VMware Migration Assessment

Discovery Service Description

2024

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Customer Evaluation

RGS is delighted to help evaluate your IT systems and strategize for modernization and migration . Our goal is to provide a comprehensive approach that encompasses not only the technical analysis of hardware and software infrastructures but also the understanding of business processes, governance, and organizational culture. This multifaceted evaluation is essential for determining the feasibility and strategic fit of a migration project.

It's crucial to recognize that readiness spans a spectrum. Our focus goes beyond those fully prepared for an immediate transition. Even if an environment is not entirely ready, we can still devise a strategic migration plan that may initially aim to simply reduce the footprint of the current infrastructure software stacks. Our approach might differ from the current configurations used by our customers. The transition may not mirror a direct feature-for-feature exchange but will instead mark a shift from previous methodologies to contemporary practices, like transitioning from utilizing virtual machines (VMs) to adopting containers.

Objectives

This evaluation service offering consists of 6 main parts spread across **4 days with 2 engineers for a total of 64 hours.** 2 days on site, and the rest remote.

1. Customer background (remote, customer provided)
2. Kickoff (on-site)
3. Information Gathering (on-site)
4. Conclusion of customer engagement (remote)
5. Analyzation and Assessment (remote)
6. After-Action Report (remote)

Customer Background

Visiting a customer's site well-prepared with background information significantly enhances the engagement's effectiveness. Before traveling the RGS engineer will have a virtual meeting with the customer to discuss their overarching mission and fundamentals of the environments in question.

Main goals of this are to understand:

• The business objectives, industry, and challenges.
• Basic infrastructure
• Specific pain points the team may be dealing with
• Why and where RGS products are being considered

Kickoff Meeting

On day one of the on-site engagement the very first goal is to gather with the team for introductions and set the stage for the evaluation.

Goals of this initial kickoff meeting are to:

• Meet with key stakeholders of the customer's infrastructure.
• Introduce the purpose and goals of the discovery engagement.
• Discuss the scope, timeline, and logistics of the engagement.
• Identify key individuals who will be involved in providing information and access to systems.

Information Gathering

At this point lines of communication have been established and schedules made for the duration of the engagement. We begin to systematically take inventory and ask questions about the various systems in place.

The engineer will collect and analyze information regarding various pieces of the infrastructure including but not limited to:

1. Infrastructure layout
    a. Sketch high level overview as well as pertinent details
2. Physical features
    a. Compute and memory
    b. Network
    c. Storage
    d. Security features
3. VMWare specific product features and usage
    a. Inventory of product usages
    b. Relevant details
    c. Licensing
4. Workloads and business use cases
    a. Virtual Machines
    b. Container based workloads
5. Performance and scalability requirements
6. Integration and dependencies
    a. Databases
    b. Disaster recovery
    c. Third party applications and tools
    d. Authentication and Authorization

Concluding the Discovery

Upon the completion of the initial data collection, time will be dedicated to refining and organizing the gathered notes. Preliminary recommendations will be shared with the customer to gauge if initial interpretations are in harmony with the client's expectations and objectives.

Assessment

The assessment portion of the engagement will be conducted remotely. The engineers will collaborate with their team to build an extensive phased approach to the modernization effort. This data will be aggregated into a format that will later be included in the After-Action Report.

- Analyze the gathered information to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT analysis) related to the customer's VMware environment.
- Evaluate the alignment of the VMware environment with the customer's business goals and industry best practices.
- Identify areas for optimization, cost savings, and performance improvements.
- Assess potential risks and challenges, such as security vulnerabilities or compatibility issues.
- Collaborate with RGS team to build a modernization plan

After-Action Report

Using the knowledge gained from the assessment an after-action report will be curated as the final deliverable and will contain the following sections:

- Introduction
- Objective
- Current state
- Proposed changes
- Risks/Concerns
- Probability of success
- Transition Approach
- Phased transition schedule
- Estimated new costs of operation and pricing explanation
- Final thoughts and closure

Deliverables

The primary deliverables for this engagement are:

- Consulting services
- After-Action report

Pricing

- $10,000

Closing

It is crucial to recognize that our objective goes beyond direct substitution. Modernization means not only the replacement of existing functionalities with their counterparts but also a fundamental shift in organizational culture and mindset and a net gain in functionality. This pivot represents not just a technological shift but a strategic evolution towards more agile, scalable, and efficient IT operations.
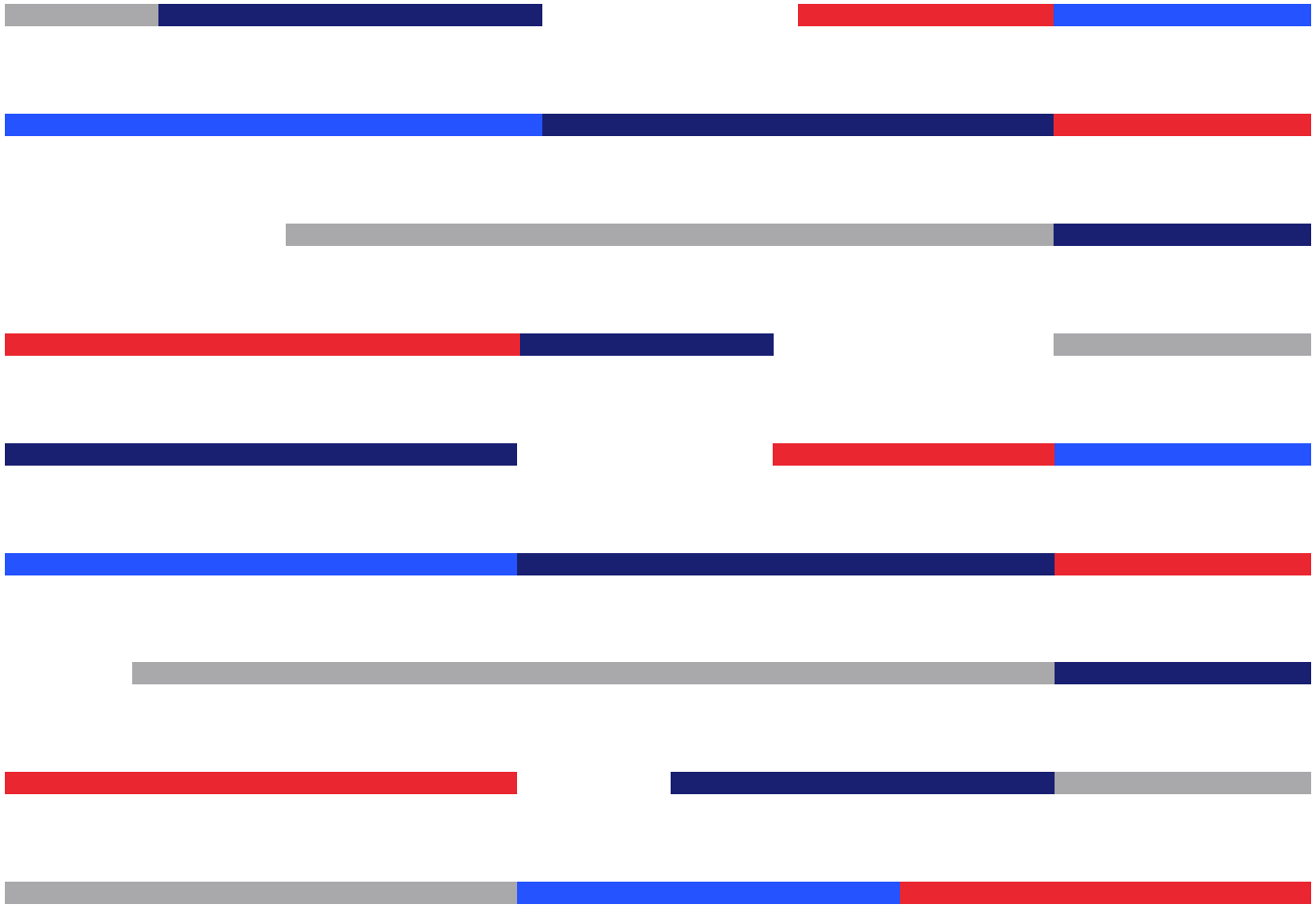
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