



## GUIDACENT BUSINESS BRIEF

# Clearing the Cloud

3 CRITICAL STAGES



# Clearing the Cloud

## Cloud / mi \* gra \* tion

(noun)

1. Transferring some or all of a company's data or applications into a virtual environment and off-premises.
2. Provides greater flexibility, self-service provisioning, redundancy and a scalable cost-of-operations.

**Cloud migration** is not for the faint of heart. And the complexity of migrating to the Cloud may require more focus, more thought and a whole lot more process than most businesses expect to encounter. Cloud migration has proven to result in a more effective and secure environment than on-premise operations.

Guidacent's Cloud Migration Services are designed to scale the process of transitioning your company's critical data, product applications, and other business assets from on-premise servers and into a cloud computing environment

***Migrating to the cloud can be full of difficult and often costly (and unseen) challenges.***

**Guidacent's expertise** in cloud migration services help your organization clear the view and help you determine the right services needed to achieve and extend your business objectives.

Expanding or transitioning a business' operating capabilities to include cloud management requires a detailed strategy that includes addressing complex technology management issues, as well as staff and resource readjustments.

Guidacent considers the Cloud migration process as one of the pinnacle services that is most frequently requested. Three primary concern points are the focus of a Guidacent Cloud Enablement Service:

- Eliminate costly technical debt resources
- Innovate processes more quickly and efficiently
- Reduce risk by focusing resources in key areas



# STAGE 1

## ELIMINATE COSTLY TECHNICAL DEBT RESOURCES

With a focus on Cloud Migration, Modern Application and Service Layer Delivery, and Data & Analytic solutions, our consultants have worked with clients across industries to deliver client solutions to the cloud

### **TECHNICAL DEBT HAS ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Amassing technical debt can impact an organization's ability to innovate with negative consequences. Technical debt often complicates further, the organization's ability to hold onto any competitive edge or market equity, which may include keeping clients and employees engaged in productive outcomes.

*Guidacent has partnered with Nutanix to help our clients optimize (and simplify) their cloud migration plans.*

Like financial debt, technical debt accumulates interest, which manifests itself as extra work. There's an old axiom: "Do it nice or pay twice" becomes a reality for organizations trying to rush their cloud migration processes.

As many organizations begin or continue their cloud migration journey, modernizing legacy applications and infrastructures become essential parts of that journey.

As organizations decide whether to continue paying "interest" on that technical debt—meaning they will be tied to continuing to invest in processes that aren't optimized for a successful outcome nonetheless—these organizations often lose traction in their critical pathway.

If your business operations include software development, the odds are high that your organization has acquired (at some point in the SDLC), some measure of technical debt. These added costs can be managed, especially as you look at cloud migration as part of the solution.

Cloud services offer the ability to reduce a company's infrastructure debt by eliminating the need to maintain and upgrade the fundamental infrastructure of data centers, while enabling it to focus on things that matter more to advancing business operations.



# STAGE 2

## INNOVATE PROCESSES MORE QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY

Effective management and utilization of cloud resources allows businesses to achieve the full value of moving to the cloud. Guidacent helps you define your governance strategies and optimize costs.

### **GARTNER: “CLOUD SPENDING IS CLIMBING”**

- In a recent report by Gartner, end-user spending on public cloud services is expected to rise into the stratosphere, beyond the 18.4% last year 2021, to total \$304.9 billion.
- The percentage of IT investment transitioning to cloud will continue to rise in the fall-out of the COVID-19 pandemic, says Gartner, with cloud resources expected to make up 14.2% of the total global enterprise IT spending market in 2024 (an increase of 9.1% from 2020).

In today’s markets, implementing cloud technology has become less complex although may still be confusing for some business leaders. Many of the complications and challenges that have traditionally kept organizations from adopting a cloud strategy have since been refined for mainstream acceptance.

Some predominant misunderstandings continue, however, the most common being a lack of definition regarding the meaning of “the cloud,” and what it includes.

Moreover, because of the quantity of cloud scenarios and representations, an efficient partnership with a key cloud integration firm can mean the difference between success and further confusion and greater technical debt.

There are three fundamental models a business may consider for its cloud interaction:

- **Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS)**  
Networking and storage resources are rented for application deployment, data storage, disaster recovery and analytics, etc.
- **Software-as-a-Service (SaaS)**  
The most common offering, in which ready-to-use applications (i.e., Zoom, Microsoft 365, Netflix, etc.), are accessed either directly through a browser or via a download to a device.
- **Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS)**  
The least familiar offering, provides a development environment for construction and maintaining of applications without requiring software development resources or infrastructure.



# STAGE 3

## REDUCE RISK BY FOCUSING RESOURCES IN KEY AREAS

Enabling your teams to effectively operate in a cloud environment is one of the most important factors for success in the cloud. From "two pizza teams" to SAFe to DevOps, Guidacent consultants can work with your teams to guide their transformation and optimize their delivery.

### *Helping a Global Travel Brand Reach the Clouds*

**Expedia**, a global travel and hospitality ecommerce platform, was exploring new solutions for data management and visualization due to exponential growth in the data sets created by some of their newest business units. Legacy systems were a combination of both custom and packaged software, and as the business grew and evolved, the need for new features was realized as the business teams sought to access and visualize the data in new and different ways. Improved reporting capabilities required a need for deeper reporting functionality, improved visualization, and on demand reporting access across multiple user groups.

Existing features could not support these new requirements and building additional features into the legacy tools would have been very expensive and still fallen short of providing the visualization required. A new solution was needed.

The key benefit in the creation of this new system allows business users to define and generate reporting and business analytic visualizations on demand. This capability greatly enhances the speed whereby business decisions can be made. The new solution also allowed the client to continue to meet business critical operational functions that would have been compromised in in the old system and ultimately allowed for the deprecation of that system. Creating a platform for business users to self-serve and perform their own analytics also created space for the technology analytics team to focus on enhancements and delivering features in other areas.

The ability to more efficiently manage larger data sets and multiple data inputs, enhance scalability across user groups, and reduce the need for additional integration layers ultimately resulted in a dashboard load time reduction of 70%.





# ASK THE EXPERTS!

***Guidacent has been working with clients on their cloud migration initiatives and delivering business critical solutions across cloud platforms since 2015.***

Our view of cloud transformation starts with leveraging technology to accelerate the pace and achievement of business objectives providing businesses with the technology tools, features and functions they need to move more quickly.

From planning & strategy to architecture definition & delivery to leading organizational change, Guidacent consultants drive implementation of cloud technology solutions with a focus on successful business outcomes.

Ready to learn how Guidacent can help your business **establish** a strong **Cloud Management** strategy?

Email us at [info@Guidacent.com](mailto:info@Guidacent.com) to schedule a free consultation.

***Managing a Cloud Transition*** means looking at the most likely situations that you will face in your day-to-day business operations.

As the pace of innovation picks up, new business models are disrupting entire industries faster than ever before. In today's digital economy, the opportunities to get ahead, or merely survive, are short lived.

Guidacent has partnered with long-term client and colleague, Nutanix, to provide end-to-end cloud migration services. The Nutanix Cloud Platform comprises hybrid cloud infrastructure, multi-cloud management along with unified storage, database services, and desktop services, to support any application and workload, in any location..

If your organization would like to explore how to evaluate and address risk and build on the integrity of your critical assets, contact us at [info@guidacent.com](mailto:info@guidacent.com).

Guidacent can help you on the journey and stay “in the right cloud” as you’re following your business path.

