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4 Steps to Building a Successful Cloud Migration Plan

How to leverage unified observability into your networks, applications, and users to painlessly migrate to the cloud

As public sector organizations tackle the challenges of moving applications and workloads to the cloud, IT teams often discover that the many customized, agency-specific applications pose significant challenges when migrating and operating in cloud environments. They need to answer critical questions about performance, scalability, and costs. To successfully manage a migration project, teams need to collect and correlate a range of key data points and develop an executable plan before moving to the cloud.

Step 1: Identify the Application Ecosystem

It's difficult to migrate applications that you don't understand. There are many applications across vast environments housed in many tiers, and everything must be identified, rationalized and correlated to successfully move to the cloud.

Key Plan Components

- Rationalize applications and their dependencies
- Outline network paths
- Understand current and future end user performance

Step 2: Predict Application Performance

With absolute accuracy, you should understand how an application performs and functions in your current environment. Only with that knowledge will you be able to achieve comparable or improved performance in the cloud.

Key Plan Components

- Understand end-user performance metrics in the on-prem environment
- Identify the impact of additional latency
- Map tier dependencies
- Model and simulate the application's performance in the cloud

Step 3: Identify Network Hotspots

Moving to the cloud and changing application workloads and paths can create new and/or unintended network hotspots. Modeling is key to identifying them.

Key Plan Components

- Conduct double failure studies
- Identify changes to capacity needs
- Map current network architecture inadequacies

Step 4: Monitor Performance Before, During and After Migration

The value of unified observability doesn't end with completion of the migration project. It's critical for gaining an ongoing understanding of every application now and after the migration.

Key Plan Components

- Ensure "click to render" time
- Establish the level of baseline 'normal' performance
- Correlate app performance to device health/performance
- Compare and validate changes

Every migration project presents its own unique challenges. By leveraging Riverbed's Alluvio™ Unified Observability solutions, public sector IT teams can painlessly plan for migrating mission-critical applications and workloads to the cloud. For more information about building and executing a successful Cloud Migration Plan, contact the Riverbed team to discuss how we can help you painlessly migrate your applications and workloads to the cloud.