All roads lead to the cloud

A migration roadmap from wherever you are
The cloud is fast becoming the modern path to business growth, improved operational efficiency, increased agility, and more efficient resource use. It also provides a better balance of operational and capital expenses with more reliable and continually updated security and compliance. From just about every angle, cloud is good for business.

While these advantages are becoming clearer by the month, many companies with legacy data stored across their organizations have held back due to a number of actual or perceived barriers including:

- The perceived complexity of assessing apps, data, and infrastructure for migration to cloud
- Lack of knowledge of cloud planning, usage, and execution
- Pressure to maintain compliance with government regulations and security controls
- Unforeseen costs and time-to-value for cloud migration
- Concern over how to monitor and manage costs once in the cloud
All these factors cause many organizations to delay, giving up competitive advantage for months. A recent study of 450 heads of digital transformation found that 80 percent said they were at risk of being left behind by digital transformation. On the other hand, leaders also expect a 23 percent growth rate over the next two years through digital transformation. That’s a big upside.

What’s needed is a clear view of where you stand, where you want to go, and a plan to get there without spending thousands of hours to assess apps, databases, and infrastructure and prioritize resources to be migrated. In this e-book, we’ll share the four-step roadmap developed by UnifyCloud to quickly and thoroughly analyze and assess legacy infrastructure, applications, and databases for modernization, then develop a seamless cloud migration strategy. The ideas you’ll see here are designed to expedite remediation by using static code analysis to quickly provide code-level guidance and recommendations. This analysis of assets alone can now be completed in minutes, not months, accelerating the migration schedule.

Cloud by the numbers—a great investment

The benefits of cloud migration are clear. According to Microsoft reports, companies that embrace data estate modernization can:

- 2x their operating margin
- $40k+ more revenue per employee
- 50%+ higher average net income on revenue
- $100M in additional average operating income
Step 1: Assess your cloud readiness

Before you can migrate to the cloud, you’ve got questions that need to be answered, including:

- How or what to migrate,
- What the budgetary ramifications are and how they compare to other solutions,
- How to get a detailed technical analysis of your entire on-premises IT environment including client machines, VMs, physical servers, applications, and databases,
- Whether and how you’ll be utilizing software as a service (SaaS) solutions, infrastructure as a service (IaaS), and platform as a service (PaaS) IT environments.

UnifyCloud uses your actual data to help you get to the answers faster and cheaper than manual assessments that can require expensive outside resources. Armed with detailed analysis, you can produce detailed technical recommendations for decision makers in hours rather than days. You’ll also have analytics that provide the ability to drill down to the individual VM, server, database, application, and infrastructure.

To get there, consider these elements of the UnifyCloud solution:

- All-up, ‘As-is,’ and ‘To-Be’ views of the critical elements of your IT landscape, organized to help you determine your opportunities for cloud migration.
- Cost, TCO, and ROI estimates based on the sizing and nature of different cloud services, including what it will cost to move all or portions of your infrastructure, apps, and databases to the cloud.
- Tools to fine-tune and refine your estimates. Because moving to the cloud is not an all-or-nothing proposition, you’ll want to look at various scenarios to immediately see the implications on the cost estimates.
- An accurate measurement of your cybersecurity maturity. To operate effectively in the cloud, you’ll need to assess the many areas of cybersecurity to protect, detect, and respond.
- Confidence that your cloud implementation is conducted with consideration for security, regulatory compliance, and governance necessities.
Step 2: Analysis in minutes, not months

With specific VMs, databases, applications, and workloads identified for cloud migration, you’ll need a technical roadmap to a successful migration. Some things you may want to do now include:

- Terminate applications and move to software as a service (SaaS)
- “Lift and shift” VMs to infrastructure as a service (IaaS) solutions
- Modernize critical-line-of-business applications and databases to run in a platform as a solution (PaaS) environment
- Deploy backup and disaster recovery solutions in the cloud

Based on static-code analysis of apps and database scripts, and assessment of configuration data, UnifyCloud’s solution provides a deep and detailed analysis of applications and their readiness to migrate to a cloud environment, including VMs, containers, and PaaS. Because we automate the assessment process, UnifyCloud provides a comprehensive assessment of cloud migration options in minutes versus weeks to months for manual assessments.

From this, you get reliable app remediation estimates with recommended changes down to the code-block and line-of-code level, actual sample replacement code provided, and the level of effort (e.g., hours and days) required for the remediation to either VMs, containers, or PaaS.

Make sure your solution also includes:

- Simple app data collection that makes it easy to gather the relevant details of your on-premises applications and pull them into an encrypted format for analysis.
- A single-pane-of-glass application dashboard where you can keep track of your apps as they move from cloud migration estimating to remediation and on to final cloud deployment.
- Regulation and controls that empower you to define the certifications your cloud environment must have in support of your applications.
- Actionable recommendations that enhance estimates based on the analysis that can then be used to make the specific changes needed.
Step 3: Migration—the beginning of optimization

Migration isn’t a do-it-once-and-forget-it event. It’s an ongoing process. Applications must be monitored during and after migration to give your application owners and IT team visibility into the underlying cloud services, and whether the settings and other risk management controls are appropriate and in line with enterprise needs and industry standards. Throughout the cloud migration journey, you’ll want to be able to leverage:

- Risk management controls for cloud-based applications.
- Applications that are developed and monitored against consistent standards and controls.
- Security controls that are closely managed and constantly updated to keep pace with cloud evolution and new cloud services.
- Ongoing monitoring of cloud operations costs, application compliance monitoring, and ongoing remediation and optimization of cloud environment.

To do this, some of the tools that UnifyCloud has developed to enhance your migration monitoring and cloud performance include:

- At-a-glance compliance insights to enable instant confirmation of the compliance status for all the services provisioned.
- Monitored service settings to make it easy to manage the settings for all cloud services against the enterprise controls and standards.
- Enterprise-level monitoring that enables visibility and drill-down capability to address risk management issues.
- Tools for cloud infrastructure management to monitor all the important control aspects of your apps, data, and infrastructure in the cloud.
Step 4: Secure and manage—the lifeblood of optimization

The fact that the Azure cloud is updated with new services on average every 4 hours or so means you need to keep pace with evolving standards for maximum compliance and security.

Missing one of these updates can cause drift that compounds quickly, so you need a constant source of revision control. UnifyCloud tools help you quickly develop robust baseline standards for the industry-compliance regulations relevant to your organization, to ensure you do not fall out of compliance and increase regulatory and security risk.

In addition to these baseline standards, you’ll want a solution like UnifyCloud that keeps you up to date with the ever-changing cloud universe and maintain security while lowering the cost of cloud. UnifyCloud provides an extensive knowledge base that tracks and records these changes, which enables the automatic updating of settings for ongoing compliance and security, and recommends changes to your cloud resources so you are running in a cost-optimized environment.

The numbers speak for themselves

90% of Fortune 500 companies trust their business on Azure and UnifyCloud is a certified Microsoft Gold Partner and Cloud Solution Provider

#353 UnifyCloud was ranked #353 in the Inc. 5000 list of fastest-growing private companies

70 compliance offerings give Microsoft Azure the largest portfolio in the industry
Utilizing UnifyCloud tools and services, you can rapidly assess organizational infrastructure to expedite digital transformation by migrating to the secure and trusted Azure cloud. How? Using a solution built by former Microsoft experts, UnifyCloud tools can assess millions of lines of code in minutes. This capability is powered by operation centers in the U.S., Europe, and Asia with 20+ global Azure sites ensuring security, data sovereignty, and compliance to Microsoft practices and standards. All this is backed by the world-leading security and dependability of Azure's global footprint across 54 regions.

The result for you? Simple: greater speed-to-cloud. Azure services and capabilities accelerate application modernization as part of digital transformation. UnifyCloud combines this power with a dramatic reduction in the time and expense to migrate applications to the cloud using our static-code analysis, automating the process and providing remediation recommendations in minutes, not months. And it’s all controlled within the trusted Azure cloud, from development to deployment to management.

A simple example: Going from 2,000+ assessment days to 134 minutes.

One UnifyCloud client had a portfolio of 24 applications and associated databases that it wanted to assess for possible cloud migration and modernization. Scanning these apps and databases manually would have involved a vast amount of effort—2,010 developer-days, to be exact. Well beyond the company’s abilities or available time.

Enter UnifyCloud. Our solutions provided the company with exactly what they needed—a detailed assessment of apps and databases for modernization to Azure—in a few hours, instead of many years of manual effort.
UnifyCloud saves over 5 person-years of effort

Large companies can have 80 or more apps to scan. It would take one person 18 years of daily effort to manually scan these apps!

24 applications + 65 databases = 6,706,117 lines of code

6.7M lines of code assessed by UnifyCloud:
134 minutes

6.7M lines of code assessed manually*:
2,010 dev-days

*According to Microsoft, an average developer with average knowledge of both Azure and the apps they want to migrate and modernize to Azure can manually review 10,000 lines of code in 3 days.
Shift your cloud journey into hyperdrive

Working on the Azure environment, UnifyCloud’s suite of products dramatically accelerate the entire cloud migration process. Our suite of products dramatically reduces the time required to assess infrastructure and develop a strategic technical roadmap to cloud modernization. Then we provide support with detailed analysis, migration planning, and remediation guidance for applications and databases. UnifyCloud helps you capitalize on the advantages of the cloud—without the wait.

Feel the speed