

Workload Migration: The AL Way

Migrate to the Cloud with Minimum Disruption and
Maximum Value

Contents

Cloud Computing: Growth to Continue in 2021 and Beyond	2
Understanding the Challenge	3
A Phased Approach to Workload Migration	4
Discover	5
Plan	5
Prepare	6
Deploy	6
Improve	7
Benefits of Approach	7
Learn more today	8

Cloud Computing: Growth to Continue in 2021 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.

Forrester predicts that, in 2021, the global public cloud infrastructure market will grow 35% to \$120 billion.

But, what actually is cloud computing? AWS defines cloud as “on-demand IT resources using pay-as-you-go pricing”. Migrating to the cloud refers to moving applications / data / IT resources from an on-premise data centre or legacy infrastructure to a cloud environment and is key to enabling long term business sustainability.

Drivers for workload migration are typically derived from a long-term strategy, focusing on long-term 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 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 to avoid disruption to their daily operations.

This highlights the need for an effective workload migration strategy. A 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 calculate the business value of migrating to cloud?
- Have you got a simple way to assess your current cloud maturity?
- Can you estimate the time, cost, complexity, risk and reward of workload migration for your organisation?
- Do you have a tried and tested approach to migrate workloads to the cloud?
- Can you attract and retain people with the digital skills to manage migrations?
- Are you measuring the benefits and ROI of your workload migrations?
- 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.

Automation Logic is partnered with all three of the large cloud service providers; AWS, Microsoft and Google, to remain independent and support our clients as multi cloud becomes the norm. It's to be expected that organisations will have varying degrees of cloud maturity and it is with that knowledge and experience that we have consolidated what we've learned into a phased workload migration approach. This flexible approach can be easily adapted to accommodate different business needs and technical environments.



Automation Logic Workload Migration Journey

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

- **Cost reduction** driven by,
 - Flexibility to only pay for what you use
 - Reduced time/cost spent on maintenance with cloud infrastructure managed by cloud provider

- **Quicker time to market** driven by;
 - Faster deployments / decreased time to provision new infrastructure
 - Improved operational resilience
 - Availability of PaaS and SaaS to reduce development effort



Discover

Discovery is a crucial and often overlooked phase in workload migration, key to creating the foundation for a successful roadmap. In 'discover' we focus on bringing together a current view of the application estate and assess cloud and DevOps maturity to pinpoint how and where to improve. Gaining a better understanding of current workloads appraises where the greatest migration risks and benefits are, paving the way to recommend a suitable migration strategy.

What we deliver:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Workload Migration Dossier per in-scope app | 2. Cloud/DevOps Assessment identifying improvements | 3. Recommendations for migration approach |
| 4. Migration project charter | 5. Documenting dependencies, risks and assumptions | 6. Captures timeline and activities for planning phase |



Plan

Fundamental to any approach is basing the plan on solid data gathered in the discovery phase. Undertaking effective planning activities will 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, migration approach you will use, a data strategy and measurable success criteria.

What we deliver:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Action plan for setting up landing zone | 2. Blueprint of resources for each workload with associated costs | 3. Workload migration plan captured in Workload Migration Dossier |
| 4. Test plan and agreement of how to measure success | 5. Outline of operational model with cost reduction recommendations | |



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' it is recommended that the best way to validate assumptions before undertaking migration is to carry out proofs of concept, revisiting the migration plan to refine and incorporate any lessons learnt.

What to deliver:

1. Secure and flexible/extensible landing zone, tested and documented, and ready to receive workloads
2. Refined migration plan in WMDs with learnings from PoC(s) and any other validations



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 users should begin to exploit the benefits and features of the target environment.

What we deliver:

1. Migration of in-scope workloads to target environment
2. Workloads tested and accessible to users
3. Decommissioning of old resources
4. Documentation updated to cover ops, security, on-prem integration + changes made to architecture or topology
5. Validation of TCO and ROI



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. Identify how to improve speed and efficiency of deployments | 2. Paying off technical debt | 3. Identify opportunities to use cloud-native products (e.g. SaaS, PaaS, DBaaS). |
| 4. Opportunity to add features which exploit cloud services | 5. Continue to upskill teams | 6. Measure success |

Benefits of This Approach

In a world where time to market and maintaining competitiveness is key to survival, organisations should seek to operate their workloads in a cloud-native manner.

Automation Logic's approach provides a roadmap for workload migration to cloud and;

- Can **adapt** to take any organisation's starting point and level of cloud maturity. 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.
- Builds **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
- Focuses on underpinning and **enabling your wider digital strategy** and can empower your organisation to work towards becoming cloud-native
- And, is delivered by **cloud, DevOps and automation experts** who will make best use of your technology and 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

