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Cloud Computing: Growth to Continue in 2022 and Beyond

As the world continues to digitally transform, growth in cloud computing has continued at pace and is now seen as key to organisations recovering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

By 2025, Gartner estimates that over 95% of new digital workloads will be deployed on cloud-native platforms, up from 30% in 2021.

For many organisations, migrating to the cloud is key to long term business sustainability.

Drivers for cloud migration are typically derived from a long-term strategy, focusing on goals such as cost, agility, security and governance. Now, more than ever, resiliency and the ability to automate and innovate at scale will become crucial in order to unlock value for the business and remain competitive. However, it's not all about the technology. To really exploit the benefits of cloud, or any digital transformation, organisations will need to build a culture that embraces change and an environment of trust to enable high-performing digital teams.

Understanding the Challenge

Despite the continued growth and adoption of cloud services, organisations are still grappling with how to approach migrating workloads to the cloud while avoiding disruption to their daily operations.

This highlights the need for an effective workload migration strategy that provides an actionable technical migration method and plan, but also seeks to address the wider implications of change.

Ask yourself:

- Can you define and measure the business value and ROI of migrating to the cloud?
- Have you got a simple way to assess your current cloud maturity?
- Can you attract and retain people with the digital skills to manage migrations?
- Can you estimate the time, cost, complexity, risk and reward of workload migration for your organisation?
- Have you got a plan in place to pay down technical debt?

A Phased Approach to Workload Migration

Our goal is to empower organisations to migrate workloads in a pragmatic way, using tried and tested methods to lessen the burden and complexity of moving to the cloud.

We use our own five-phased approach which draws on our vast experience, as well as aligning with the major cloud providers' own approaches (such as [AWS MAP](#)). We have partnerships with AWS, Microsoft and Google, but remain independent and support our clients through modern challenges such as implementing multi-cloud.

It's to be expected that organisations will have varying degrees of cloud maturity and migration readiness. Our flexible approach can be easily adapted to accommodate different business needs and technical environments.



The ultimate goal is to unlock the key benefits of cloud migration:

- **Cost reduction** from
 - Flexibility to only pay for what you use
 - Reduced time and money spent on operations and maintenance, with cloud infrastructure managed by the cloud provider
- **Quicker time to market** enabled by:
 - Faster time to deployment for apps and infrastructure

- Using easy-to-manage cloud-native security and governance tools
- Availability of PaaS, SaaS and the cloud marketplace to reduce development and operational effort



Discover

Discovery is a crucial and often overlooked phase, key to creating the foundation for a successful migration. In 'discover' we bring together a current view of the estate (infra and workloads) and assess cloud and DevOps maturity to pinpoint how and where to improve. Gaining a better understanding of current workloads informs the plan, and highlights the biggest migration risks and benefits, paving the way to recommending a suitable migration strategy.

What we deliver:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Migration Readiness Assessment | 2. Workload Portfolio Report |
| 3. Workload Migration Dossier | 4. TCO Analysis Report |



Plan

The information gathered in discovery allows us to craft an effective plan. We ensure you start an application migration with the end in mind and can calculate the timeline, costs and estimated return on investment upfront, identifying the stakeholders you will need to engage along the way. Planning should result in a well defined 'target state' with an actionable blueprint to include the target architecture, the migration strategy you will use, a data strategy and measurable success criteria. By setting intermediate milestones which each demonstrate and unlock value, an agile approach can be used over a traditional waterfall approach (that invariably results in over-management and missed deadlines).

What we deliver:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Migration Roadmap and Deliverables | 2. Architecture for Target State |
| 3. Data Migration Strategy | 4. Set of Key Performance Indicators |



Prepare

The landing zone - created during the 'prepare' phase of the migration - constitutes everything that is required to set up the target environment for running migrated workloads. The migration approach facilitates creating a new landing zone from scratch, but some organisations may have a pre-existing target environment, which we would assess for suitability for receiving the migration workloads and adapt as required. During 'Prepare' assumptions can be validated by carrying out proofs of concept, and then revisiting the migration plan to refine and incorporate any lessons learnt.

What to deliver:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Landing Zone Built | 3. Workload Refactoring (if applicable) |
| 2. Proof of Concept | 4. Training Plans / Documentation |



Deploy

At this stage you are ready to begin deploying workloads to your target environment. You may begin with a pilot workload followed by migration waves, depending on the size and complexity of the migration. Key to unlocking benefits is ensuring robust testing has taken place, legacy environments are decommissioned and changes to architecture and topology are well documented. At the end of the 'deploy' stage (or in a phased manner), traffic is cut over to the new environment and users should begin to reap the benefits.

What we deliver:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Automated deployment pipelines | 2. Data migration | 3. Deployment of workloads |
| 4. Decommissioning legacy resources | 5. Operational runbooks | |



Improve

To truly deliver value through modernising technology, organisations must create a culture of continuous improvement. 'Improve' is therefore a set of activities you must continue to revisit to manage change and deliver value. It's important to set measurable goals, obtain regular feedback from users, utilise dashboards and analytics to monitor performance and continually assess the skills required of the team. Including an 'Improve' phase in your workload migration journey ensures improvements can be applied to subsequent migrations and teams can begin to look at other value-add activities such as; paying down technical debt, identifying opportunities to increase speed through automation and additional ways to exploit cloud services and replace legacy.

What we deliver:

1. KPI Dashboards and Analysis
2. Performance Improvement Recommendation Report
3. Continuous improvement cycles

Benefits of This Approach

Automation Logic's approach provides a roadmap and framework for migrating workloads to the cloud.

- We can **adapt** to take any organisation's starting point and level of DevOps and cloud capability. If you're ready to go "full agile" and migrate at pace, so are we; if you need a more personalised, structured approach, we can plan and deliver your migrations with confidence.
- We build **best practice** into every stage of your migration, meeting your short term needs while building your teams' DevOps mindset and laying the foundations for a sustainable future.
- Our offering focuses on underpinning and **enabling your wider digital strategy** and can empower your organisation to work towards becoming cloud-native
- It is delivered by **cloud, DevOps and automation experts** who will work collaboratively with your teams to align workload migration with your longer-term business goals.

Learn more today

To see our workload migration case studies and to engage an expert to discuss your needs and challenges, contact us today at info@automationlogic.com

