Microsoft Azure

Mainframe and Midrange Migration



Over the years, organizations have invested in mainframe and midrange technologies for missioncritical applications.

With advances in technology and changing economic models, transitioning to cloud services can be a compelling value proposition, providing organizations with advantages in cost, flexibility, and application maintenance and development.



Migrating from legacy mainframe and midrange technologies can provide four key advantages:



Economics and cost:

Based on data from organizations who have migrated their mainframe and midrange server workloads to the cloud, organizations can see savings in maintenance and operations, and reduced capital costs. If additional capacity is needed, organizations can pay for what they need, when they need it in a cloud-based model.



Development and platform flexibility:

Migrating to the cloud can provide organizations with choice in application development platforms and tools, database and BI technologies, and access to modern AI tools.



Resilience:

By migrating to the cloud, organizations may no longer need complex disaster recovery plans for on-premises recovery and can maintain their data in different physical locations due to the use of cloud-based environments.



Addressing skills shortages:

With aging legacy applications, it can be more difficult to source staff who have the requisite skills to maintain mainframe and midrange technologies. By migrating to the cloud, organizations can build for the future and find the needed skills for their workloads.

Why Microsoft Azure is the new mainframe

With Microsoft Azure, organizations have access to a mainframe class technologies, a wide variety of development platforms, hybrid flexibility, and the ability to innovate. With Microsoft Azure, organizations can experience:



Mainframe class capabilities

Azure has the technologies to deliver mainframe class reliability, availability, and serviceability. In addition, Azure delivers business continuity and disaster recovery at a low cost.



Modern development and deployment

Azure provides modern DevOps tools and container technologies that address skills shortages by expanding the talent tool to new developers, enabling quick deployment of updates to support business requirements.



Hybrid flexibility

Control the timing and implementation of your digital transformation. You can migrate at your own pace keeping select data and applications on-premises while other data and applications are moved to the cloud.



Jump-start innovation Gain new, cutting-edge capabilities with data analytics, machine learning, and Azure Cognitive Services.

Making the transition

Transitioning from mainframe and midrange technologies to Microsoft Azure can be done in a variety of ways, and deployments may be 100% cloud-based or include a hybrid infrastructure combining cloud and on-premises technologies. There are several paths which can be taken. **Common models may include:**

	Remote hosting	Outsource infrastructure management
Applications: Cobol, JAVA, PL/I,	Retire	Discard applications
Transaction Server: CICS, IMS. OS 2200 TIP	Retain	Wrap existing systems Replicate data to SQL for BI
Databases: DB2, VSAM, IMS, Adabas, IDMS, UDS	Replace	No added value Replace with packaged offering
Operating Systems: z/Series: z/OS, z/VM, z/TPF, z/Linux	Re-platform Re-host Re-factor	Application meets needs but is expensive to run Re-platform instructions or App to x86 Re-host to Windows/Linux without change
Power: AIX, IBM i, i5/OS, OS/400		Re-factor to Java/C#
ClearPath: OS 2200, MCP Workloads: Dev & Test	Re-envision	No application in market Need to differentiate through custom development

We look forward to discussing your mainframe and midrange migration plans at your earliest convenience; contact MainframeTransformed@microsoft.com to get started.