SECTION 4

Why Migrate Now?

At first glance migration may seem like a technical decision, but at its core this is a business decision. Ultimately, it begs a fundamental question: what's driving your business to migrate to the cloud, and why now?

The benefits of cloud are universal—reduced running costs, faster modernization capabilities, and increased security. But often, specific initiators first kick off the discussion within an organization, including:

Operational efficiencies and reduction of operating expenses.
Due to the reduction in hardware support, increased manageability, and efficiency of process, you can save an average of 20 to 30 percent on virtual machine (VM) resource configuration alone.

Decreased time to market/release.
By reducing management overhead and freeing up budget, you can focus more time and effort on rapid software and solution development. Faster deployment of infrastructure as a service (IaaS) and platform as a service (PaaS) will enable your business to release faster and more often.

Support for scalability requirements that are more cost effective.
When you have to plan for peak usage through on-premises systems, most of the time you're left with servers that are running at less than 20 percent utilization. The cloud releases organizations from this model, enabling a scale-when-you-need-it approach.

Renewal of datacenter or hardware leasing.
If you're currently extending your budget on renewing hardware or paying for datacenter locations for hosting, this is the perfect time to look toward cloud migration. The cloud can make these necessities a thing of the past by enabling a cloud vendor to host these services for you.

Renewal of licensing.
Nearly everyone has an annual licensing agreement with their major IT providers. These too require ample budget to ensure your virtualization and OS platform are sufficiently covered. The cloud can help you here, providing a pay-as-you-go offering to reduce this cost.

Application development and modernization.
If you're in the software business, your resources are probably spread thin. And using on-premises platforms is likely not enabling you to adopt modern services. The cloud provides an integrated platform for modern development, where development teams can increase speed by up to 33 percent.

Ultimately, by migrating your current environment to the cloud, you're putting yourself in a better position to accelerate your business. By reducing costs and making management more efficient, a cloud platform can immediately impact your IT group's ability to invest back into core strategic projects, increasing security and reliability while advancing application development.

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