AZURE CLOUD SERVICES



influential

About Us

We are Influential Software.

Influential specialise in integrated digital solutions across a variety of web platforms.

We are experts in designing, delivering and supporting bespoke solutions, from our Digital Hub in Maidstone, Kent, backed up by our London City office and our nearshore team in Skopje, Macedonia.

We provide a totally flexible service, with partners such as Microsoft, SAP, IBM and Dell, all built around the specific needs of our clients, all offering an outstanding blend of quality and value.

Introduction

We create digital solutions for public and private organisations around the globe and build innovative software products that make life easier for our clients and their customers.

DIGITAL SERVICES

Our Digital Services include full lifecycle development and support of customised technology solutions for government and commercial customers

We work collaboratively with our customers to shape projects and build digital capability through a full portfolio of services, including:

- Digital Transformation
- Data
- Cyber Security
- Cloud
- Experience Design
- Enablement
- Digital Consulting
- Agile
- Innovation

AZURE PLATFORM DELIVERY

As a Microsoft Partner, we have significant expertise in the design, build and delivery of services on Azure. We use automation to establish a secure zone and continuous delivery pipeline, enabling robust and secure deployment of services hosted on Azure IaaS PaaS and AKS.

- Platform built by certified Azure architects.
- Assessment of IaaS, PaaS, AKS, Serverless or hybrid-cloud options.
- Performance assessed and benchmarked as part of deployment.
- Proven automated deployment and migration methods to Azure.
- Operational needs addressed as part of deployment.
- Version controlled Infrastructure as Code and Configuration Management.
- Cost optimisation.
- Joint build and staff enablement options.
- Example tools used: Terraform/ARM, Ansible, DSC, Kubernetes

CLOUD INTEGRATION

Influential's pedigree lies in software development.

From our inception we were providing complex integration solutions relying on bespoke software development, and this foundation forms the basis of many of our current service offerings which are hosted in the Cloud. Being a systems integration specialist with over 30 years' experience of handling some of the most complex technical challenges facing our customers, Influential is ideally positioned to prepare organisations for adopting Cloud based solutions.

We are technology agnostic, with broad experience across public and private cloud, building development platforms for solutions across Public sector, Healthcare

Our approach to developing cloud hosted applications is based on what's most appropriate to the solution requirements, while accommodating the unique client environment in which development is to take place; very often applying the Agile Methodology caters for these areas by ensuring both user needs and the objectives of the business stakeholders are fully met.

We can take you through the pros and cons of moving operations or applications into the Cloud, determine the optimum solution (whilst remaining technology agnostic) for your particular requirement, and work with you to ensure a smooth transition. We can advise on and work with every combination of public and private clouds and ensure secure integration with legacy systems as appropriate. Effectively, we create a wide-reaching roadmap for change that covers every consideration, ensuring no conflict with existing infrastructures or investments.

PAAS ARCHITECTURE, DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS

Our architecture, development and operations technologists provide our clients with the expertise to design, build and deliver services harnessing PaaS offerings. Supporting our Cloud first delivery approach we will use automation to establish a continuous deployment pipeline to enable robust and secure iteration of services hosted on PaaS.

Features

1 Service designed, built and optimised to harness PaaS capabilities.
2 PaaS hosted service delivery underpinned by automation practices.
3 Hyperscale Cloud support e.g. Azure App Services
4 Delivery of user focused minimal viable product.
5 Standardised process to support controls for feature-based continuous delivery.
6 Service health check and performance monitoring and dashboards.
7 Reduces risk with fully managed automation and configuration management.
8 Creation of a standardised, fast, test-driven, robust, continuous deployment pipeline.
9 12 factor principles underpin our delivery of digital services.

Benefits

1 Realise cost savings using Azure.
2 Reduced operation management costs.
3 Access to hyperscale computing and flexibility.
4 Realise benefits of Azure security features.
5 Realise benefits of Azure latest feature rich functionality.
6 Rapid deployment using automated ‘Infrastructure as Code’ practises.
7 De-risk deployments using a proven provider.

MANAGED INFRASTRUCTURE AS A SERVICE (MANAGED IAAS)

Flexible support for cloud solutions which frees clients of operational responsibilities. Coverage can be tailored to extend from networking and server operating systems up to the application layer. Available for Microsoft Azure, IMB Cloud and other platforms. Our technologists are experts in operational excellence driven by automation.

Features

- Core Service Elements
- Monitoring and alerting / event management.
- Capacity monitoring.
- Availability monitoring.
- Anti-virus management.
- Backups management.
- Operating System security patching.
- Help desk support (single point of contact).
- Incident logging and tracking service.
- SLA and service targets.
- Agreed escalation procedures.
- Agreed system failure process.
- Monthly report.

Benefits

1 Pay as You Go charging model provides clear cost visibility.
2 Easily scale support up/down in alignment with cloud platform consumption.
3 Rapid and repeatable deployment and operation driven by automation tooling.
4 Customisable offering with additional/specialist services available.
5 Reassurance of a supplier proven in GDS projects.
6 A trusted partner, not just a supplier.

MANAGED CLOUD

Flexible support for cloud workloads allowing clients to offload operational management to a trusted UK Government supplier. Managing networking and server operating systems, applications and end-to-end digital services. Available for Azure, IBM Cloud. Delivered by experienced engineers supporting IaaS, PaaS and serverless automation.

Features

- 24/7 monitoring and response for IaaS, PaaS and serverless.
- Supporting across networking, operating systems, applications and end-to-end services.
- Pay as you go support -per item monthly pricing.
- Cost optimisation and management.
- Design and deployment services on demand.
- Help desk support (single point of contact), incident management.
- Example tools used: Ansible, Puppet, Terraform, Kubernetes, Docker, Jenkins, Vagrant

Benefits

1 Pay -as-You-Go charging model providing ease of cost management.
2 Proactive cloud cost optimisation to drive down costs.
3 Easily scale support up/down in alignment with cloud platform consumption.
4 Rapid and repeatable deployment and operation driven by automation tooling.
5 Customisable offering with additional/specialist services available.