



Case Study: Life Sciences

Establishing GxP-compliant cloud services and migrating customers

An Indian pharmaceutical company moved services from on-premises to a new cloud environment.

In the current pharma operating environment, IT is under pressure to accomplish migration and integration in the shortest possible time and within the allocated budget. However, one of the main challenges is that expenditures and implementation times are often not aligned with the IT budgets and strategies of many organizations. Such time and budget constraints call for an approach that can reduce the implementation time for migration and integration projects from months to weeks while also delivering desired total cost of ownership (TCO) savings. It is important that IT organizations focusing on such projects understand their company's realities and look for suitable alternatives that provide the necessary flexibility and scalability at a lower TCO.

Take the case of an Indian pharmaceutical company with global operations. The company had migrated its SAP-based enterprise resource planning (ERP) software, SAP ERP Central Component (SAP ECC), from an IBM cloud to an on-premises IBM bare-metal server environment. The move improved performance, but it also resulted in rising costs and sub-par support.

At a Glance

A pharma company with global operations needed to improve its SAP system's flexibility and scalability while lowering costs. We migrated SAP to the AWS public cloud. The problem-free 18-week engagement saved money and delivered a more scalable, flexible and secure environment.

Outcomes:

- Handled end-to-end technical delivery management of the migration project.
- Delivered a GxP-compliant SAP migration to the AWS public cloud.

SAP on AWS cloud improves flexibility, scalability and lowers costs

On-premises to cloud

Technical migration of SAP systems from an on-premises environment to an AWS cloud platform helps optimize the infrastructure and enhance system scalability and security.

The capability of the pharma company's SAP system to benefit from security patches was limited. In addition, other systems were not able to interact with SAP when it was under maintenance, which took long periods of time. We helped the pharma company move its business-critical SAP workloads from an IBM hosted data center to an AWS public cloud.

Migration to cloud is a powerful infrastructure alternative for critical business applications, as well as a great way to avoid capital expenses and maintenance costs while gaining scalability on demand. In particular, deploying SAP on the cloud can transform an SAP landscape into an agile, cost-efficient and scalable system that enables organizations to run better and respond faster to changing market conditions and to take advantage of new technologies and business models.

For our pharma client, we executed the technical migration of its SAP ECC solution manager systems from an on-premises to an AWS cloud platform to optimize the company's infrastructure and enhance its scalability and security. We delivered an end-to-end best-practice-validated environment within four and a half months. Our capabilities and expertise on this project included:

- Five AWS-certified professional architects to oversee the cloud implementation.
- A 24/7 support team to ensure uptime and adherence to service-level agreements.
- The experience gained from 560-plus cloud

- Helped the client achieve a 99.95% infrastructure availability and 99.92% SAP applications availability.
- Configured frequent full backups, leading to 99.99% availability.
- Enabled significant cost savings during the next five years.

engagements and 60-plus cloud-managed services projects.

- Expertise in managing the compliance function for many of our life sciences clients.
- Premium partnership with AWS and strong relationships within its partner ecosystem.
- Solution accelerators built into our partnership with AWS.

Our solutions ensure optimal performance of the AWS cloud platform and reduce client TCO. We not only offer a full migration to the AWS public cloud based in the United States but also validate good practice quality guidelines and regulations (GxP).

The pharma company's new environment includes a high-availability architecture, which was missing in its earlier IBM infrastructure. In addition, we committed to five years' managed services support for the client's SAP Basis, AWS infrastructure and security. This included cloud security services for its data and applications.

The outcomes and benefits from this project included:

- Deploying SAP in the AWS cloud with zero infrastructure and migrations issues while maintaining 100% availability during migration within a minimal cutover window.
- Improving system resilience through implementing high availability for production servers and AWS native security measures, along with Fortinet firewalls, and incorporating an intrusion prevention system as well as a warm standby copy of databases for disaster recovery.

- Creating a more robust, flexible, scalable and cost-efficient platform. SAP landscape security improved, making the company's operations less vulnerable to expensive interruption.

As a result, the client and its 3,800 staff now enjoy 99.95% network availability and 99.92% SAP applications availability.

About Cognizant Life Sciences

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About Cognizant

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World Headquarters

500 Frank W. Burr Blvd.
Teaneck, NJ 07666 USA
Phone: +1 201 801 0233
Fax: +1 201 801 0243
Toll Free: +1 888 937 3277

European Headquarters

1 Kingdom Street
Paddington Central
London W2 6BD England
Phone: +44 (0) 20 7297 7600
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7121 0102

India Operations Headquarters

#5/535 Old Mahabalipuram Road
Okkiyam Pettai, Thoraipakkam
Chennai, 600 096 India
Phone: +91 (0) 44 4209 6000
Fax: +91 (0) 44 4209 6060