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Smooth Sailing to Azure:

Streamlining Datacenter Workload Migration to Azure





Who am I?



Erwin Staal

Azure Architect

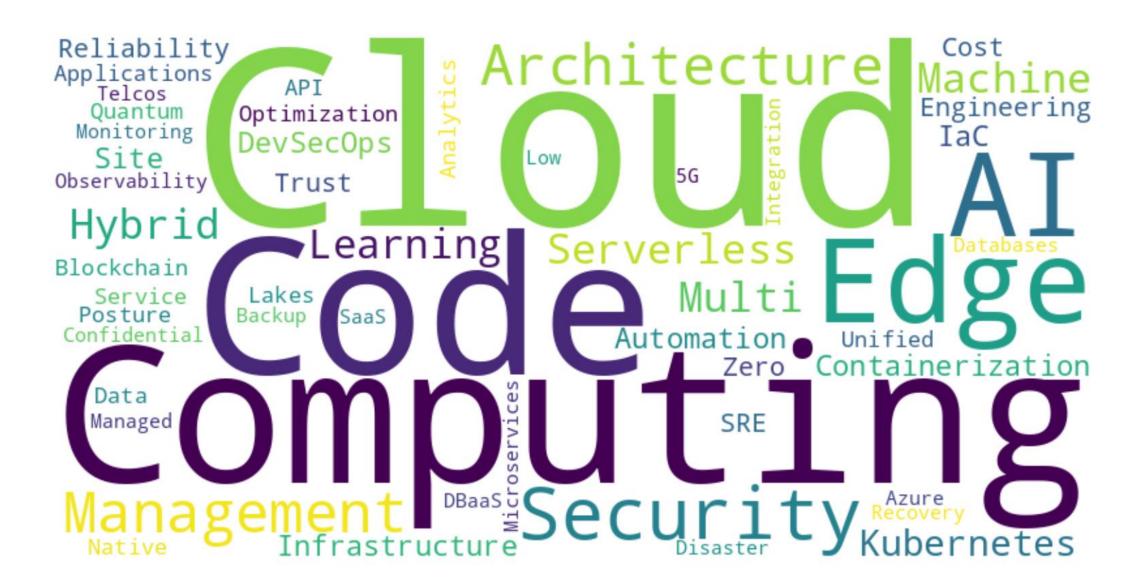
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Key Challenges in Cloud Migration

Unsupported COTS products

Outdated networking configurations

Complex database dependencies

Cultural and organizational resistance

Latency and Network Performance

Compliance and Regulatory Concerns

Vendor Lock-In

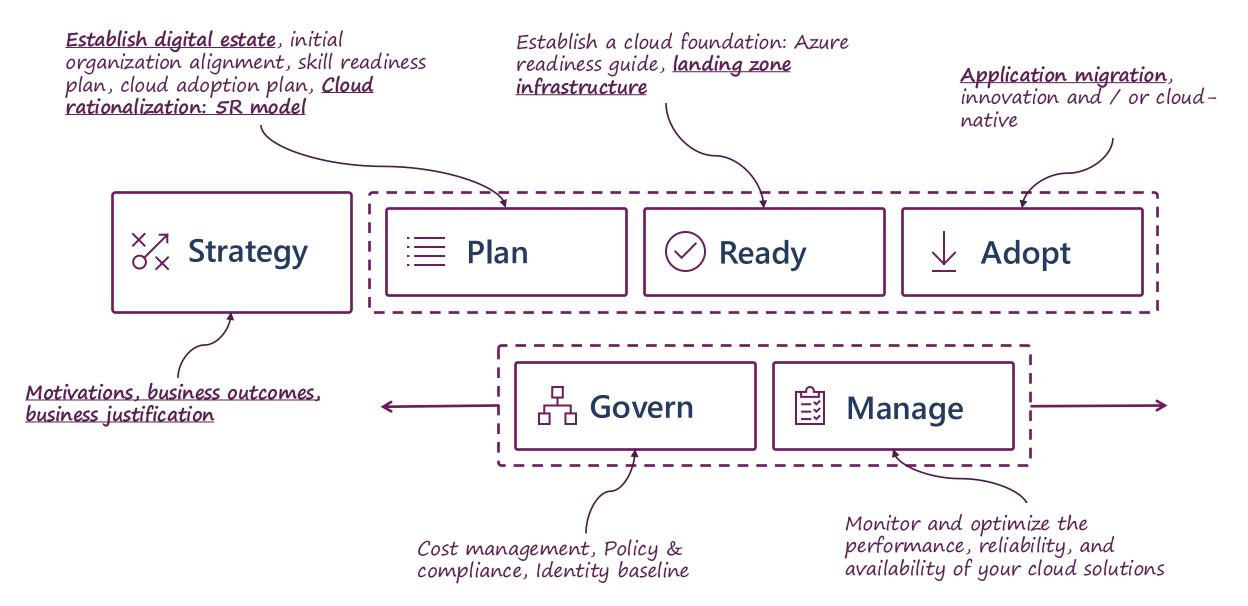
Cost Management

Specific data formats, proprietary database technologies, or

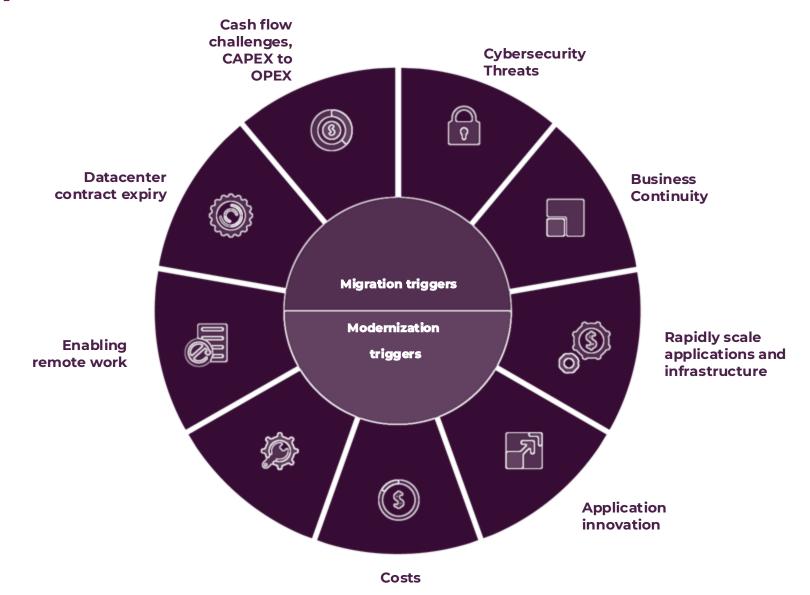
Cultural resistance might arise from fear of change, concern

Moving to the cloud can introduce unexpected costs, especially if not properly monitored

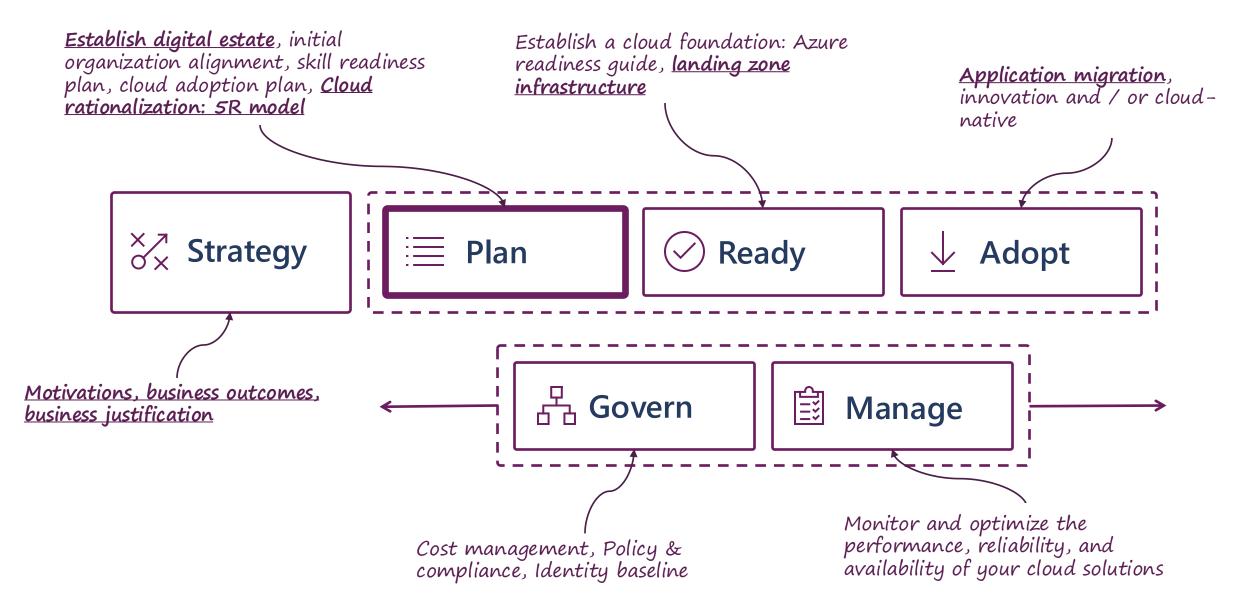
Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure



Why companies move to the cloud

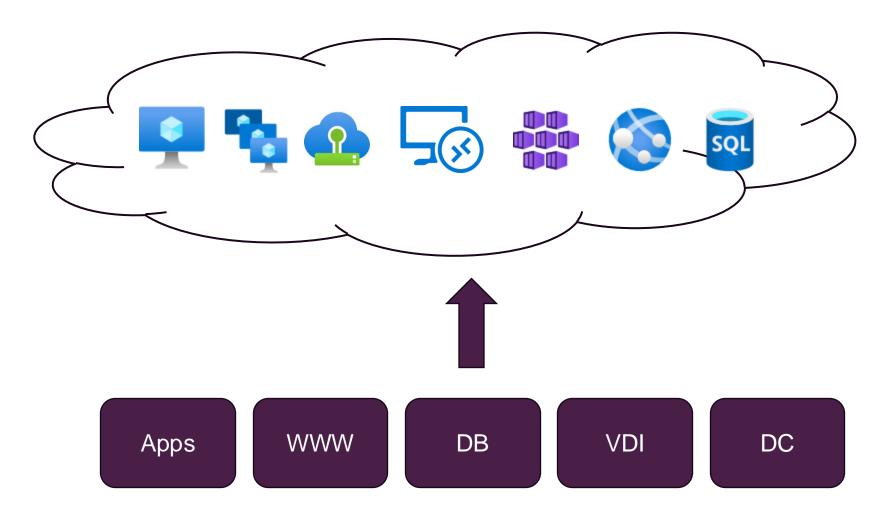


Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure



Your digital estate?

A digital estate is the collection of IT assets that power business processes and supporting operations





Questions



How long do I have?



Is the App Strategic? Core or Context?



TCO time limit? ROI tolerance?



Budget?



Company strategy?

Cloud Rationalisation: The 5R model



Rehosting

Move with minimal change to the overall architecture.

"Lift and Shift"



Reduce capital expense. Free up datacenter. Rapid ROI

Easiest to do No real advantage of cloud

More

Minimal



Refactoring

Slightly refactor an application to fit a PaaS-based model.

Not changing code

Common drivers:

Faster and shorter updates. Code portability. Greater cloud efficiency to help with resources, speed, cost, and managed operations.

E.g. move an app from IIS to an App Service



Rearchitecting

The application is incompatible and needs to be rearchitected before the migration.

Common drivers:

Application scale and agility. Easier adoption of new cloud capabilities. Mix of technology stacks.

E.g. switch the underlying database, run in a container, use functions



Rebuild

The delta that must be overcome to carry an application forward can be too large to justify further investment.



Replace

A SaaS application can provide all the necessary functionality for the hosted application

Common drivers:

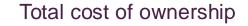
Accelerate innovation. Build applications faster. Reduce operational cost.

Common drivers:

Less

Lots

Standardize around industry best practices. Focus on core applications



Effort / cloud benefit







Cloud Rationalisation: Myths

It's easy to make rationalization decisions early in the process

Take an incremental approach

Cloud adoption must wait for all workloads to be rationalized

The power of 10

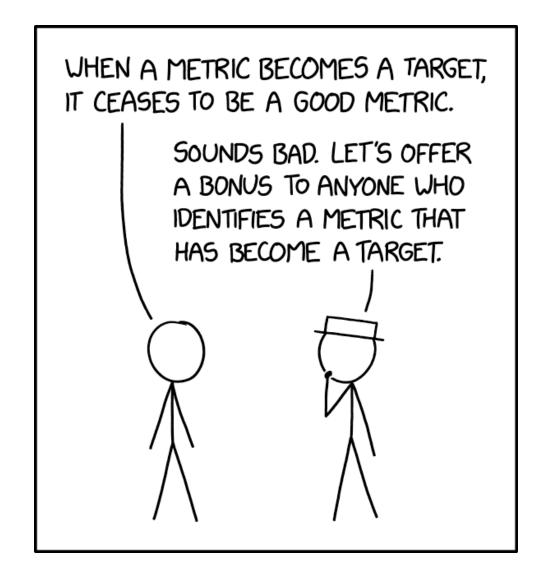
Business justification must wait for all workloads to be rationalized

Make basic assumptions:

- Core: rearchitecture
- Context: migrate

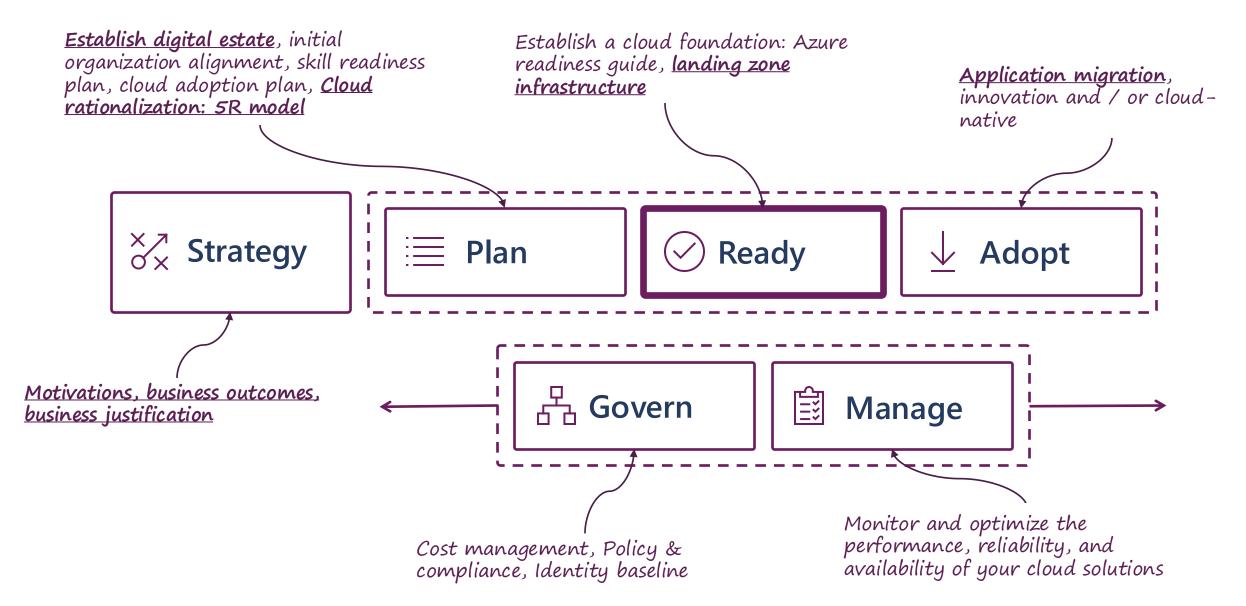


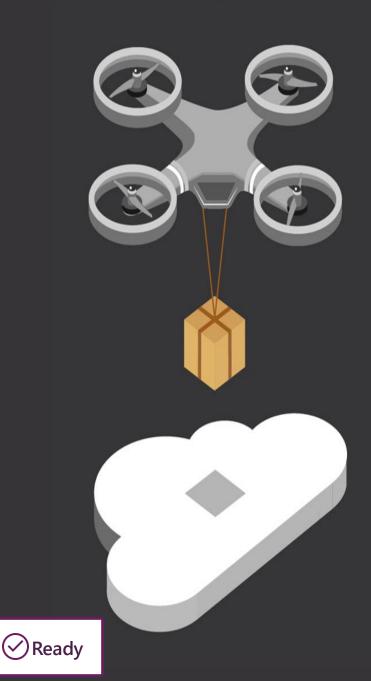
Setting the right KPIs: Goodhart's Law





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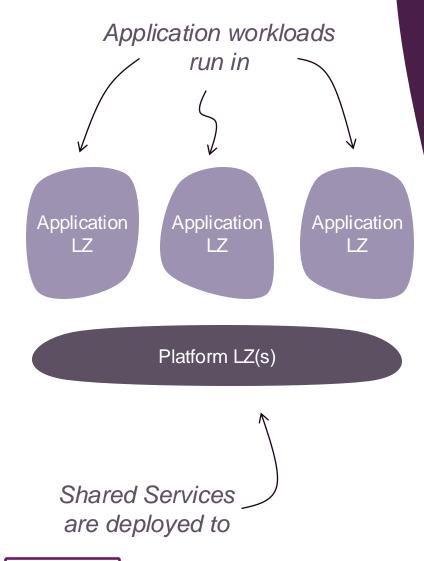


A Landing Zone
is an environment for

hosting workloads

in the Microsoft Azure Cloud,

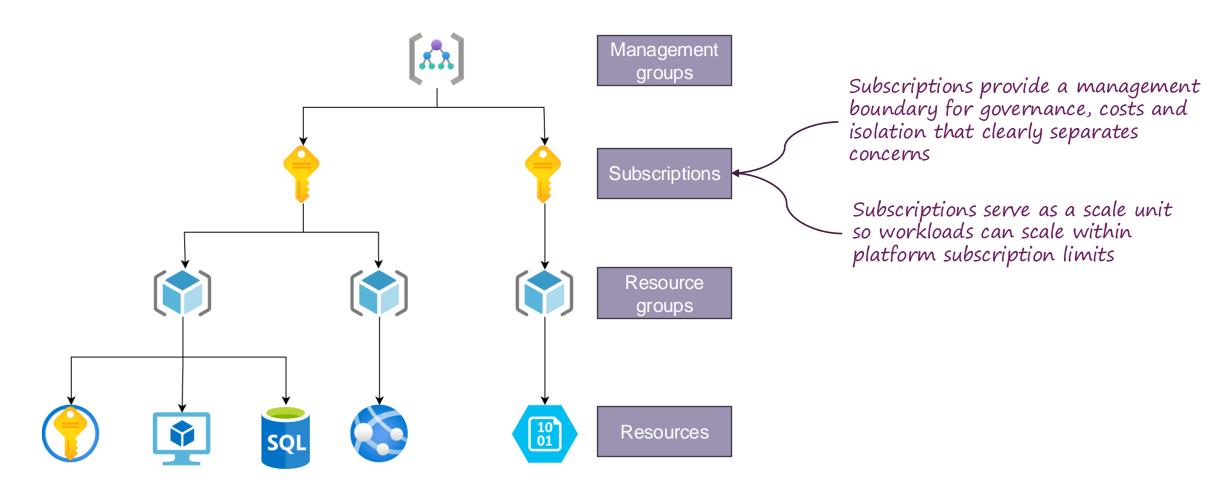
pre-provisioned through code



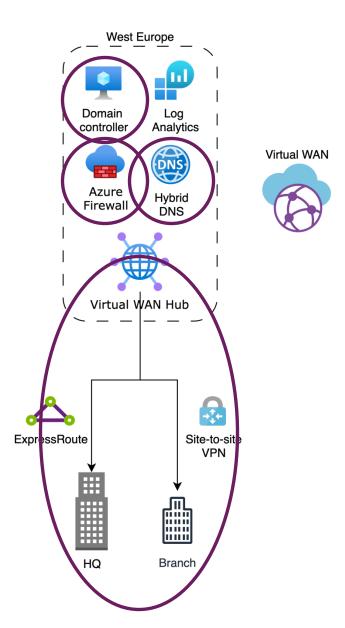
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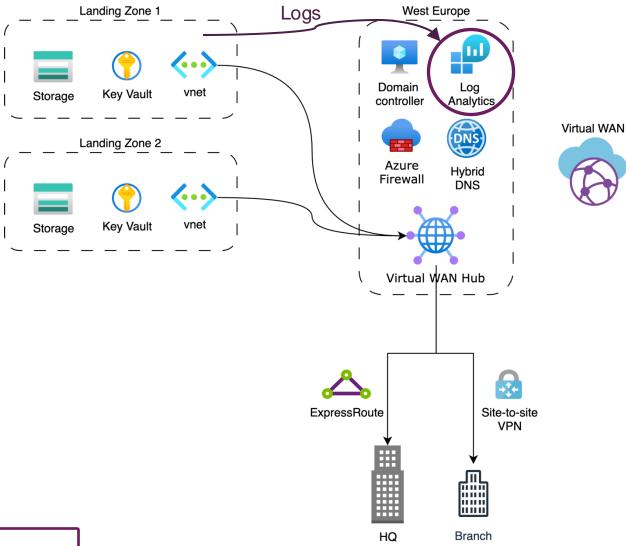
Deployment Scopes in Azure



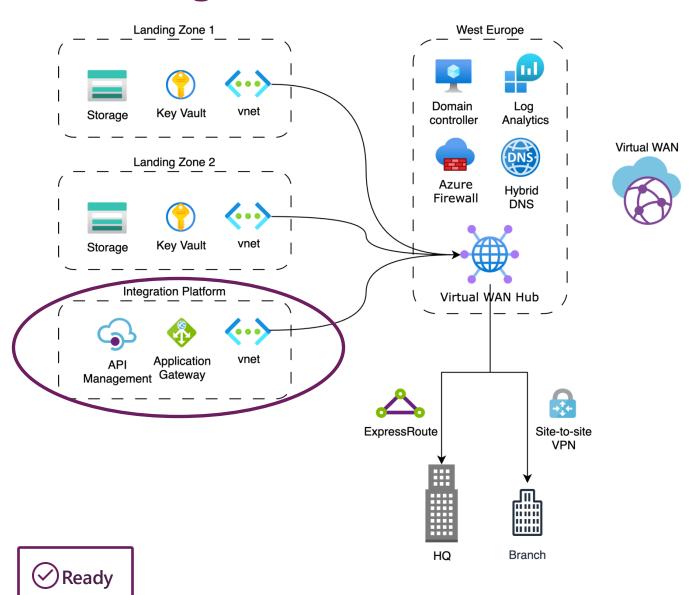




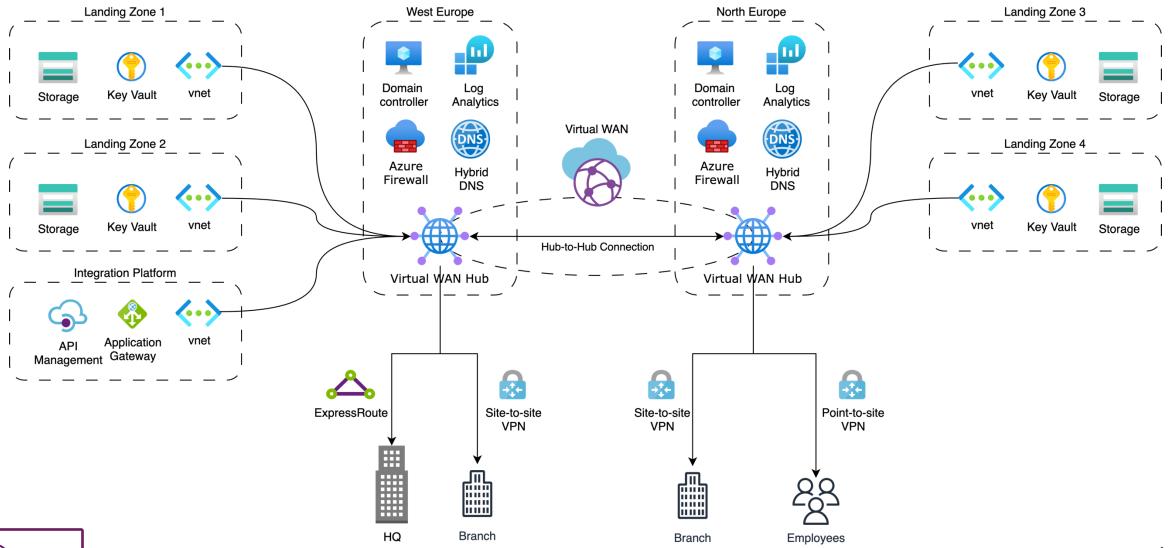














Subscription vending

A mechanism for programmatically issuing subscriptions to application teams

- Streamlined process: the official front door for application teams to request subscriptions
- Improved velocity: faster access and onboard workloads quicker.
- Efficient governance: the platform team can enforce governance on application landing zones with minimal overhead.

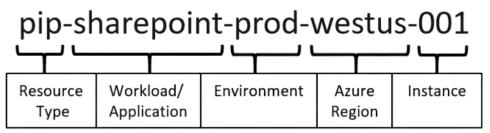




Resource Organisation

Naming

- Accurately representing and naming your resources is essential for security purposes
- Security services such as Microsoft Defender for Cloud and Microsoft Sentinel reference resources and their associated logging and alert information by resource name.



Tagging

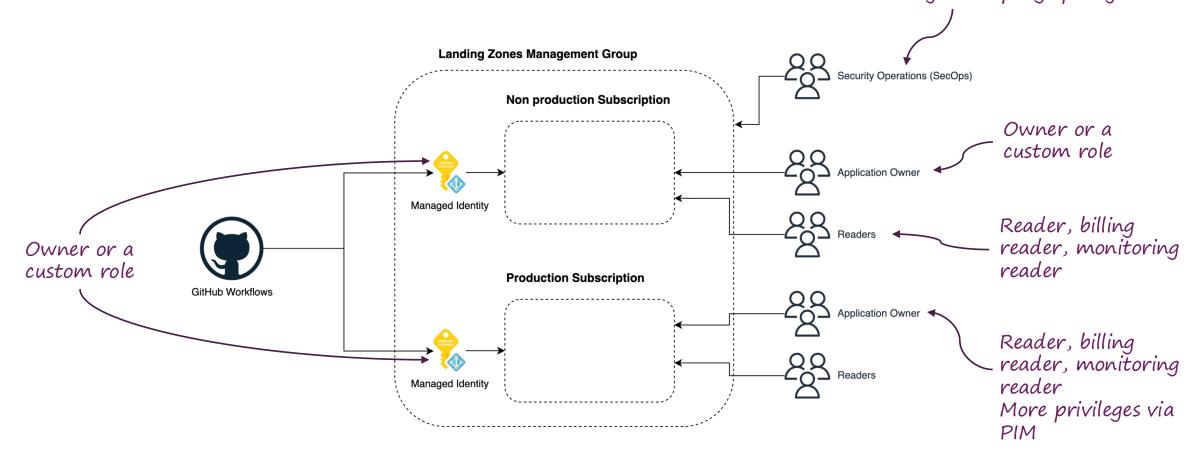
- Include information that couldn't be included in the resource name
- That information is used to run more sophisticated filtering and reporting on resources
- Tags should include context about the resource's workload, operational requirements, and ownership information
- Examples: Data Classification, business criticality, business unit, cost centre, owner, environment





Role Based Access Control

Security Administrator role with a horizontal view across the entire Azure estate and the Key Vault purge policy





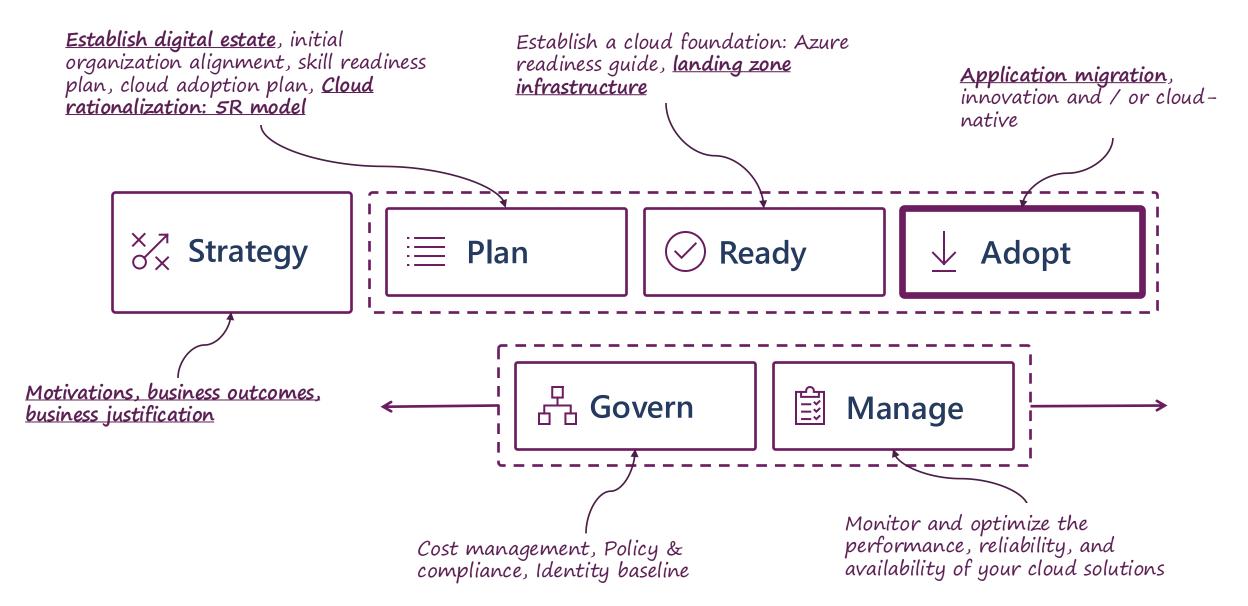
Govern: Azure Policy

```
resource allowedLocations 'Microsoft.Authorization/policyDefinitions@2020-09-01' = {
 name: 'Allowed locations'
   displayName: 'Allowed locations'
   description: 'This policy enables you to restricts deployments to West Europe'
            field: 'location'
            notIn: '['westeurope']'
            field: 'location'
```





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Phases of migration

Clean Up

- Simplify application landscape by removing duplicates or unused applications
- Clean data

Discover

- Using our digital estate
- Find technical details
 - OS, storage needs, versions, etc.
- Find performance characteristics
 - You pay different for CPUs on-prem vs in the cloud
 - Quality of data is important here, seasonality
- Find dependencies
 - What is my application talking to?
 - Who is talking to the application?
- Application value



- Reevaluate chosen 5R strategy
- Can it move to the cloud?
- Rightsizing
- Grouping
 - E.g. based on latency and dependencies
- Governance and readiness of target services



- Prepare environment
- Plan
 - Test migration
 - Migrate
- Online / Offline (downtime)



Ongoing

Azure Migrate

- Central Hub to Discover, Assess and Migrate resources to Microsoft Azure
- Built-in tools and third-party tools
- Plan, Test and Migrate workloads to Azure

VMWare
Hyper-V
Physical Servers
Other clouds

Databases

Web Apps

Azure Data Box

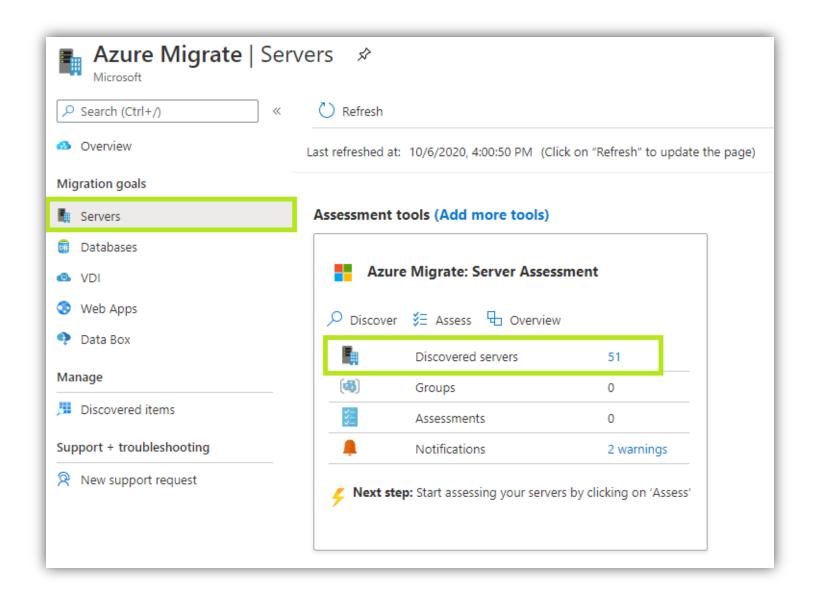
Virtual Desktop
Infrastructure (VDI)





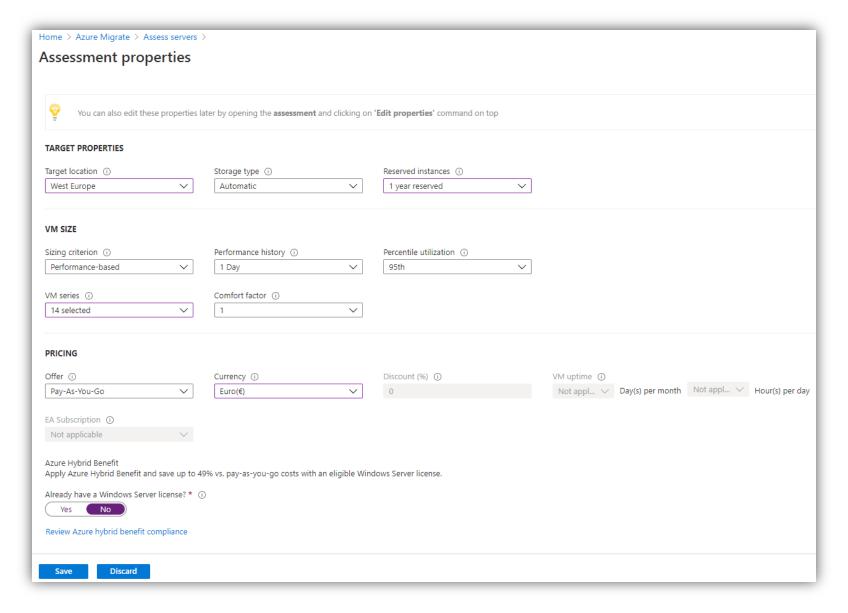
Cloud Rationalisation: The 5R model

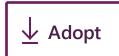






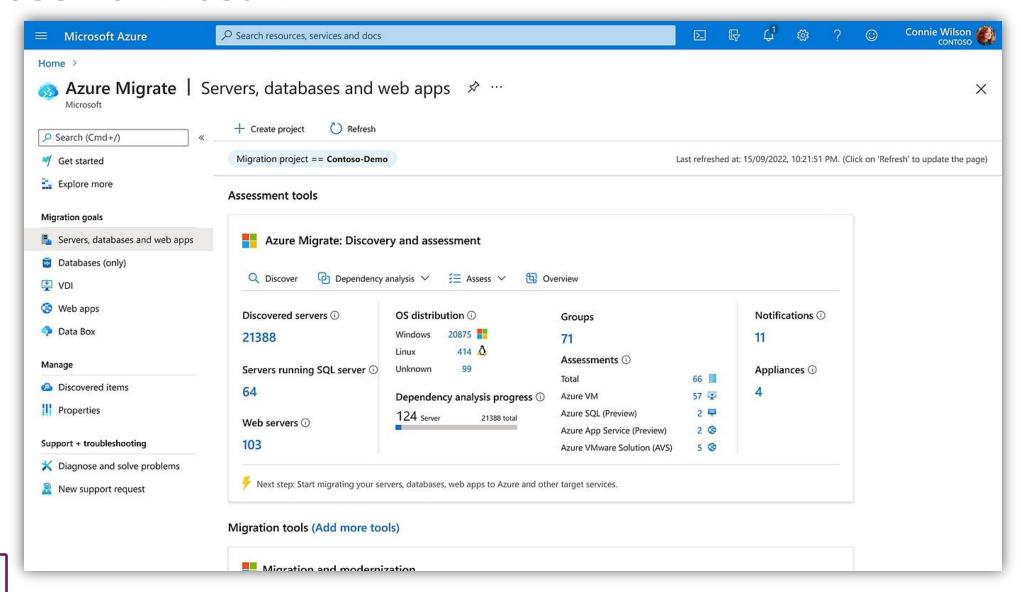
Start an assessment

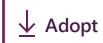






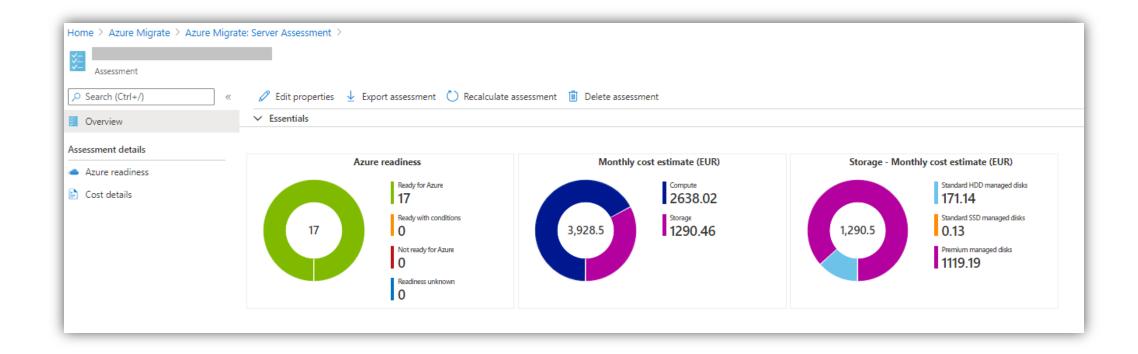
Assessment result





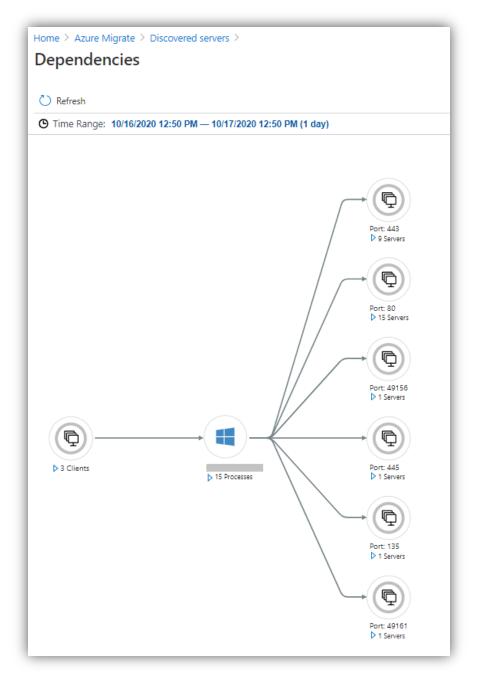


Assessment result





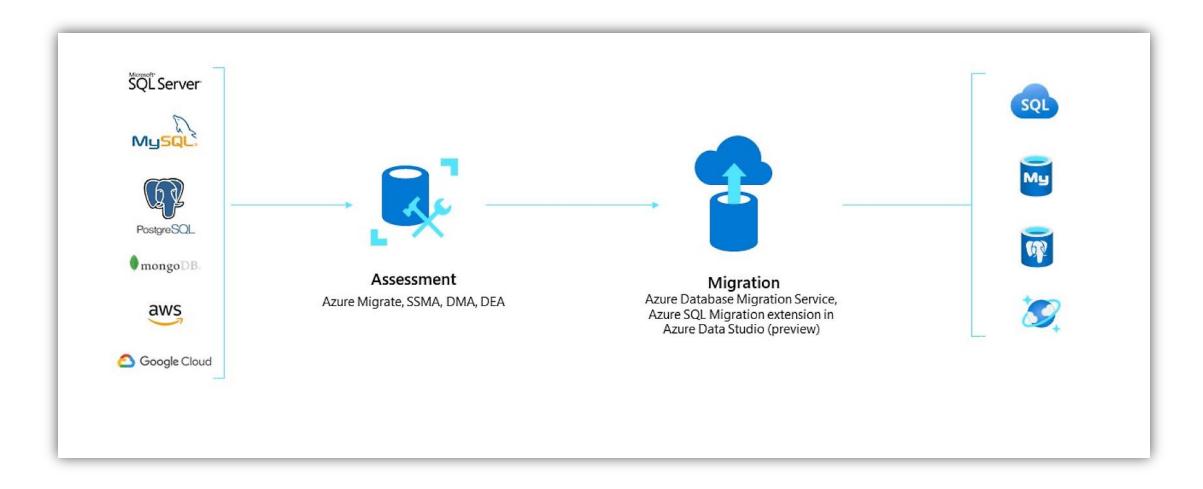
Dependency graph

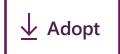




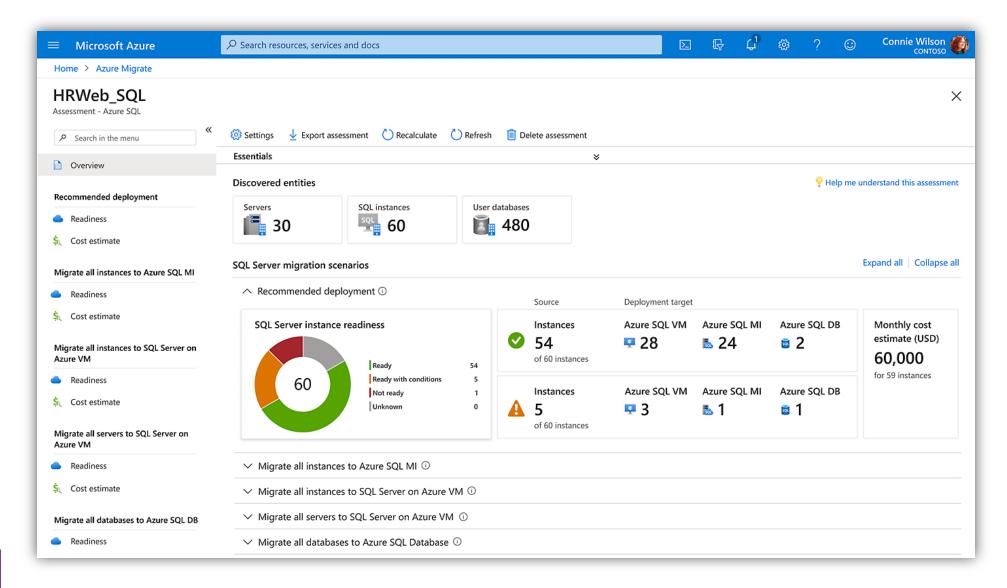


Database migration





Database assessment







Azure migrate scenario's

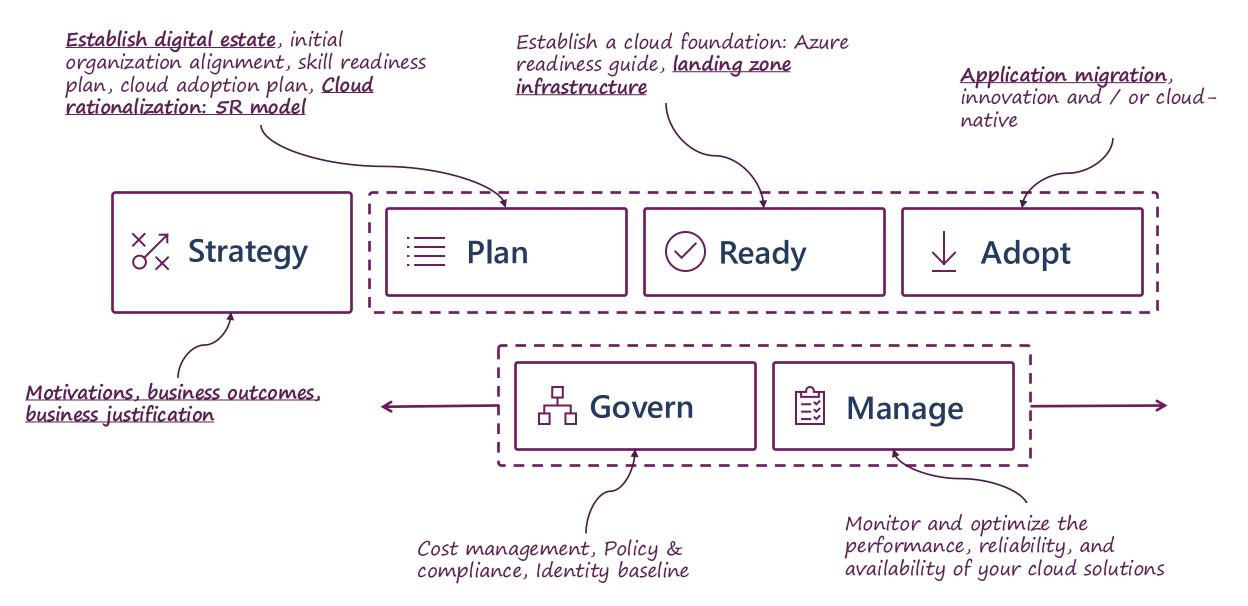
When Azure Migrate is Very Usable:

- Lift-and-Shift of VMs: Simplifies bulk VM migration with minimal changes.
- Data Center Exit: Supports full data center migration (VMs, databases, apps).
- SQL Database Migration: Eases migration to managed SQL services on Azure.
- Web App Migration: Streamlines web app migration to Azure App Service or container.

When Azure Migrate May Not Be Ideal:

- Infrastructure as Code: Azure Migrate does not generate IaC
- Multi-Cloud Strategy: Only supports migration to Azure, not other clouds.
- Highly Customized/Legacy Apps: Limited support for complex, outdated systems.
- Small-Scale Migrations: May be overkill for minimal migrations.
- Cloud-Native Rebuilds: Better suited for lift-and-shift than full rebuilds.
- Large Data Transfers with Low Bandwidth: Physical options like Azure Data Box may be more practical.

Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure



Key Takeaways & Next Steps

- Migration Success: Cloud migration is a journey
 - Understanding unique needs, challenges, and goals is essential
 - The impact on organisational change and people is not to be taken lightly
- Strategic Planning:
 - Use tools like Azure Migrate to assess, plan, and execute migrations with minimal disruptions.
 - Prioritize workloads,
 - Define a migration strategy
- Azure Migrate Docs
- Cloud Adoption Framework Migrate Docs
- Cloud Adoption Framework tools
- Azure Migrate GitHub repo





Thanks!

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