

The Infor logo, consisting of the word "infor" in white lowercase letters on a red square background. A small "TM" trademark symbol is visible to the right of the logo.

inforTM

Evaluating your cloud migration options

Which path is right for your business?

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Why move to the cloud?

Cloud-based enterprise software provides businesses with an infrastructure that enables quicker responses to new opportunities and customer needs. The right cloud solution can drive agility from end to end, and help an organization:



Innovate faster

Cloud solutions enable organizations to keep pace with industry changes and pursue new opportunities without adding expensive infrastructure, while taking advantage of emerging functionality quickly and cost-effectively. If a new initiative succeeds, it can be scaled seamlessly to a wider audience.



Improve performance and scalability

Cloud-driven businesses benefit from best-in-class performance and scalability, allowing them to rapidly respond to monthly, seasonal, and mergers and acquisitions (M&A) challenges. They can establish a new presence or expand operations in virtually any region without having to physically be there, minimizing both capital investments and risk.



Reduce total cost of ownership (TCO)

Moving to the cloud converts software from a capital to an operational expense. With this switch in revenue reporting, companies will have access to funds for expansion and new business initiatives, and the ability to quickly respond to growth opportunities.



Encourage technology adoption

Cloud-based software is user friendly and supports the way the new generation of digital natives likes to work. Users across the entire business ecosystem are more likely to adopt a cloud-based system because they can leverage a modern user interface (UI) and embedded business intelligence (BI) on any device, encouraging them to seek out data and integrate it into the decision-making process.



Simplify security and compliance

By moving enterprise systems and platforms to the cloud, organizations can effectively hand off cybersecurity responsibilities and significant costs to a committed cloud partner. In a cloud-based SaaS world, security and compliance updates can be pushed out automatically to the entire organization as soon as they're available, which ensures everyone in the company has access to the most current tools.

Strategic priorities to consider for cloud migration

Often as applications age, the gap between the functionality they provide and the functionality you need continually increases. Plus, the cost and effort required to maintain needed capabilities on current systems becomes increasingly difficult to manage. As these deficiencies become inhibitors to new opportunities, the need for migration is greater than ever. When creating your cloud migration strategy, a crucial first step is to consider the strategic priorities of your business. Determine which path to the cloud will drive the most value, and focus on one of the three strategic areas:



Core business operations

Moving core business functionality such as financial management, operations management, manufacturing management, supply chain management, and inventory management to the cloud can produce significant returns, but often takes an extended time to realize.



Key business processes

Focusing on narrower business processes that mainly affect specific teams within an organization may be a way to balance risk with return on investment. Often these “edge” solutions allow businesses to generate benefits that free up resources for larger initiatives.



Enterprise Analytics

By moving data to the cloud, businesses can aggregate enterprise-wide data and break down information silos. This enables a data-driven culture where meaningful insights can be continuously reviewed to help teams work better—both individually and together.

Cloud keeps core business processes current

ERP | FINANCIALS | SALES | MANUFACTURING | PURCHASING | INVENTORY | DISTRIBUTION

Improve performance, boost ease of use and give teams access to the latest capabilities

Is core to cloud the right path for your business? Ask yourself:

- Do you need to improve the connectivity of your ERP to internal and external applications?
- Are the core capabilities lacking in your current solution?
- Do you want to provide employees with improved access to ERP functionality across geographies or device types?
- Do you need to improve data capture in ERP to feed enterprise analytics?



Liberty Steel UK creates business agility

Liberty Steel UK needed to quickly deploy an enterprise ERP to support its growth strategy following separation from Tata Steel. The company implemented a cloud-based ERP to deliver a single ecosystem with end-to-end functionality, industry-specific capabilities, minimal customizations, simplified processes, continuous software updates, and a reduction of burden on internal IT staff.



Cloud edge solutions balance risk and ROI

ASSETS | SUPPLY CHAIN | WORKFORCE | PRODUCT LIFECYCLE | EXPENSES | CUSTOMERS

Maximize collaboration and streamline user experience across strategic workflows

Is edge to cloud the right path for your business? Ask yourself:

- Is your business prioritizing near-term business value?
- Do you prefer shorter implementation cycles and a straightforward ROI model?
- Do you need advanced capabilities beyond typical ERP features to support business processes or objectives?

Cloud Asset Management powers modernization

In 2012, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport embarked on a major \$370 million modernization program for its subway. The transport company needed an in-depth understanding of the cost, lifecycle, and performance of every asset to measure downtime and pinpoint areas for improvement. Upgrading its enterprise asset management system to the cloud-based version, the company benefitted from a modern enterprise BI and analytics platform that provides the modern capabilities to support Strathclyde's modernization efforts.



Cloud data platforms unlock business insights

INTEGRATION | DATA LAKE | BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE | ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Enable holistic business insights and planning

Is data to cloud the right path for your business? Ask yourself:

- Is your business prioritizing business insights?
- Do you want to continue using your current capabilities while leveraging data across application silos?
- Do you want to address critical business issues such as scalability, performance, security, elasticity and risk management?
- Are you seeking opportunities to apply advanced tools for machine learning or AI?

Cloud data keeps the entire business aligned

Miller Industries, the world's largest manufacturer of towing and recovery equipment, relied on ERP software to manage its end-to-end operations, including data analysis. But as the company grew, its reporting capabilities could not keep up. It implemented an enterprise BI and analytics platform which helped align its management team by providing a single source for all its data. Miller Industries is now migrating to a full multi-tenant cloud environment.



Choosing your path

Cloud strategy is not “one-size-fits-all”

The key to an effective migration strategy is to consider your complete technology ecosystem when identifying priorities in time to value. Many factors must be considered when creating a plan—including budget, change readiness, available skills, risk profile, and strategic objective.

Create the path to the cloud that best suits your business needs by evaluating the following areas:

A complete platform

Organizations benefit the most when utilizing a cloud operating platform that seamlessly connects services to provide a robust integration framework and serves as the foundation of an entire business ecosystem.

Integration strategy

Many enterprises currently wrestle with a variety of stand-alone applications that are fragmented and not integrated. When defining your need, consider applications that make it easier to work with partners and customers.

Key business operations

Identify functional groups and applications that urgently require additional functionality or would receive the greatest value by moving to the cloud.

Strategic priorities

Whether your organization is prioritizing core ERP capability improvements, near-term business value, or advanced tools for business insights, there is an agile path to the cloud that will create the most value for your business.

Take your next step with confidence

If your organization has waited to move your applications to the cloud, you now have more insights than ever to develop your cloud migration plan. The range of options available means that your business can choose the path that best serves your strategic needs and risk profile. Choose your path, and take the first step towards a more agile organization that is better prepared to take on future challenges and opportunities.

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Infor is a global enterprise leader in business cloud software and a strategic technology partner for more than 68,000+ Enterprise and SMB companies. Enterprise software solutions that are built for the cloud, built for your industry. From Manufacturing to Healthcare to Retail and Fashion, we cover all industries and have ERP end-to-end solutions that are brought together by artificial intelligence technology.

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