Accelerating Business-Aligned Cloud Transformation

Ascending to the cloud is easier with guides who’ve made the climb before.
Cloud computing opens a whole range of opportunities for the enterprise. These include faster computing resources for the business with fewer resource demands on IT; new business models and revenue streams; and simpler, improved collaboration. In addition, cloud computing offers more predictable operations through automation and a more agile infrastructure.

Let’s face it: Running a data center is not a core competency for most. Cloud lets enterprises focus on their core business and on strategic programs that differentiate them from their competition.

With the public cloud as the new data center enterprises have the opportunity to respond to a changing competitive landscape faster than ever before. Cloud computing has the potential to help IT organizations move from providing a commoditized utility to offering strategic insight—a leap they’ve been striving toward for years. Cost, utilization, and performance are revealed down to the application level, allowing IT to align expense to revenue. In addition, the agility and scalability that cloud computing offers helps enterprises to create the foundation for ongoing digital transformation.

While outwardly simple, though, cloud computing belies some introductory complexity that enterprises must traverse. What applications should be in the cloud? Which ones shouldn’t? How do traditional security, governance, and operational procedures need to change?

A journey to an uncharted, unfamiliar destination requires experienced guidance from partners who’ve traversed the landscape before and know where the terrain gets slippery.

SOLUTION SPOTLIGHT

Cognizant and Amazon Web Services (AWS) are working together to provide that guidance. To enable initial cloud adoption and speed up the current cloud agenda, Cognizant and AWS are offering enterprises a four-week “Cloud Accelerator Program.”

With AWS you get a reliable, scalable, low-cost infrastructure platform in the cloud. AWS has data centers located in the United States, Europe, Brazil, Singapore, Japan, and Australia, and serves thousands of customers of all sizes in 190 countries and a multitude of industries. Its infrastructure and application services enable customers to run virtually everything in the cloud, from enterprise applications and big data analysis to social media and mobile apps.

Cognizant has developed its Cloud Steps transformation framework to help enterprises make the transition to AWS. Thanks to Cognizant's extensive experience with cloud computing, and specifically with AWS, the framework simplifies the complexities of application transformation.

It allows enterprises to get to the cloud faster and start deriving benefits sooner, while mitigating risks that come with an enterprise transformation.
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Cognizant’s AWS transformation services provide a start-to-finish path to cloud, beginning with an all-important assessment of an enterprise’s current state and the suitability of applications for migration to AWS. This is followed by defining the cloud transformation strategy and roadmap, workload-level discovery and analysis, and migration to the cloud. Finally, there is validation against regulatory and policy requirements, establishment of a governance model, and steady-state management of the cloud environment and ongoing optimization.

GET STARTED

From initial cloud adoption to optimization, the “Cloud Accelerator Program” aims to smooth the transition to the cloud. This program involves:

- Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) and work backlog planning
- Discovery, evaluation, assessment, and classification of selected customer environments, systems, and applications
- Identification of possible deployment patterns (rehosting, refactoring, revising, rebuilding, replacing) using AWS Services
- Migration roadmap to AWS
- High-level ROI/TCO study based on customer’s planned use of AWS Services

Services. Combining its cloud expertise with decades of consultative experience, Cognizant also offers the perspective necessary to integrate existing business processes for a seamless transformation of applications. It assists organizations with making the digital transformation through the cloud in four ways:

- Design and Build Services encompass creating a secure, compliant AWS environment, incorporating infrastructure and platform management expertise across a variety of workloads, including ERP, CRM, business intelligence, and content management. The services also comprise a cloud-based analytics platform and connecting an organization’s IoT devices to the cloud.
- AWS Consulting Services help enterprises determine the best strategy for their cloud infrastructure. These services are designed to help mitigate risk and ensure compliance by defining a cloud governance model, aligning with security and industry regulations, and developing change management strategies for transitioning to the cloud.
- Migration Services ensure smooth transition of application workloads to the AWS target environment with a structured, repeatable “factory-based” approach, based on the Cognizant portfolio of migration tools and process-based templates.
- Managed Services provide the management necessary for automated service delivery and operations, and continuous optimization that helps enterprises take advantage of easily consumable, elastic services.
Business Benefits. Cloud computing is widely known to help enterprises improve business agility, gain better control and compliance, reduce time to market for new projects, and optimize cost savings. But by working with experienced cloud partners like Cognizant and AWS, enterprises can derive even greater business benefits—accelerate digital transformation, power business innovation, solve business challenges, and make new business models and revenue streams possible both now and in the future.

Working together, Cognizant and AWS help IT move from supporting systems to enabling digital transformation, and from providing general utility to contextual service delivery. They help enterprises transition from being in a steady state to being in a constantly ready state, moving from silo-based operations to unlocking the value of integration, insight, and collaboration.

WHY COGNIZANT AND AWS?

Cognizant began working with the AWS platform in 2008, making it one of Amazon’s longtime partners. Cognizant’s designation as an APN Premier Consulting Partner, Managed Service Provider, and Authorized Commercial Reseller is based on deep experience and exceptional service building robust solutions across a large number of enterprises. This, along with achieving multiple partner competencies, is evidence of Cognizant’s global capabilities, which include a track record of helping a large number of enterprise customers run their applications on top of AWS.

In this capacity, Cognizant combines its system integration capabilities, accelerators, frameworks, and toolkits, along with advisory, implementation, and managed services, with AWS’s cloud computing technology and services. The result: a reliable, flexible cloud infrastructure that will drive business acceleration and digital transformation for the enterprise.

The companies’ collaboration is driven by the common goal to serve joint customers by leveraging Cognizant’s global delivery model with AWS’s scalable, reliable, agile cloud computing capabilities. While AWS furnishes the building blocks of the cloud architecture, Cognizant provides the differentiating integration strategy and expertise to create industry and horizontal solutions to solve customer problems.

LEARN MORE: www.cognizant.com/partners/aws and www.cognizant.com/Cloud

ABOUT COGNIZANT

Cognizant (NASDAQ-100: CTSH) is one of the world’s leading professional services companies, transforming clients’ business, operating and technology models for the digital era. Our unique industry-based, consultative approach helps clients envision, build and run more innovative and efficient businesses. Headquartered in the U.S., Cognizant is ranked 205 on the Fortune 500 and is consistently listed among the most admired companies in the world. Learn how Cognizant helps clients lead with digital at www.cognizant.com or follow us ©Cognizant.