifting DevTest workload to cloud, have greater productivity with the IBM Z and Cloud Modernization Center and use Azure DevOps for enterprise DevOps.
2. **Simplify access from Digital Channels** extends the z/OS reach to Azure by making z/OS business functions and data available with APIs for new use cases using Azure API Management.
3. **Real-time sharing between z/OS applications and Azure** enables a faster, efficient and flexible way to share core business data and information in near real-time between mainframe and digital frontend applications running on Azure.
4. **IT Automation across IBM Z and Azure** is enabled by using the Red Hat® Ansible® Certified Content for IBM Z mainframes, which includes collections that accelerate automation of z/OS, z/OS middleware products and other IBM Z resources to provide the IT automation and management of hybrid cloud environment.

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We support a hybrid cloud strategy that can:

- Improve agility by enabling reuse of core backend processes and significantly reduce talent gaps.
- Deliver rapid innovation with an agile DevOps approach.
- Provide easier access to applications and data without significant changes.
- Optimize the costs of running or extending applications.

## Case Studies

- [Real time information sharing with zDIH](#)
- [DevOps for zOS applications](#)

## References

- [Application modernization on the mainframe](#), IBM Institute for Business Value, March 2022.

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Microsoft Azure is an ever-expanding set of cloud computing services to help your organization meet its business challenges. With Azure, your business or organization has the freedom to build, manage, and deploy applications on a massive, global network using your preferred tools and frameworks.

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