

Service Definition: Cloud Migration Planning & Architectural Strategy

Category: Cloud Support (Lot 3)

Lead Roles: Senior Network Architect / Principal Consultant

1. Service Overview

Our Cloud Migration Planning service provides the high-level technical leadership required to design and execute complex transitions from legacy network environments to modern Software-Defined Data Centres (SDDC) and Hybrid Clouds. Led by Senior Network Architects, we specialize in the architectural mapping, risk assessment, and roadmap development for Cisco ACI, Extreme Fabric, and secure edge integration. We ensure that migration strategies are "secure-by-design," scalable, and aligned with organizational objectives.

2. Service Features

- Estate Discovery & Audit: Comprehensive mapping of legacy physical and virtual network assets.
- Migration Strategy Selection: Evaluation of 6-R strategies (Rehost, Replatform, Rearchitect, etc.) per application.
- Hybrid Cloud Architecture: Designing secure connectivity between on-premises fabrics and public cloud (AWS/Azure).
- Zero Trust Design: Strategic planning for micro-segmentation and identity-based security policies.
- Application Dependency Mapping: Identifying critical traffic flows to prevent service disruption during cutover.
- Security Architecture Review: Validating Palo Alto/Fortinet placement and policy design for cloud workloads.
- Capacity & Performance Planning: Right-sizing cloud resources based on historical throughput and latency requirements.
- Infrastructure as Code (IaC) Strategy: Designing Ansible/Terraform workflows for automated environment provisioning.
- Proof of Concept (PoC) Design: Creating sandbox environments to validate architectural assumptions before full-scale migration.
- Transition Roadmap Development: Detailed, phased timelines for workload migration with clear risk mitigation steps.

3. Service Benefits

- Reduces Migration Risk: Expert architectural oversight identifies and mitigates technical hurdles before they occur.
- Minimizes Downtime: Phased planning ensures critical services remain available throughout the transition period.
- Cost Optimization: Prevents over-provisioning by accurately mapping legacy workloads to optimized cloud resources.
- Secure-by-Design Outcomes: Ensures compliance with NCSC and Cyber Essentials Plus through early security integration.
- Future-Proof Infrastructure: Delivers scalable, programmable fabrics (Cisco ACI/Extreme) ready for multi-cloud growth.
- Improved Agility: Enables rapid deployment of new services through high-level automation and IaC planning.
- Simplified Operations: Transitions complex legacy routing to centralized, software-defined management planes.

- Skill Gap Bridging: Provides high-level expertise not typically found in standard internal IT teams.
- Vendor Objectivity: Independent architectural advice on the best fabric and security technologies for your needs.
- Clear Financial Vision: Provides accurate TCO and ROI projections for the business case approval.

4. Onboarding and Implementation

Our planning phase follows a structured 4-6 week engagement:

- Stakeholder Alignment: Defining success criteria and business constraints.
- Discovery (Automated/Manual): Deep-dive into current network telemetry and application flows.
- Architectural Blueprinting: Development of the target state architecture and security model.
- Final Roadmap Delivery: Presentation of the migration plan, risk register, and cost estimates.

5. Offboarding & Exit Strategy

As this is a Planning service, offboarding focuses on complete knowledge transfer:

- Document Handover: Delivery of HLD (High-Level Design) and LLD (Low-Level Design) in accessible formats.
- Strategy Ownership: All migration roadmaps and scripts are handed over with full intellectual property rights to the buyer.
- Successor Briefing: Final workshops with the "Set Up and Migration" team to ensure seamless execution.

6. Service Constraints

- Implementation: This service covers *planning* and *design* only; physical migration execution is under the "Set Up and Migration" category.
- Prerequisites: Access to existing network documentation and administrative credentials for discovery tools is required.
- Site Access: Primarily delivered remotely; on-site workshops are subject to pre-agreement.