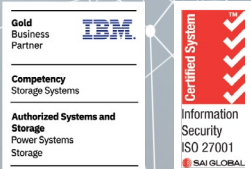


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Evolution Top 5 Series

Top 5 Mistakes Companies Make When Migrating To The Cloud

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Not all clouds are the same!

83% of enterprise workloads will move to the cloud by the end of 2020.

How can you ensure your cloud journey is a successful one? We will take you through the most common mistakes organisations make when migrating workloads to the cloud – and once you know what they are, it's much easier to avoid them.

There are several factors that should be considered when preparing for cloud migration. In this ebook, we talk about the top five mistakes organisations make when moving their business-critical workloads to the cloud:



01. Lack of planning



04. Migrating all apps



02. Overlooking security



05. No business continuity plan



03. Choosing the wrong partner



How to succeed at IT...

Moving to the cloud is not a simple process - and selecting the right IT Services provider can make the difference between success and failure.

By choosing Evolution Systems, you get a trusted partner with over 15 years of experience which sets your organisation up for a successful migration to the cloud. Partnering with us will help you avoid **these five common mistakes:**



01

Lack of planning

Migrating to a cloud environment is a highly complex undertaking that requires extensive project management and in-depth planning. Knowing these three tips will help you prevent this mistake:

01.1 Know your applications

Understanding what your applications can and cannot do is the key to the success of any cloud migration. Make sure you have consulted with the application owners before considering the move, capturing baseline metrics of your IT infrastructure to map workloads to your assets and applications.

01.2 Resource planning

Confirm what resources are required to run your applications before considering your move to the cloud. Knowing what staffing resources will be necessary to complete the migration project is the foundation of a successful migration.

01.3 Project & transition

Make sure you have allocated a project manager with key stakeholders to identify the strategic activities to transition from the current as-is to the new cloud setup.



02 Overlooking Security

It is crucial to safeguard your business-critical applications when moving to the cloud. Here are just three key points you need to consider to prevent this mistake from occurring:

02.1 Not updating security policies

All security policies must be reviewed and updated when moving to the cloud so that all users are aware of what is happening and follow security protocols.

02.2 Failing to know the risks

Moving to the cloud can expose company data if the appropriate security policies are not enforced and followed – failing to do so may make you more vulnerable to a data breach.

02.3 Knowing which cloud

The three primary types of cloud (Public, Private and Hybrid) all present unique security challenges. Knowing which cloud you are moving to will help you implement the most suitable security policies.



03

Choosing the wrong partner

Choosing the right partner is key to the success of any migration, and cloud is no different. Consider these three mistakes that can lead to selecting the wrong partner:

03.1 Proven experience & capabilities

Organisations often fail to thoroughly research cloud technology partners. Selecting a partner that has proven experience and knowledge will go a long way to making the transition to the cloud a successful one.

03.2 Support & SLAS

It is imperative to pick a partner that can work with you throughout and after the migration - and provides a level of support you can get quickly, including service level agreements.

03.3 Compliance

Not checking if the preferred partner is following security standards such as ISO certification is a common mistake. They will be responsible for your data, so it's crucial to make sure they'll keep it safe.



04 Migrating all applications

Not every application belongs in the cloud, so it is important for organisations to evaluate and analyse the current architecture to determine which applications are best suited to a cloud environment. The following three mistakes are often made prior to migration:

04.1 Controlling the resources

When moving from an in-house data centre where applications have full access to dedicated resources which are controlled by the organisation, cloud services (especially public) often share computing resources (multi-tenancy) so applications must be tuned to run optimally.

04.2 Big data analytics

Big data analytics places rigorous demands on networks, storage, and servers. Organisations that run high volume, high velocity workloads must consider if that workload should remain on-premises. Not considering this could lead to overloading your networking capability and causing outages to the business.

04.3 Legacy applications

If during planning stages you fail to evaluate your applications' readiness to move to the cloud, you may miss which ones may require a redesign or simply cannot be moved. Some legacy applications may have complex code that requires legacy technology, so it is vital that you conduct a detailed analysis to figure out if those apps should move or remain on-premises.



05 No business continuity plan

Companies often overlook the fact that applications running in the cloud can still be vulnerable and become unavailable. These are the three common mistakes that may impact business continuity:

05.1 No disaster recovery procedure

A disaster recovery plan describes scenarios for business continuity so that interruptions are reduced during unplanned outages. It is a critical step in the migration process, but it is still often overlooked if not properly planned out with your migration partner.

05.2 Data replication, backups and support

Organisations often assume that 'because it's in the cloud' it is automatically backed up and replicated to a secondary site. During the detailed planning phase with your cloud provider, it is important that you ensure these extra options are included, and regular checks are performed to ensure the recovery time objective for the business can be met.

05.3 Geography diversity

Organisations often fail to allocate resources in different locations or without adequate distance between primary and secondary site. This is imperative when it comes to disaster recovery planning and should be part of any migration strategy.

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