

# Migrate to a managed cloud platform

# ultima

Having to replace or upgrade your critical business infrastructure every three to five years can result in significant and often unpredictable CapEx costs, as well as increased risk associated with complex workload and data migrations. Alongside the logistical considerations surrounding the replacement of servers, storage, networks, hypervisors, disaster recovery and backup capabilities, the additional administrative overhead can result in fragmented support, slow response times and a poor return on investment.

Given ever changing business requirements and the on-going demands on IT services, the dynamic nature of application development and the rapid time to market required by new projects and services, the inability to scale up and out quickly whilst continuing to provide a reliable and highly available service can put a huge strain on IT, which traditional style data centres cannot fulfil.

As a result, organisations often size for what might be, provisioning additional capacity for those "what if" moments, or standing up environments that run 24x7 that are in fact only used periodically. This coupled with seasonal demand and the need to scale-on-demand mean that environments are oversized, reducing the effectiveness of your investment.



## Extended Delivery Time-scales

When deploying new services, the deployment life-cycle can sometimes take months before benefits are fully realised. ROI doesn't start until several months into a project, yet costs of delivery are felt immediately.

## Hosting Challenges

Hosting workloads on premise not only restricts your ability to relocate, it can present availability issues, with power and networking that are not designed for resiliency. Similarly, moving to a CoLo can result in large monthly outgoings.

## Cost Prohibitive Features

Features such as global load balancing, highly available geo-replicated storage, self-service, data analytics and cloud native apps require massive investment, as well as the hardware and deployment services to implement and maintain.

## Project Impact

Some projects may never get off the ground due to prohibitively complex infrastructure requirements and the commercial constraints associated with providing resilient, scalable and highly available services on premise.

## Test and Development

While essential, robust test and dev environments are a luxury. They often share the same network, storage and even server platform as production workloads, meaning they can conflict with business functions.

## Management Overhead

Traditional on premise infrastructure requires the upkeep of monitoring and management skills and tool-sets across every aspect of your estate, ranging from storage, networking, hypervisors and backup to DR and server hardware.

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## The Building Blocks of Cloud Services

Cloud platforms from Microsoft and AWS provide highly available, hyper-scaled services. At their core, they deliver an ever-growing ecosystem of products and services that can be consumed on a subscription based, pay-as-you-use model.



### Infrastructure as a Service

IaaS is an instant computing infrastructure service that scales with demand, eliminating capital expenditure and reducing operating costs. Respond quickly to business decisions, delivering everything from test and development environments, web hosting, storage, backup and recovery, to web apps, high performance computing and big data. The service provider takes care of the hosting and the underlying platform, while Ultima or your IT team install, configure and manage the operating systems, middleware and applications that you elect to install upon it.



### Platform as a Service

PaaS is a complete development and deployment environment in the cloud, with resources that enable you to deliver everything from simple cloud-based apps to sophisticated, enterprise applications. Using services such as SQL PaaS or Azure Active Directory, reduces the complexity of the platforms you are deploying. These services come with high availability, backup, disaster recovery and monitoring built in, meaning you can concentrate on the business of delivering applications, without having to worry about the back-end infrastructure.



### Software as a Service

Gain access to an extensive range of pre-configured apps (e.g. ERP, CRM and Messaging) that require no investment to trial and can often be purchased on a per-user basis. Apps can be deployed in minutes without any investment in hardware, reducing time to deploy and the overall cost by exponential amounts. Disparate workforces can connect securely via a web browser, meaning there is no need for any end point reconfiguration or application deployment. And since SaaS is subscription-based, you can retain complete control over usage.

## Key Benefits

### Single Vendor Support Model

Benefit from engaging with a single global cloud vendor technically, contractually and commercially

### Self-Service Security

Use role based access to segregate duties, granting access to users, groups and applications as required

### Management Services

Orchestrate your disaster recovery plan with backup and site recovery options for a complete DRaaS solution

### Service Management API

Provide programmatic access to much of the functionality available through the Management Portal

### Global Availability

Extensive availability zones within global regions so performance requirements and data sovereignty can be supported

### Availability and Service Levels

Well defined SLAs for each cloud service, including uptime guarantees and downtime credit policies

### Unlimited Scaling

Deploy highly available, infinitely scalable applications and APIs, benefiting from capacity on demand

### Predictable Subscription Costs

Prices based on service consumption with per-minute billing. Benefit from no upfront costs or termination fees

### Enable Mobility

Decouple yourself from the constraints of traditional on-premise deployments, allowing you to relocate with ease

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## Supporting Your Transformation Journey

Utilising the broad Microsoft and AWS portfolio of services, Ultima is able to provide your organisation with a clear path to the cloud, helping you understand which workloads can migrate, alongside the transition approach to SaaS, PaaS or IaaS.

Our team of Modern Data Centre specialists can deliver everything from initial proof of concepts for organisations who are looking to understand how

the cloud can benefit them, to business value justification, outlining how return on investment will be delivered once workloads and services are migrated.

Once the decision is made to move to a cloud model, we can lead you through every step of the journey, getting you set up on the right subscription model and plans, as well as providing architectural design and planning services in line with best practice.

You can engage Ultima on everything from initial workload profiling and dependency mapping, to complex migrations, application re-architecture, and business process optimisation.

With the transformation project underway, Ultima can then manage your cloud instances under the ITIL framework, eliminating uncontrolled change through standardisation and configuration management.



### Discover

By undertaking a comprehensive discovery exercise, we are able to document the current operating model, including the services deployed and the dependencies between them. Through this endeavour, we look to understand your requirement and the potential transformation that can occur.



### Analyse

From there we will identify services and security products as components that can be shifted into either SaaS, PaaS or IaaS. Once identified, we establish the target operating model by mapping the Azure on-premise environment to its Azure counterparts and plan for the upcoming transformation.



### Transform

Finally, we migrate or transform each server, application or workload to the appropriate cloud equivalent, ensuring that once moved, each component integrates to form a cohesive suite of services. Other value-added cloud components can be deployed to provide further enhancements and security.

## Getting Started



### Cloud Readiness Assessment

Ultima can interrogate your current operating model and identify the prerequisite steps and investments needed to begin using Azure and AWS services. Leveraging our extensive experience around organisational transformation, we can create a guided roadmap for change and a costed way by step through the transition.



### Cloud Adoption

Here, customers can select either a proof of concept or elect to begin migrating services into the cloud. Specialists deliver everything from initial transformational designs and consumption estimates, to preparing your existing platform and providing the expertise required to transition complex workloads to Azure or AWS.



### Cloud Management

Whether you are on a CSP, MPSA or Enterprise Agreement, wrapping a 24x7 first to third line managed service around Azure allows you to leverage our in-depth product knowledge as a Microsoft Cloud Platform partner, providing everything from service management and configuration, to root cause analysis.

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## Who Are We?

No matter where you are in your cloud journey, Ultima can help you realise your vision of a simpler, more agile and cost effective platform, based upon Microsoft Azure or AWS Cloud. As a Microsoft 10 Times Gold and Cloud Service Partner, our team of specialists are authorised to deliver end-to-end ownership and our Cloud Specialist status enables us to provide end-to-end ownership and life-cycle support.



### Established Track Record

Services delivered by a dedicated Modern Data Centre practice, who have assisted many customers with their cloud adoption



### Extensive Integration Services

Engage Ultima for cloud integration including security, messaging, voice and network, as well as other types of application re-architecture



### Risk Mitigation

With a dedicated Assurance and Compliance division, we understand the implications of moving services into the cloud



### Efficiencies Through Transformation

Engage Ultima to see how auto-scaling, automation, continuous protection and cloud native apps can benefit your organisation



### End to End Support

We can provide advisory services, planning, deployment, migration and support services, through a single flexible engagement



### Continuous Development

Providing ongoing advice, service reviews, technical leadership and support, Ultima will become your trusted cloud advisor

