Innovative cloud solutions behind industry leaders

How we helped 11 organizations build a secure, agile business cloud foundation, introduce new experiences and gain insights for a competitive edge
Change. It’s inevitable, unstoppable and accelerating. New business opportunities come and go, demand for products and services can unexpectedly spike or dip, security and privacy regulations evolve continually – all while customer interests and behaviors keep shifting. Traditional IT services can’t adapt quickly enough.

To take the business to the next level, you need cloud solutions. Cloud is the fastest, most effective way to get agile, increase efficiency and keep innovating. Whatever your goals and wherever you are in your cloud journey, we have the right people and the right platforms to move you forward. With over 30,000 cloud specialists and dedicated teams for every major cloud provider, Cognizant brings the right expertise to securely build cloud solutions to turn your business vision into reality.

Read these case studies for a sampling of ways we’re helping businesses in different industries harness the power of the cloud to get out ahead – and maintain the lead.
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Reduce infrastructure costs with consumption-based billing

Improve business continuity with one-click disaster recovery

Innovate faster with automated infrastructure provisioning and code deployment
Reducing OpEx and strengthening disaster recovery by migrating key business applications to the cloud

The challenge
Swiss Re is one of the world’s largest reinsurers. As part of a strategic plan to stop operating its own data centers by 2020, the company wanted to move its SAP S/4HANA environment to Microsoft Azure. The objectives were to increase IT efficiency, improve availability with automated failover and minimize operating costs by shifting to usage-based billing. Swiss Re also wanted to boost agility by accelerating development and test of prototypes for new business applications.

The solution
As a long-time Swiss Re partner, Cognizant acted as the systems integrator for the SAP migration project. One of the insurance industry’s largest IT projects to date, the non-disruptive migration of Swiss Re’s SAP environment to Microsoft Azure helped the company boost efficiency, improve core SAP application availability, minimize operating costs and optimize capital investment. In an industry first, we built a one-click SAP disaster recovery solution that improves resiliency, avoids manual errors and speeds recovery time. We also automated infrastructure build, helping Swiss Re increase agility by quickly introducing new apps and features.

Our approach
We started by crafting a detailed plan to migrate Swiss Re’s 170 SAP virtual servers to Azure without interrupting the business. To help the company introduce new digital capabilities faster, we automated 95% of the infrastructure build process – including scheduled start/stop, SAP auto scaling, virtual machine (VM) hardening and patching, and Azure monitoring. After the migration was complete, Swiss Re engaged us to continue supporting the new cloud environment with our cloud managed services.

Results

One-click
SAP disaster recovery, an industry first

95%
Of infrastructure tasks automated, for consistent, repeatable and fast deployment

Zero
Errors during transition of SAP applications to new HA architecture

Read the full case study here >>
Consumer goods

Getting a handle on “IT sprawl” to optimize costs and increase agility

The challenge
Britvic, a British manufacturer of soft drink brands, was contending with IT sprawl years in the making. To stay nimble and contain costs, the company wanted to optimize its data center footprint. At the same time, Britvic aimed to increase agility by enabling teams to provision new SAP systems on demand.

The solution
Britvic engaged us to upgrade to the latest SAP applications, migrate certain SAP systems to AWS and implement a robust disaster recovery solution. We accomplished all goals with no business disruption. Today Britvic has a stable, secure and highly available SAP environment in AWS with pay-as-you-go pricing. To increase business resilience, we delivered a robust disaster recovery solution using a failover cluster. To help Britvic accelerate innovation, we transferred the development and testing environments to the AWS cloud in Europe, giving development teams the agility to provision infrastructure for new projects on demand. User-acceptance testing and production systems remain on-premises – a hybrid cloud solution.

Our approach
Applying our cloud assessment and transformation framework, we started by defining a strategy for migrating on-premises SAP systems to the AWS cloud with no business disruption. We provided Britvic’s teams with a defined methodology, tools and training, including scripts to guide the automatic shutdown and startup of SAP systems during migration. Now Britvic benefits from the elasticity of the cloud, business continuity through a robust disaster recovery solution, access to the latest SAP functions and the agility that comes from provisioning new IT infrastructure in AWS as needed.

Read the full case study here >>

Results

Lower OpEx
By hosting SAP applications in the cloud

Increased agility
With on-demand provisioning of SAP project systems

Optimized costs
With AWS consumption-based billing
Insurance

Starting fresh after spin off, with a hybrid cloud

The challenge
Spun off by its parent company, a major European insurance and pension provider needed to quickly exit the parent company’s data center. Realizing they had that rare opportunity to build a greenfield environment, they looked for a cloud solution that would reduce costs, accelerate digital innovation, improve agility, and strengthen security for hundreds of employees as well as hundreds of thousands of customers. The new environment also had to comply with insurance-industry security standards.

The solution
Drawn by our combined industry and cloud expertise, the client engaged us to build a hybrid cloud solution. We began by evaluating applications hosted on 350+ servers for cloud suitability, comparing total cost of ownership (TCO) for AWS versus the private cloud. Over 24 months, we successfully migrated applications, virtual desktops, data and DevOps tools out of the parent company’s data center to AWS and a new private cloud. In total we moved more than 750 mailboxes, two terabytes of Microsoft OneDrive data, 200 SharePoint sites and 40 key business apps – all without disrupting digital experiences for the workforce or customers.

Our approach
Following our Cloud Steps Transformation Framework, we built a DevOps-based migration platform on AWS. It automated much of the migration process, saving time and avoiding human error. After moving the workloads to the cloud, we handed them off to the client’s run team. The client’s IT team has the tools to monitor cloud workloads and optimize them to deliver excellent user experiences. With the new hybrid cloud platform, the insurance company has the digital foundation to support its customers, strengthening its competitive edge.

Results
Zero
Disruption to end users during migration
40
Service catalogs for self-service provisioning
200+
SharePoint sites migrated

Read the full case study here >>
Healthcare

Meeting stringent healthcare industry regulations with a modern cloud platform

The challenge
This leading U.S.-based healthcare system provides advanced medical care to local and global communities from several campuses. Previously each department stored its clinical data separately, an inefficient arrangement that increased costs and hindered new application development. The healthcare system wanted a modern, integrated IT platform to improve service delivery and quality for incentive payments through the Delivery System Payment Reform Incentive Payment (DSPRIIP) program established to improve healthcare delivery for Medicaid beneficiaries in public hospitals. The platform had to comply with security and privacy regulations such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA) act.

The solution
We helped the healthcare system meet its goals by building a healthcare cloud solution on Microsoft Azure. Automated provisioning of new environments on Azure helps developers introduce new services faster, with higher quality and at lower cost. The new cloud environment is scalable, secure and HIPAA-compliant. Automation also reduces IT administrative overhead, freeing more time for innovation.

Our approach
Our experts in healthcare IT and Azure technologies recommended and implemented the technologies to help the client’s developers quickly build high-quality apps and services in the cloud. We provided scripts to automate environment creation, tools to automate deployment on virtual machines and continuously inspect code quality, and a vulnerability scanner. Since consolidating its disparate IT systems in the cloud, the healthcare system has increased operational efficiency, qualified for DSPRIIP incentive payments and built the foundation for continual innovation in healthcare service delivery.

Results

20% Cost savings attributable to automation

20 Minutes to deploy the latest application code

Increased Productivity from automated deployment and faster authentication

Read the full case study here >>
Accelerate innovation and introduce new experiences

Gain deeper insights into customer behavior and interests

Introduce new business models with Data as a Service

Speed time to insights, for greater agility

Accelerate feature introduction months to weeks, days to hours
Accelarating digital transformation

The challenge
Oxford University Press (OUP), the largest university press in the world, faced COVID-19-related challenges such as efficiently operating in a remote working environment while meeting its significant demand for digital services. OUP wanted to deliver what its global customers needed at the right time and via the right channel while also decreasing multi-cloud spend.

The solution
OUP engaged us to accelerate its digital transformation program and improve user experiences. We created a unified IT services dashboard that integrates monitoring tools and application logs to provide visibility into the status of business services across the organization. We also introduced FinOps, a financial operating model for the cloud, involving key stakeholders to set priorities and determine the required organizational changes.

Our approach
We began by conducting a comprehensive evaluation of tools in use and then created a roadmap to implement an enterprise-wide strategy for observability and availability. Our cloud optimization methodology served as the structured framework for cloud cost management. We delivered on company operations and also for its architecture, governance, application development and FinOps. OUP improved its time to market, avoided downtime and gained a unified view of critical apps and performance across the organization. They can now conduct proactive analyses of business trends and act before incidents happen. Additionally, operations teams have increased productivity, reduced their global carbon footprint and achieved their sustainability goals.

Results

59%
saved over 3 years on software licensing

£1.05M
total costs saved on multi-cloud

£277K
saved with observability tool consolidation

See the full story >>
Communications, media and technology

Building an insights and data platform as sleek as the racecar it supports

The challenge
To create a more level playing field for Formula 1 racing, the organization’s governing body established a seasonol cost cap that took effect in 2021. The Aston Martin F1 (AMF1) team needed creative ways to optimize its expenditures – including IT infrastructure. Bringing together disparate data sources would reduce costs, and also give AMF1 deeper insights about the car, driver, fan engagement and the racing environment.

The solution
AMF1 chose Cognizant as its digital transformation partner. We contribute our technology expertise to help create a world-class, data-driven F1 team. Part of our role is providing the cloud, data and application support for the 200+ people hired in 2021. We manage IT daily business operations, including cloud and app maintenance and monitoring, help desk, and application support. We also customized the ERP system to meet new reporting requirements and segmented the AMF1 team’s fan base for personalized marketing to boost engagement.

Our approach
Our winning partnership blends the Aston Martin F1 Team’s racing knowledge and our expertise in cloud, data insights and the Internet of Things (IoT). Our software engineers were fully embedded within the AMF1 team during the engagement, collaborating from discovery through software engineering. Cloud projects on the horizon include building a digital twin of the F1 car, using AI and machine learning for simulations and in-race predictions, and exploring ways to use the IoT with connected road cars to deliver exciting new fan experiences.

Read the full case study here >>

Results

Increased
Efficiency from consolidating data sources

Reduced
Time to prepare the report for the Formula 1 governing body

Deeper insights
into AMF1 fan relationships
Oil and gas

Increasing value to customer by offering Data as a Service

The challenge
TGS is one of the largest providers of 2-D and 3-D subsurface data to oil and gas companies. Its customers purchase geological, geophysical, and engineering data from TGS to decide where to drill and what challenges to expect. Previously, customers who requested data had to wait an average of five days as TGS processed raw data in its data center and copied it onto physical tapes to be shipped. To improve the experience, TGS wanted a cloud-based solution that would deliver data faster, in a more intuitive format.

The solution
We worked with TGS to build a new Data-as-a-Service offering on AWS. Today customers can go online to access a searchable, real-time catalog for insights on where to drill. The system went live with 1.5 petabytes of data, 4.5 billion data records and more than 11,000 complex files. Now TGS customers can access personalized geospatial mapping data in five hours, down from five days before the cloud migration.

Our approach
We built the technology platform for the new Data-as-a-Service offering using Cognizant’s BigDecisions® data analytics platform on AWS. The AWS data lake processes petabytes of subsurface data and allows customers to search by various criteria, for insights about where to drill. BigDecisions ingests TGS’s subsurface data directly to the cloud, accelerating metadata extraction by 75%. With its new, cloud-based business model, TGS has transformed itself from a data provider to a rapid insights provider, multiplying its value to customers.

Read the full case study here >>

Results

95%
Less time spent identifying optimal locations

5 hours
To deliver information to customers, down from 5 days

1.5 petabytes
Migrated to AWS, including 4.5B data records and 11K+ complex files
Building the cloud foundation for omnichannel experiences and deeper visibility

The challenge
One of the world’s largest consumer goods companies, our client needed to modernize their digital foundation to embark on a new phase of business growth. Plans included omnichannel experiences for customers, and better business visibility and real-time analytics for employees. The existing IT environment, a patchwork of environments distributed across multiple data centers, impeded these goals.

The solution
We worked with the client to imagine and deliver a digital foundation that can adopt to meet constantly evolving business needs. After assessing existing application workloads scattered across multiple data centers, we built a central digital platform in Microsoft Azure and transferred the workloads. Now, business teams have visibility into real-time inventory, product freshness and fulfillment status, and can synchronize planning and fulfillment in real time. Developer teams quickly build and deploy cloud-native apps on Azure, creating omnichannel experiences for customers and visibility into order management, inventory availability and fulfillment status for the workforce.

Our approach
We built a DevOps platform on Azure, enabling developers to quickly build and deploy innovative software. Now teams can make iterative updates, release new feature releases more frequently, receive fast feedback and avoid error-prone, time-consuming manual processes for infrastructure provisioning. With a secure, cost-effective cloud platform, the company has positioned itself to support further growth and continuing innovation.

Results

71%
Reduction in build time

30 minutes
To configure a CI/CD pipeline, down from 4–5 days

Weeks
To launch new features, down from 8–12 months
Transportation

Transforming trucking with an AI-powered digital marketplace

The challenge
The freight shipping industry is undergoing profound change, including a shorter average haul length and sharply higher customer expectations for delivery speed. To become more agile, a leading North American trucking and transportation company decided to replace its on-premises infrastructure with scalable, cloud-based infrastructure and a modern technology stack.

The solution
The company engaged us to collaboratively build a modern cloud platform and introduce agile methodology to its developers. We built a robust cloud-native platform on Microsoft Azure with smart business processes and integrated subsystems. Automated decision systems give business teams visibility into assets and pricing. The client also took advantage of the digital foundation to build an AI-powered marketplace with a mobile app. Similar to rideshare apps, it connects shippers and truckers to reduce “deadhead” miles driven without carrying goods, also allowing truckers to bid on loads, rate facilities and receive payments.

Our approach
Building a modern cloud platform was a massive effort requiring 1,200 person-years of effort. We accomplished it quickly by deploying more than 400 developers working in several countries, coordinating their work using the Scaled Agile Framework. During the engagement, the client’s IT organization gained experience with agile methods and tools by working side-by-side with our developers and attending workshops. By intelligently matching shippers to truckers with custom algorithms, the new cloud solution saves time – and reduces carbon emissions.

Read the full case study here >>

Results
80%
More electronic orders accepted automatically

40%
More carrier payments processed automatically

Up to 10 days
Visibility into data, to create accurate quotes
Gain a competitive edge with faster, more complete insights

Speed time to insights with advanced, cloud-based analytics

Engage customers by personalizing experiences

Increase visibility into operations with consolidated data from global offices
Modernizing toll operations with SAP Analytics Cloud on AWS

The challenge
Elizabeth River Crossings (ERC) finances, operates and maintains four tunnels and 51 miles of roadway in Virginia, used by more than 105,000 vehicles daily. Operating two data centers in the same region was costly, and a risk to business continuity. ERC wanted to increase resiliency while also improving operations with a 360-degree view of all toll transactions, more accurate invoicing and more accurate license plate recognition.

The solution
ERC engaged us to migrate from SAP BusinessObjects in the data center to SAP Analytics Cloud on AWS. The new digital tolling system gives ERC real-time visibility into customer payment patterns, day-to-day traffic patterns, predicted traffic volume, customer core center call volume, operational performance, transactions and expected revenue. ERC and its customers now enjoy 100% application and infrastructure availability. Employees and managers have a 360-degree view of every toll transaction, with real-time information. Accounting teams have access to the real-time data they need for accurate reporting. Operational costs dropped by 40%.

Our approach
Applying our cloud migration framework and toolset, we completed the migration quickly and with zero disruption to operations. We enabled omnichannel customer service by combining advanced AI, self-service portals and cognitive computing. The new cloud solution is helping ERC innovate, improve operational agility and provide better service to commuters with accurate billing and comprehensive information to resolve disputes.

Read the full case study here >>
Watch digital tolling solution video >>

Results
90% Faster performance for SAP Data Services jobs
45 minutes To complete jobs, down from to 6-7 hours previously
80% Decrease in data center leasing and maintenance costs
Manufacturing

Unifying disparate ERP systems in the cloud, with fast failover

The challenge
Orica is the world’s largest provider of commercial explosives and innovative blasting systems for mining, quarrying, oil and gas, and construction. Global offices and supply chain partners previously used a variety of different ERP systems to process sales orders and forecast demand. Inconsistent product identifiers, costs, sales pricing, discounts and customer contact information came at a cost to efficiency and customer service. To improve visibility and user experiences, the company wanted to standardize on an ERP platform in the cloud.

The solution
Orica engaged us to design, implement and manage a global ERP system based in the cloud on SAP S/4HANA. Now employees and suppliers have visibility into accurate information and can access more than 1,400 SAP applications from any device. Collaborating with Microsoft and SUSE, the open-source software company, we designed the world’s first high-availability solution on Microsoft Azure. If one node goes down, Orica can switch to the other node – with no business disruption. Recovery time is just four hours, with near zero data loss. Orica optimized costs by terminating colocation agreements and scaling up and down in Azure based on demand, automatically shutting down unused resources on weekends.

Results

$2M+
Savings over 3 years by periodically analyzing cloud capacity utilization

99.8%
Availability

4 hours
Recovery time after disaster, with < 1-minute data loss

Our approach
Besides building the global ERP system in Azure, we simplified SAP technical operations. We provide managed Platform as a Service (mPaaS), giving Orica a choice of three pay-per-use pricing models for cloud infrastructure and SAP administration services. Orica users can access the new system from anywhere, any time and on any device.

Read the full case study here >>
Communications, media and technology

Delivering the personalized experiences that engage sailing fans, with the cloud

The challenge
Billed as the world’s most exciting race on water, SailGP features national teams in identical race boats battling in short, intense races at iconic stadium-style venues across the globe for sailing’s top prize of US$1 million. Promoting a new sport is a huge undertaking, and SailGP is looking to build robust revenues streams and commercial partnerships. To understand its fan base and increase engagement, SailGP wanted to create a single repository of fan data from the international sailing teams in the league – and apply data analytics to create lifelong fans.

The solution
As the official digital transformation partner for SailGP, Cognizant worked with the company to build a new marketing technology stack on Oracle Marketing Cloud. The cloud provides data-driven insights that SailGP uses to engage fans with personalized email, social and web interactions.

Our approach
By engineering software and cloud into SailGP’s business, we’ve given them the insights to promote the sport and cultivate lifelong fans. Future plans include implementing Oracle CX Unity, part of the Oracle Customer Experience Cloud, to bring together online, offline and third-party data sources, applying machine learning for even more personalized interactions. Data-driven insights, powered by the cloud, are helping to deliver the “adrenaline-fueled” experiences at the heart of SailGP’s appeal.

Read the full case study here >>

Results

20%
Longer average website visit duration (from 1.53 to 2.24)

11% to 14%
Increase in share of returning visitors

0.4% to 1.6%
Increase in average monthly email community growth
About Cognizant Cloud

The Cognizant Cloud solutions team delivers outcome-based, client-centered results across industries. Whether the objective is data consolidation, cost reduction, process improvement, or an enhanced user experience or all of the above, we design and deliver comprehensive cloud solutions for the job. We work with all the major cloud providers through dedicated hyperscaler business groups to offer full-stack skills and capabilities. Our cloud-first solutions solve today’s problems and help prepare our clients for tomorrow. Accelerate your move to the cloud with the right people and platform. Learn more about Cognizant Cloud, visit cognizant.com/cloud-solutions.

About Cognizant

Cognizant (Nasdaq-100: CTSH) engineers modern businesses. We help our clients modernize technology, reimagine processes, and transform experiences so they can stay ahead in our fast-changing world. Together, we’re improving everyday life. See how at www.cognizant.com or @cognizant.

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