**Assignment 2: Cloud Adoption Framework**

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1. The**key steps and components** of AWS.

Companies of all shapes and sizes must be highly compatible with today's market from new startups to large multinational businesses. Migration to cloud is not an easy task and it is going to affect not only the IT department but other teams as well. There are many chances for things to go wrong and off plan during the execution of the migration. To ensure the success of the migration project, we need to make sure that we follow a prescribed and tested process. Luckily, many organizations have been in this situation, and the AWS Professional Services Team has captured all of the best practices and recommendations in a framework named the Cloud Adoption Framework. This framework is designed to offer the organization guidance in order to make the migration process as smooth as possible. CAF organizes guidance into six areas of focus, called Perspectives. Each perspective addresses Distinct Responsibilities. The framework will assess both the technical and business capabilities of the organization. The result of this assessment will be an action plan which is deployed through the organizations change management. Business capability includes Business, People, and Governance Perspectives. Technical Capabilities include platform, security and operations perspective. Each perspective uncovers gaps in skills and processes, which are then recorded as inputs. (Kolodiy, 2021)

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Description automatically generated (Kolodiy, 2021)

**Business Perspective**

IT team should be aligned with the business goals this is ensured by Business Perspective. It creates an global business model which can expand and adapt to the changing business needs with a long-term perspective. This involves key stakeholders and business owners like CEO, CFO, etc. This Business-IT collaboration will help in achiving hsort-term gains as well as it includes planning for the future. It also ensures that this alignment (Kolodiy, 2021)

**People Perspective**  
The main goal of people perspective is to validate the current skill sets within the department and uncover the gaps. Identifying this early will help the organization to prioritise the need for hiring new people and invest in training in existing people. This involves human resources, staffing and people managers. (CloudGenius, n.d.)

**Governance Perspective**  
The governance perspective validates and focuses on the skills and processes to align IT strategy with business strategy. Governance perspective is used to understand how to update the staff skills and process necessary to ensure business governance in the cloud. This involves Chief information officer(CIO), Program manager, Enterprise architects and business analysts. (CloudGenius, n.d.)

**Platform Perspective**  
This is aimed at understanding the current structure of the existing IT systems and it describes the architecture of the target organization in detail. This Uses a variety of architectural model to understand and communicate the structure of IT systems and their relationships. This involves IT managers, Solutions architects, etc. (CloudGenius, n.d.)

**Security Perspective**  
The security perspective focuses on understanding and structuring the selection of security controls, mechanisms, and policies. This will help to meet and match the organization's security standards. It helps reduce IT workloads for the network security team. (CloudGenius, n.d.)

**Operations Perspective**

This helps to define the existing operational procedures and identifies how this can be transformed and changed to cope with the new model after migration. It involves IT operations managers and IT support managers. (CloudGenius, n.d.)

1. **Cloud Adoption Framework for a mid-size organization.**

Before selecting a CAF, there are many factors to consider. Each cloud provider and platform has their own set of tools and best practices. The underlying principles are the same for all but differ in implementation. (Mature team structures, 2023)

**AWS Cloud Adoption Framework**

The first thing that AWS Cloud Adoption Framework does is identify business stakeholders. AWS then categorizes the stakeholders into six sections. This enables the company to analyze cloud adoption from the point of view of each stakeholder separately. This analysis offers the best methodologies for cloud migration and handling. For a medium-sized organization, the benefits of using AWS will be the wide range of tools and resources, strong global availability, and high range of services. But at the same time, it can be difficult to navigate from on-prem without prior AWS experience. (An Overview of the AWS, 2017)

**Azure Cloud Adoption Framework**CAF iterative process for Azure This, the states work on many iterations. This will make sure the CAF works round the clock. Using CFA from Azure, organizations can speed up their cloud adoption journey with templates, tools, and assessments. Azure is feathery useful for mid size companies due to these enlisted characteristics. CAF is of great help to facilitate a smooth transition and adoption for a hybrid cloud for Azure.

**Google Cloud Adoption Framework  
Google CAF** introduces a structure based on people, processes, and technology. This structure enables the organizations to work, assess the current state of cloud adoption journey, and propose programs to reach the goal. The framework assess the organization's readiness and what are the actions to be taken to fill the gaps and innovate new skills. It focuses on ML and AI. The pricing is simplified and it has user-friendly tools. However it offers less resources and community support due to fewer market share. (Konsek, n.d.)

**Conclusion**I believe Microsoft Azure will be a better choice for medium size organizations due to several reasons. Firstly, it provides smooth integration with widely used Microsoft products. Secondly Azure ensures 100% support for hybrid environment setup. Thirdly, CAF of Azure is well-structured and clear. This CAF guidance aligned with its business objectives, makes it the best fit for organizations with medium requirements. Furthermore, as Microsoft is widely used tool most of the IT professional are already familiar with it, thus reducing the need to train. However, the final decision should be based on the requirements, needs and infrastructure of the organization. (Initial organization alignment, 2023)

3. **Cloud Adoption Framework**   
  
Cloud Adoption Framework for mid-size organizations

1. Cloud Adoption Team

The first step is to create a cloud adoption team. This group that will handle those technical changes from cloud adoption. The team can also be augmented based on the demand with adding more of engineers or architects, and even business stakeholders. This team is focused on migrating solutions to the cloud. (Mature team structures, 2023)

1. Cloud Governance Group

This team make sure that the cloud adoption aligns with the companies objectives and follows best practices. It provides a balance between control and agility. The basic responsibilities include assessing the cloud maturity, defining standards and guidelines, monitoring day to day operations and performance, and establishing policies for data management and access control.

1. Strategic Alignment   
   In this stage identify areas where the cloud can drive effectively, cost saving, etc. Ensures that CFA is aligned with the long-term benefits of the business. Define clear and specific objectives for cloud adoption. Implement criteria to evaluate success. Use KPI to track progress. Identify engaging department leads early and make them involved. (Microsoft Cloud Adoption, 2023)
2. Operational Alignment   
   In order to ensure security, work with the security team for a secure transition. Impose identity and access management controls. Understand regulatory requirements, and adjust policies and procedures to accommodate cloud resources. Ensure cost management by setting up cost tracking and reporting mechanisms and implementation of cost optimization practices. Providing training to IT operational team to ensure smooth transitions. (Cloud adoption, 2024)
3. Cloud Center of Excellence  
   This acts as a central hub of cloud experts within the organization. It provides strategic decisions for cloud adoption. CCoE provides an opportunity for collaboration and knowledge sharing across multiple teams. It regularly checks cloud maturity and identifies areas for enhancement. Facilitates cost saving and innovation. Conduct training sessions, workshops and encourage cross-functional learning. (MicrosoftDocs, n.d.)

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