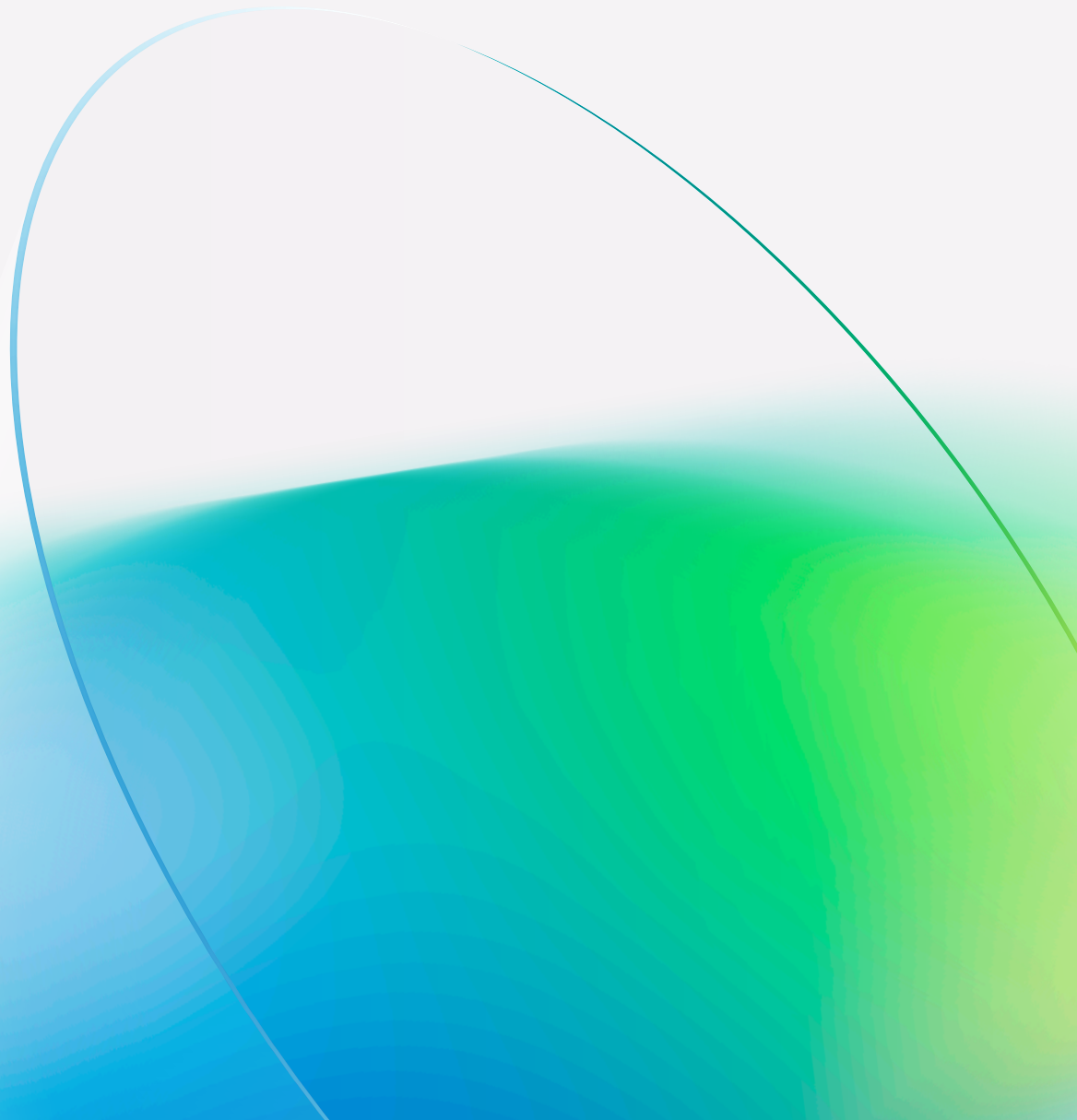




Build an AI-Ready Infrastructure in the Cloud



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Introduction

With its limitless scalability, the cloud has helped many businesses transcend traditional boundaries and inspire new ways of delivering value with data. Now, companies across industries are migrating to the cloud to adopt AI technology that lets them create better customer experiences, accelerate app development, and fortify security against threats—all from a flexible, unified cloud infrastructure.

You're not alone if you're considering migrating to the cloud to help enhance business operations. [A Deloitte survey](#) found that "Eighty-eight percent of respondents view [the] cloud as a cornerstone of their digital strategy and believe it is vital to driving revenue and maintaining a strong position in the marketplace." Part of that digital strategy is adopting cloud infrastructure and using cloud databases to support the full scope of data management required for building intelligent AI apps, extracting deep insights, reducing time-to-market for new products, and more.

While IT leaders and business decision makers each have their areas of focus when it comes to using the cloud, the ultimate goals of embracing a hybrid model tend to be similar across organizations and industries:

Maximize cost savings and ROI to drive business growth.

Achieve new heights of performance to deliver better products and services.

Secure data and processes against emerging threats to build trust among customers and employees.

Equip teams to use the latest AI technology so they can innovate quickly and confidently in a constantly changing landscape.

This e-book provides an overview of the many advantages of migrating to the cloud—and how having all of your workloads in the same place leads to faster performance so you can infuse them with AI services. You'll also discover how some of the world's best-known enterprises use their cloud infrastructure to support their AI strategies.





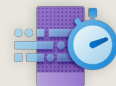
Many organizations have come to realize that while moving to the cloud can double their speed and efficiency, leveraging and building on the cloud can also give them enhanced capabilities that can reach 10x multiples."

Deloitte >

Making the case for migration

Enterprises increasingly opt to migrate to the cloud for its many advantages, but the three most recurring benefits are typically focused on security, scalability, and agility. Digital innovation with AI requires a safe environment to store, analyze, and move data—no matter where it’s from or who’s using it.

On-premises systems simply aren’t suited to handle the data required to run advanced AI and analytics. If your organization plans to innovate with AI (and consequently start handling even more data), the first step is clear: to innovate with AI it helps to have a secure infrastructure.

Challenge	Cloud benefit
Trust is a top priority, so introducing AI would require even more money and resources to ensure security, privacy, and compliance at every juncture.	 Multilayered security
Because AI models require so much data, it’s hard to know how much processing power or storage is needed at any given time, making it challenging to allocate budgets and resources.	 Cost-effective scalability
With so many data sources and environments, getting the right data to the right people takes time, slowing project timelines and making it difficult to pivot with changes.	 Agility at a competitive pace



Cloud is the foundation of a modern IT environment and serves as an essential enabler for other powerful technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, Internet of Things (IoT), and quantum computing. Without cloud, those technologies are difficult or impossible to implement.”

[Deloitte](#) >

Fortified security in the cloud

Migrating to the cloud has a significant impact on security strategies. At a time when threats pose a constant risk, the cloud offers more robust security measures and compliance standards that can exceed what's possible on-premises—especially for organizations with a limited labor force or technical skill set.

Cloud environments come with security-enhancing features like encryption, authentication, and monitoring tools that safeguard data and applications. The cloud's centralized nature simplifies security management, making it easier to implement measures across different services. Plus, cloud providers offer regular updates and patches that can improve protection against emerging threats.

As a result, migrating to the cloud can lead to a more fortified and well-managed security posture, which helps prevent costly breaches and loss of trust.

94 percent of businesses report significant online security improvements after adopting the cloud.

[Zippia](#) >



8,500

With 8,500 security professionals and the most compliance certifications of any cloud provider, Microsoft is the only dual cloud provider and security vendor on the market.

Enhanced scalability

A lack of scalability in your infrastructure makes it challenging to allocate computing resources where and when they're needed most. As a result, hardware is underutilized during periods of low demand and overextended when peak times hit. When your infrastructure can't scale quickly enough to meet demand, you may experience downtime or service disruptions, resulting in lost productivity and potential revenue losses. Everything today is in constant flux, which means your infrastructure must be able to shift with the changes—without added costs or disruptions.

Cloud services offer an elastic environment that lets you easily scale resources up or down in response to fluctuating demands. Unlike on-premises systems, the cloud can adapt to handle sudden spikes in user activity without compromising performance. This flexibility can drastically reduce overprovisioning or underutilizing resources, saving costs and freeing up those resources to create value elsewhere.



We had a scenario where we needed to boost compute by 10 times for just a weekend. We dynamically scaled up and back down using Azure with zero business interruption.”

Marcel Malan

Head of Group IT Operations and General Manager, AIA

Rapid, agile innovation

The decision to migrate to the cloud profoundly impacts your speed of innovation. The cloud offers a wide range of automation tools that help streamline different processes, allowing your teams to focus on strategic tasks instead of manual operations. This automation provides an “express lane” for faster development cycles, letting you deploy new services and products much faster than usual without causing disruption or downtime to end users.

The cloud’s enhanced speed-to-market capabilities also help organizations respond promptly to sudden changes. When new capabilities emerge or trends shift (which seems to be happening every day), the cloud makes it possible to adapt quickly so your organization can stay a leader in your industry.

On a more human level, cloud resources also make it easier to collaborate and share knowledge between teams, enabling a process of innovation that’s guided by possibilities rather than limitations. As a result, businesses that migrate to the cloud often experience a significant boost in innovation, productivity, and their ability to pivot on a dime in a constantly changing market landscape.

80 percent of companies report operation improvements after adopting the cloud.

[Zippia](#) >

Increased innovation and productivity with Azure:

| 45 percent more efficient DBA teams and 29 percent more productive IT infrastructure management teams

[IDC](#) >

| 87 percent faster deployment of IT resources

[IDC](#) >

| 45 percent faster delivery of applications with Windows and SQL Server in Azure

[IDC](#) >



A new horizon of opportunities: AI and the cloud

Infusing AI into your operations requires a set of systems and proficiencies to ensure you're not just exchanging one headache for another. AI adoption and cloud migration go hand-in-hand for companies who want to lay a reliable groundwork for future innovation.

Cross-industry Azure AI use cases:

- Optimize physical spaces.**
Using spatial analysis, [Azure AI Vision](#) helps you automate real-time video analysis so you can understand how people are utilizing physical spaces.
- Break down communication barriers.**
[Azure AI Speech](#) lets you innovate voice-enabled apps to transcribe speech-to-text and generate lifelike text-to-speech accurately.
- Accelerate content and code generation.**
[Azure OpenAI Services](#) helps teams build apps using large-scale AI models to provide advanced writing assistance and code generation.
- Discover previously impossible use cases.**
Using [Azure AI Services](#) containers, developers and data scientists of all skill levels can deploy AI applications anywhere from the cloud to the edge.
- Use advanced machine learning and deep learning.**
Build, train, and deploy machine learning models with low-code and no-code tools with [Azure Machine Learning](#) and [Azure Databricks](#).
- Accelerate document processing.**
[Azure Form Recognizer](#) helps extract text, key-value pairs, tables, structures, and other information to accelerate document processing.

Early adopters reported a 35 percent improvement in innovation and a 33 percent improvement in sustainability by investing in AI over the past three years.

[IDC](#) >

Integrating Azure AI Services across your infrastructure, data, and applications can improve productivity and increase output by 150 percent.

[Forrester](#) >

The Azure advantage for AI adopters

Accounting for almost a quarter of the cloud market share (and rising), Azure is already one of the world's leading cloud infrastructure and services providers, making daily strides to become the most reliable cloud provider for building an AI-ready infrastructure. It stands out as a reliable cloud provider for several reasons. Extensive investments in AI research and development have resulted in a robust ecosystem of AI tools and cloud-native services within Azure, making it a one-stop shop for AI solutions. Azure offers a comprehensive suite of cloud-native and fully managed services that help handle many of the steps and responsibilities that come with building, deploying, and scaling AI models.

Across industries, more businesses are turning to Azure to support their AI strategies. From their cloud or hybrid environments, they're working to deploy next-generation AI solutions faster and more efficiently than had ever seemed possible. In the following pages, read about the different advantages of migrating to Azure, and how those advantages translate into tangible business outcomes.



We were surprised that Microsoft Azure offers such a **breadth of advanced AI capabilities**, like abstract summarization, which are way beyond even the specialist AI providers.”

Jon Nicholls

Global Chief Information Officer, Arthur D. Little

Advantage #1: Improved control of costs

Cost efficiency is always at the forefront of business leaders' minds. Therefore, Azure provides many resources to help you see exactly [where your cloud cost savings would come from](#). These tools can help you manage spending, calculate total cost of ownership (TCO), and optimize your existing Windows Server and SQL Server licenses using [Azure Hybrid Benefit](#).

But the cost benefits don't stop there. Once you're working in the cloud, [Azure AI](#) offers many more opportunities to discover new revenue streams, reduce wasteful spending, and build long-term customer loyalty—all of which can greatly impact your bottom line.

In a Forrester Consulting study, researchers surveyed early Azure AI adopters and created a composite organization to illustrate the average impact it had on ROI:

- | **150 percent increase** in work output thanks to automation and the enhanced ability to develop and sell new services.
- | **7 percent reduction** in costs using AI and machine learning to make better decisions and spot opportunities to optimize (equaling \$16 million over three years).
- | **25 percent improvement** in productivity for employees working on machine learning activities and 60 percent reduction in document processing, resulting in savings of more than \$1 million over three years.¹



Using Azure OpenAI Service to help automate some of [the] more common tasks will be an important change to the way we operate. There will be meaningful time and cost savings."

Jeremy Legg

Chief Technology Officer, AT&T

Advantage #2: Migrate on your terms

When it comes to migrating to the cloud, you have many different options for how to get there. The key thing is to chart a course that optimizes your existing tools and talent so the migration process doesn't put additional strain on your teams and systems.

With cloud migration, there's no "one size fits all" solution. Each company has unique requirements and skill sets, which is why Azure offers different avenues to suit each organization's needs. Whether you're going for a multi-cloud environment, hybrid environment, or just looking to take the first preparatory steps, Azure has a pathway that starts where you are so you can migrate on your terms.

Today, many companies opt for a hybrid approach to maximize their existing on-premises investments while also taking advantage of Azure services and infrastructure. [Azure Arc](#) offers a gradual "on-ramp" for companies that want the benefits of the cloud while still maximizing their on-premises infrastructure. Azure Arc extends Azure to enable flexible application and service deployment across data centers, edge locations, and multicloud setups, simplifying governance and management across these environments.

It integrates non-Azure and on-premises resources into Azure Resource Manager so you can manage virtual machines, Azure SQL Managed Instance, and Azure Database for PostgreSQL as if they were in Azure. Additionally, Azure Arc supports cloud-native application development by providing a consistent development, operations, and security model, with custom locations for deploying Azure services instances on Azure Arc-enabled Kubernetes clusters.

Businesses using a hybrid approach achieve a more agile and scalable development environment by 42 percent and accelerate business agility and innovation by 40 percent.

[G2](#) >

Advantage #3: High performance for Windows Server and SQL Server

Migrating your [SQL Server workloads on Azure Virtual Machines](#) allows you to use the full SQL Server, minus the hardware. It also offers flexible licensing options that lower your TCO with a pay-as-you-go model so you can create SQL Server VMs according to your specific operation systems and versions, deployable on Linux or Windows. You can run Azure virtual machines securely from many regions around the globe, with high availability/disaster recovery and automated management capabilities that make it much simpler to manage than on-premises VMs.

[Azure Hybrid Benefit](#) is a cost-saving offering that enables you to optimize your hybrid environment while reducing costs by using your existing licenses for Windows Server, SQL Server, and Linux subscriptions. With Azure Hybrid Benefit, you can potentially achieve up to 85 percent savings compared to the standard pay-as-you-go rate by applying your Windows Server and SQL Server licenses. This benefit extends to the Azure SQL platform-as-a-service (PaaS) environment, allowing you to maximize cost-efficiency. Furthermore, Azure Hybrid Benefit facilitates the adoption of Azure Arc-enabled SQL Server Managed Instance using your existing SQL Server licensing. This helps you meet compliance requirements by offering unlimited virtualization options on Azure Dedicated Host and the Azure VMware Solution.

According to a GigaOm study, using Azure Hybrid Benefit over a three-year commitment, customers can get mission-critical performance for SQL Server on Azure Virtual Machines up to 57 percent faster and costing up to 54 percent less than AWS EC2 on a price-performance basis.²

How does Azure enable higher performance for Windows Server and SQL Server?

- | **Automated patching** sets up maintenance windows and ensures that restarts from system updates happen at the best time for the database.
- | **High availability and disaster recovery (HADR)** for both Azure-only and hybrid solutions help ensure business continuity in the event of a disruption or maintenance operation so you can minimize the impact on customer workloads.
- | **Automated backup** for Azure virtual machines automatically creates database backups to help protect your data from deletion or corruption. It also lets you configure long-term retention (LTR) for when rules require that backups be available for long periods.
- | **Azure Virtual Desktop** enables access to Windows 11 and Windows 10 from virtually anywhere in the world.



Azure SQL Managed Instance was the only data store that could hold our data and process the number of transactions that we have.”

Minh Duong

Customer Hub Senior Manager, American Airlines

² [SQL Transaction Processing and Analytic Performance Price-Performance Testing—22.585—Microsoft—Gigaom](#)

Advantage #4: Training resources for all skill sets

Cloud migration's biggest concern is the perceived lack of management skills. A Gartner survey of 437 global firms revealed that IT executives see talent shortage as the most significant barrier to deploying emerging technologies (like the cloud) for strategic business purposes.³ Many IT leaders worry they don't have the tools or training to seamlessly transition their teams to using Windows Server, SQL, and VMware in the cloud, and some feel they'd need to hire scores of tech professionals and engineers to handle it effectively.

Adapting to new technology—and having the confidence to use it freely—requires the right learning resources and expert support. Azure helps fill in the talent gaps by continually releasing new [learning modules, workshops, and step-by-step documentation](#) to support your cloud migration from any skill set starting point. Furthermore, they'll also benefit from expert Azure support at every step of the migration to ensure a successful launch into the cloud.

Advantage #5: Go to market faster with cloud-native capabilities

Becoming "cloud native" is the natural step forward after "cloud friendly." Cloud-native capabilities allow you to build and run scalable applications directly in your public, private, and hybrid clouds.

From there, developers can take advantage of different microservices and serverless functions so they can build and deploy new apps quickly. Moreover, thanks to container orchestrations with code-to-cloud pipelines (such as [Azure Kubernetes Service \(AKS\)](#)), it's possible to deploy securely with almost no downtime.

From coding and debugging to deployment and management, the [cloud-native](#) approach helps ensure your apps are optimized for any architecture and device:

Microservices:

Fix bugs and manage updates without having to redeploy the whole application.

Serverless solutions:

Eliminate time spent on infrastructure-related activities with low-code/no-code services and developer-friendly APIs.

Containers:

Bundle your application's code with the necessary configuration files and libraries into a container image that developers can deploy to the host operating system with zero or minimal modifications.



Leaders ... are using more advanced cloud services such as AI and ML, cloud-native development, and edge computing/IoT."

[Deloitte](#) >



³[Gartner Emerging Technology Roadmap 2021–23](#)

Advantage #6: Enable AI innovation at scale

All these benefits contribute to the ultimate goal's success: infusing your business operations with [advanced Azure AI capabilities](#) that will provide even more cost savings, operational efficiencies, and robust security features. Organizations worldwide use [Azure OpenAI Service, Azure Machine Learning, and Azure AI supercomputing infrastructure tools](#) to deliver more excellent value and cost savings without forcing IT teams to take on more than they can handle. Once you've migrated to the cloud, your team will be able to innovate [AI at scale](#) according to your business goals and IT team skill sets and resources.

One of the defining qualities of a reliable cloud infrastructure is a commitment to the responsible use of AI. At Microsoft, Responsible AI encompasses [six key principles](#): fairness, reliability and safety, privacy and security, inclusiveness, transparency, and accountability, providing concrete guidance beyond the usual high-level AI principles. It establishes company-wide regulations that ensure you adhere to ethical AI principles when developing and deploying AI technologies.

Six principles of Responsible AI

Fairness:

AI systems must treat all individuals equitably.

Inclusiveness:

AI systems should empower and engage everyone.

Reliability and safety:

AI systems should consistently perform securely and safely.

Transparency:

AI systems should be easy to comprehend.

Privacy and security:

AI systems must prioritize security and safeguard privacy.

Accountability:

Individuals should be answerable for AI systems.

New technology poses exciting opportunities, but people need assurances that they won't be put at risk by taking advantage of them. End users want privacy, inclusivity, transparency, and accountability with their AI systems, so they can interact with AI-enabled applications without fear or hesitancy.

Azure across industries: Three migration success stories

Discover how Azure customers use their cloud-enabled scalability and agility to achieve new heights of productivity and customer satisfaction.

AT&T enables rapid innovation and AI adoption with a cloud-first strategy

AT&T has a goal to be the best broadband provider in the United States. Toward this goal, the company is investing in growth initiatives and technologies that will provide better connectivity and experiences for customers and employees.

By 2019, AT&T had amassed approximately 7,500 applications and was maintaining an intricate infrastructure of mainframes and servers scattered across 34 data centers around the globe. Many of their on-premises servers were being underutilized, and the IT teams faced massive complexities trying to manage homegrown software in applications that were sometimes decades old. The company wanted a more straightforward and more cost-effective infrastructure that would let them respond quickly to market changes and deliver new solutions faster—which meant switching to a cloud-first strategy.

The tech team at AT&T spent six months assessing its 7,500 applications, deciding which to retire, migrate to the cloud, or consolidate with other apps. Ultimately, they retired a third, shifted another third to the cloud, and kept the remaining third in a leaner setup spanning just six data centers.

The cloud-bound applications were divided into two groups: one needing source-code changes (which they called “modernization migration”), and the other needing minimal adjustments (called “optimization migration”). The modernization migration involved minimal code changes, using a VMware-hosted app from MySQL to Azure SQL Managed Instance. In contrast, the optimization migration focused on optimizing the footprint, which included replacing logging tools with Azure Monitor’s Log Analytics. Now, they can operate every type of workload, compute type, and operating system—from Windows to any flavor of Linux—from a scalable, simplified cloud infrastructure.

By the end of 2022, the company had shut down 10 of its 34 data centers and is working to close an additional 18 data centers. With a new cloud-first approach, AT&T developers can deliver innovations faster and more responsive to the market and customers. On top of that, the company is also using Azure AI capabilities to automate a variety of tasks, such as computer configuration management to identify potential problems or add capacity. The technology team is also training a tenant of ChatGPT on Azure to help employees complete HR tasks.

Migration results:

Establishing a cloud-first strategy saves AT&T development time and hardware costs and significantly reduces data center costs related to energy, real estate, networking, and administration.

- | Moving workloads to Azure reduced costs by about 30 percent on average.
- | Whereas a developer used to spend weeks or months procuring the infrastructure they needed to test and deploy an application, now they can execute those tasks in minutes.
- | AT&T now can monitor and analyze its consumption of Azure resources so teams can identify waste in the environment and spot opportunities for course correction.



In this new Azure environment, the infrastructure is available to developers immediately along with a set of services and capabilities that come along with Azure, which makes it a lot easier for people to innovate."

Jon Summers

Chief Information Officer, AT&T

The NBA accelerates modern app development in the cloud to deliver better experiences

NBA employees, referees, and production professionals work tirelessly to create magic on the basketball court—and beyond. The IT Application Development Group at the NBA understood that the best way to enhance experiences for fans everywhere was to modernize their digital experiences on the cloud.

The team realized the importance of speed and agility in their operations and understood that a simple “lift-and-shift” approach from on-premises to the cloud wouldn’t cut it. The company needed a significant code overhaul, using Microsoft applications and services like Azure Blob Storage, Azure App Service, and [Azure SQL Database](#) to modernize both the code and data to achieve faster time-to-market, improved productivity, and enhanced scalability.

The initial phase of this transformation involved consolidating all their resources into a single location. The NBA previously operated applications and managed data across various platforms, including on-premises, hybrid cloud, and virtual machines. By partnering with Microsoft, they were able to delegate many of the tasks related to OS patching, performance, and security to Microsoft teams, enabling the NBA to concentrate their efforts on modernization.

Migrating everything to Azure and utilizing Azure App Service not only automate many of the tasks NBA employees were doing themselves—scaling, repo management, security, etc.—but also made the app coding process more seamless with low code and no code scenarios. Additionally, the move has helped the IT team integrate AI capabilities and services into their apps and platforms, improving both the game-watching experience and employees’ day-to-day lives.



Migration results:

Migrating to Azure has allowed the NBA to innovate new apps and capabilities that personalize the end-user experience and deepen fan loyalty.

- | The NBA innovated a new app called Referee Engagement and Performance System (REPS), resulting in an almost 1,000 percent increase in the performance volume conversations within the referee organization since the web and mobile app launched.
- | The NBA also used Azure to consolidate 50+ apps into a single sign-on experience called NBAOne to help employees easily handle day-to-day operations.
- | Edge services with Azure have helped reduce the page download time and increase SEO dramatically.



[The] number one thing in having a cloud partner in Azure is the ability for us to have a playground where we can go in and quickly experiment new things, test out new features, and use the functionality that comes out of the box natively from a cloud perspective, be it the Azure SQL Database, or Azure Functions, or Azure Templates.”

Sahil Gupta

Senior Vice President and Head of Application Development

Insurance provider AIA embraces a cloud-based future to improve cost savings and sustainability

As a multinational insurance and financial services provider, AIA is the largest company headquartered in Hong Kong listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. AIA's extensive reach extends to 18 markets, serving over 17 million group insurance members and issuing more than 40 million individual insurance policies. Given the intricate nature of today's digital landscape, AIA faces a multitude of pressing IT challenges and objectives.

AIA's various markets operate with distinct requirements, product offerings, and strategies, creating a culture of decentralized innovation. However, the company also maintains centralized guidance in crucial areas such as security, data compliance, and sustainability goals. Essentially, the company's approach is that of an enterprise with a startup mindset, striking a balance between structured and rigorous technology implementation while allowing for creative problem-solving rather than imposing rigid solutions.

In late 2018, AIA embarked on a cloud-first transformation, selecting Microsoft Azure for a comprehensive overhaul of its extensive IT infrastructure. With substantial IT environments and complex on-premises deployments, AIA was experiencing annual growth of approximately 30 percent in infrastructure and computing. Surprisingly, cloud applications accounted for less than 5 percent of their total computing workload, with the majority residing on-premises. With nearly half of the world's population residing in AIA markets, the company needed the capability to effortlessly scale and deliver services across all these regions and markets.

As part of the company's cloud-first initiative, AIA has incorporated cutting-edge technologies, including AI, virtualization, highly scalable storage, and other advanced capabilities. They achieved this by implementing Azure Virtual Machines, Azure AI Services, Azure Data Lake Storage, and Azure Data Factory. While their containerized workloads are primarily based on Linux, they also utilize both Linux and Windows virtual machines on the Azure platform. AIA's developers have also transitioned to building cloud-native applications using Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS) and clusters to efficiently orchestrate and manage container resources through a unified control plane. Furthermore, moving to Azure has helped AIA jumpstart AI initiatives, delivering more than 100 major projects that use AI and analytics, enhancing multiple business domains including recruitment, training, underwriting, and claims handling.



Migration results:

AIA's ongoing infrastructure evolution has resulted in many gains for the company, which includes using cloud-native technologies as much as possible. The company also reports a significant reduction in its datacenter carbon footprint, which will help it meet its goal of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

- | Compared to AIA's previous on-premises setup, the company has realized a cost savings benefit of more than 20 percent with Azure.
- | In one scenario in which the company needed to boost computing by 10 times for a single weekend, the company was able to scale up and back down with zero business interruptions.
- | AI can now process 1.2 billion transactional reports a month, which is up four or five times from its previous capacity.



It's a new way of reporting on financial metrics, which required a massive change in how we work with countries and their data, and it was much richer data. We'd have needed to implement additional data centers just to manage the compute."

Marcel Mala

Head of Group IT Operations and General Manager, AIA

Trusted security in the cloud

Azure is a [Leader in The Forrester Wave™](#) Infrastructure-as-a-Service Platform Native Security (IPNS) category, receiving top ratings in several categories including risk visibility, encryption, and Zero Trust criteria. Azure also excelled in the strategy category, demonstrating strong product vision and community engagement.

From development to runtime, keeping your multicloud and hybrid environments secure requires a comprehensive cloud-native application protection platform. Platforms like Microsoft Defender for Cloud enable a multicloud approach to security by centralizing and unifying your security needs across private and public clouds.

Being a leader in the data security platform market helps Azure customers safeguard sensitive data from internal and external threats, including intellectual property, trade secrets, customer information, and personally identifiable data. The result is a stronger sense of trust and greater peace of mind during innovation.

- | 100+ compliance offerings, including in 50+ global regions and countries (US, European Union, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, India, and China)
- | 35+ compliance offerings specific to key industries including health, government, finance, education, manufacturing, and media
- | 3,500 security experts actively monitoring to protect your data
- | 65+ trillion threat signals analyzed daily



Our investors and users are familiar with Microsoft and view its platforms as trustworthy. That also makes us more reputable and helps us cultivate trust among our customers."

Michael Javier

Co-founder and CEO, CWallet

Conclusion

With an expected [\\$1 trillion in value](#) generated for US Fortune 500 companies by 2030, cloud adoption is poised to deliver significant results for companies who move their infrastructure and databases to the cloud. What does that mean for you and your business?

It means now is the perfect time to migrate to the cloud.

Migrating to Azure offers numerous benefits for your organization, including:

| Cost savings:

Apply existing Windows Server and SQL Server licenses to [Azure Hybrid Benefit](#) for a pay-as-you-go model and reduce spending on redundant hardware.

| Flexibility and scalability:

Scale up or down compute, storage, and network resources without concerns about physical infrastructure. Choose from public, private, or hybrid cloud deployment models based on security and compliance needs.

| Code-to-cloud security:

Cloud-native security with [Microsoft Defender for the Cloud](#) helps safeguard data and apps from threats, giving you continuous visibility of your multicloud and hybrid environments.

| Innovation and productivity:

AI, machine learning, IoT, blockchain, and serverless computing help address business challenges and streamline the software development lifecycle, from planning to deployment.

| High-performance support for Windows Server and SQL Servers:

Critical applications run seamlessly without requiring your teams to learn a drastically different skill set.



The assessment and use of AI, triggered by generative AI, is starting to dominate the planning and long-term investment agendas of businesses and cloud providers will play a significant role in the evaluation and adoption of AI enablement services.”

Rick Villars

Group Vice President of Worldwide Research, [IDC](#) >

Secure your infrastructure on the cloud

Migrating your Windows Server and SQL Servers to Azure is the first step to building a lean, secure, and cost-effective infrastructure capable of continuous modernization. With cloud-native security and more compliance offerings than any other cloud provider, your team can protect your applications and resources in every stage of their development—from code to cloud—so your organization can take larger and more meaningful strides to meet your goals.

[Explore Azure Migrate and Modernize offerings >](#)

Talk to an Azure expert about your organization's needs.
[Contact Sales >](#)