

Valcon G-Cloud Lot 3 Service Definition

Smart Data Platform

[Set Up and Migration | Data auditing and organising, Data/information structure design,
Engagement and communication planning, Project management and governance, Service
optimisation/right sizing, Mobilisation coordination, Other]

Version 1.0

1. About Us

Valcon is a leading European consultancy specialising in AI and data-driven business transformation, with a growing and established presence in the UK. A trusted partner to major organisations including multiple UK Government departments and public sector agencies. Valcon connects strategy and operations, helping organisations create value in their transformation programmes.

With over 1,750 consultants across Europe, Valcon brings deep expertise across data, AI, technology and consulting. In the UK, Valcon works with clients across financial services, public sector, retail, industrials and infrastructure. Valcon is backed by private equity firm Rivean Capital.

2. Service Description

Valcon helps public sector organisations implement and operationalise Data Platform solutions that create efficiency and value. We have developed a technology agnostic approach and accelerator (**Smart Data Platform**) across all major cloud vendors which shortens deployment of state-of-the-art data platforms from weeks down to minutes.

Features

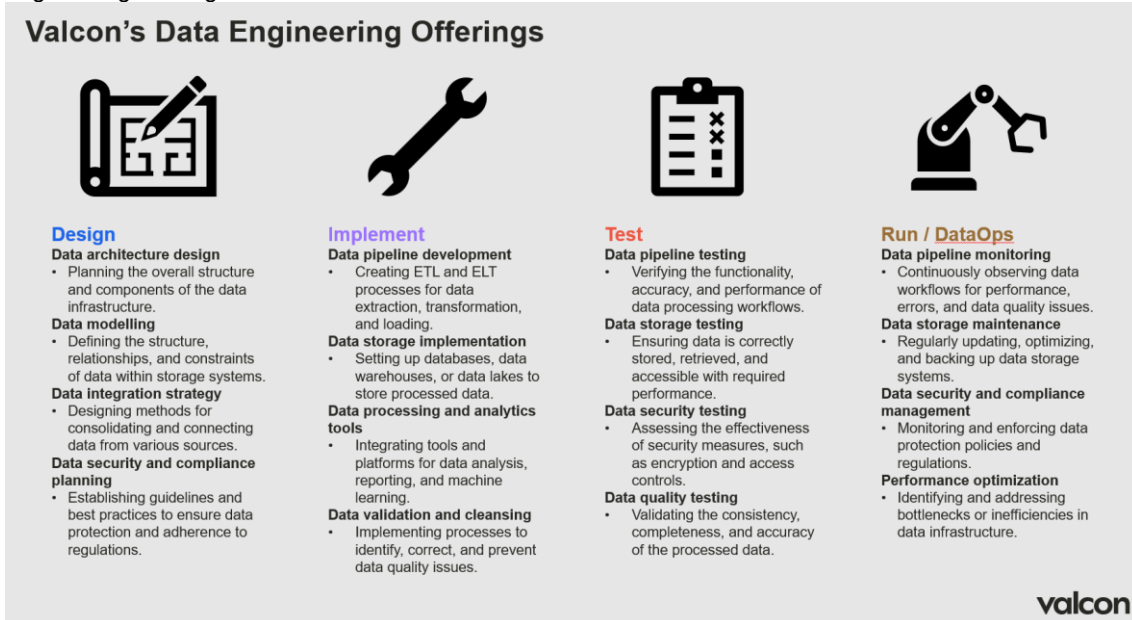
- Cloud accelerators speeding up custom data pipelines build
- Proven standardised methodology tailored to specific business needs and requirements
- Focused on measurable impact delivering the accurate data to users
- Incremental visibility and insight using agile or waterfall methodology
- Interdisciplinary approach embedded with Business Analysis, and Engineering expertise
- Technology agnostic across AWS, Azure and GCP cloud vendors
- Flexible pricing models to suit billing requirements and budgetary constraints
- Managed cloud Data Platform with operationalised services
- Includes Service Desk, incident, and problem management support
- Comprehensive change, release, and service management reporting

Benefits

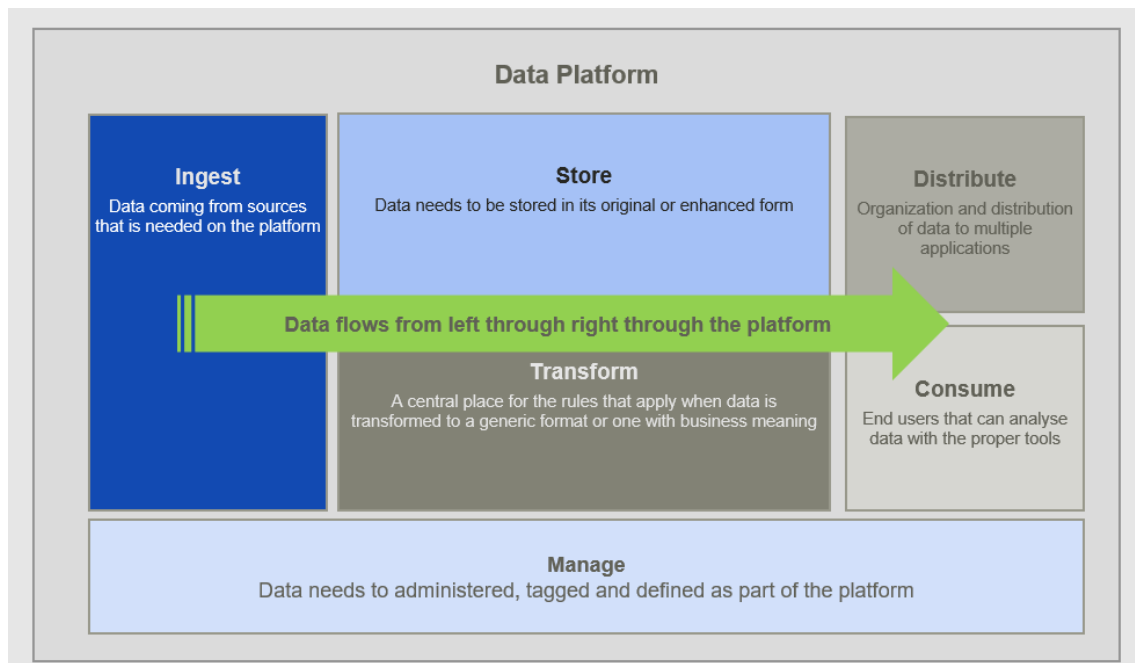
- Fast results using industry-standard “medallion architecture” Smart Data Platform
- Secure delivery of raw, enriched, standardised, and aggregated data.
- Timely, actionable data for performance and fact-based decisions.
- End-to-end delivery from business analysis to technical implementation.
- Measurable impact through tangible and quantified results focus
- Leading cloud Data Platforms leveraging Big Data for operational excellence.
- Access to a pool of highly skilled Data Engineers.
- Increased data readiness through collaboration-based delivery and formal knowledge transfer
- Real time insights through integration with operational systems and BI
- Continuous support via Managed Service with DevOps/ITIL model

3. Approach

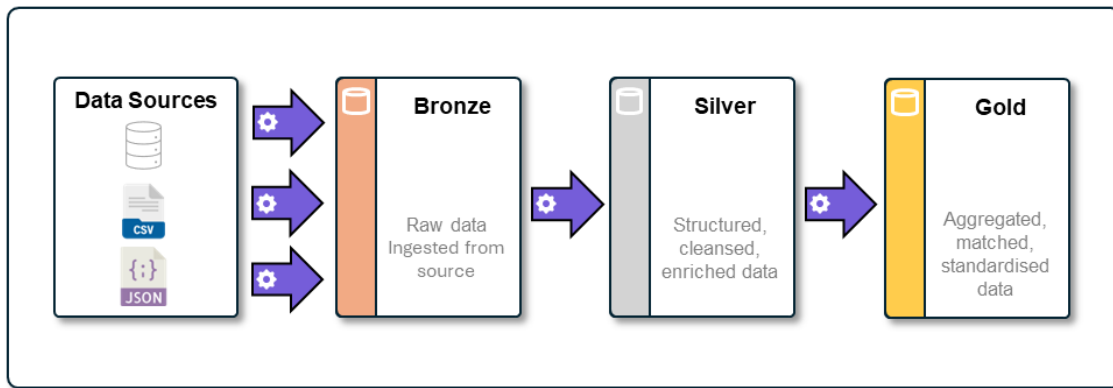
Our teams support yours wherever they are on their journey through our comprehensive range of data engineering offerings.



Valcon's Smart Data Platforms approach is based on the evaluation of where our clients are in their data maturity journey. We have identified several stages of data maturity, and our Data Platforms solutions help our clients move from data as a consequence/reference to data as a an enabler/strategic asset. We have specific expertise in uncovering value in operational data sources that are often not considered by the business.



Within the data platform we define a set of data stores known as Bronze, Silver and Gold, known as a “medallion architecture”. This is an industry standard set of data stores, and represents data at differing levels of quality and standardisation.



Data analysts enjoy access to the high-quality aggregated gold data, allowing delivery of reports and insights across multiple source systems, while data scientists are able to take the standardised, cleansed and enriched silver data to create machine learning features and train models that deliver valuable predictions to your teams.

Throughout the Data Platform implementation, we aim to take your team along the journey, with documentation, knowledge transfer and training, enabling you to become self-sufficient should you wish, although we are also able to manage your data pipeline as an ongoing service after implementation. We deliver the implementation of data pipelines by using our proprietary Smart Data Platform accelerators, which speed up the creation of data pipelines customised to your specific data models. In addition, our Smart Data Platform accelerators integrate with a wide range of data and platform management tools, addressing issues such as data quality, data testing, pipeline observability and security, all leading to getting the right data to your users quicker.

Description of functionalities in the Data Platform

1. Ingest



This functionality will “ingest” all the data that is offered to the data platform. It’s able to ingest data from different volumes, velocities and varieties. Data can be ingested by streaming data or batch oriented. This functionality is typically meant for **Data Engineers**

2. Store



This functionality is used to store the data in the data platform. The data is stored in its raw form and is transformed into a business form when asked for. Also, the raw data can be accessed here. **Data Engineers** and **Data Scientists** typically have access to this functionality

3. Transform



The data transformation and data processing activities. The transformation of data is as a separate concern which can be placed in multiple areas. This functionality is typically meant for **Data Engineers**

4. Consume



This functionality is used to analyze and consume the. Visualization tools can be used like Power BI but also analysis tooling for performing data science tasks like ML notebooks or cognitive services can be used. **Business Users, Data Analyst** and **Data Scientists** typically have access to this functionality.

5. Distribute



This functionality is used to further distribute the data to third parties. This is typically done through API's, to prevent customizations on the data output.

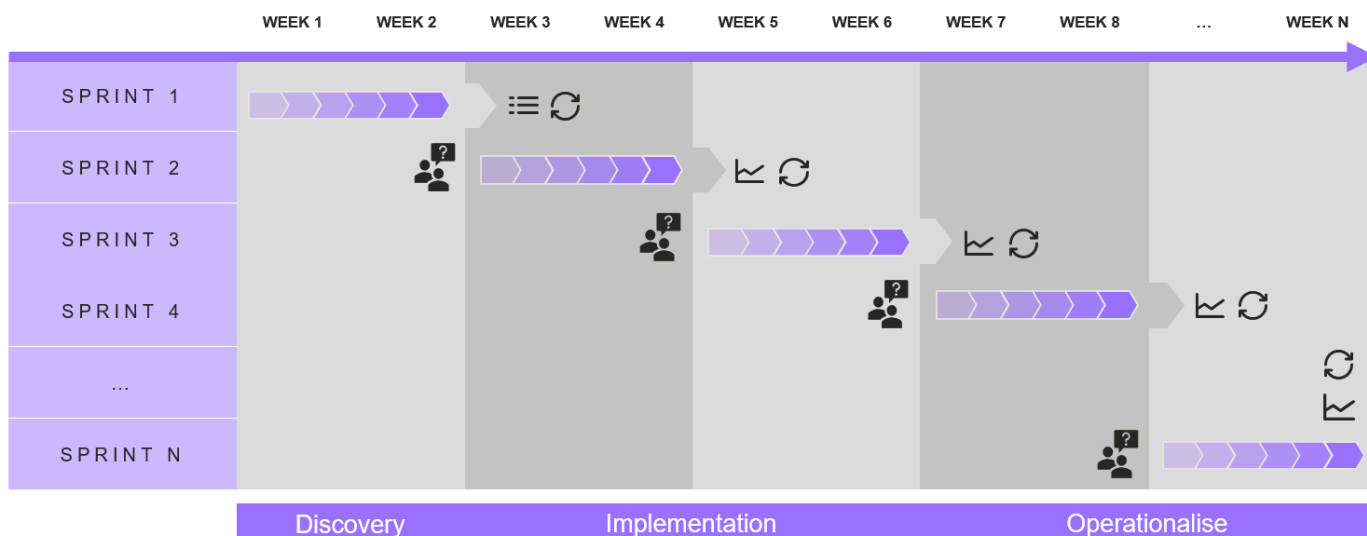
6. Manage



This functionality is concerned with the management of data. It assures Security policies are followed and authentication and authorization is arranged. It also provides clarity on data structures and definitions through for example a data catalog.

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Our solutions can be developed through different delivery models. Our own preference is an agile and flexible approach where we deliver incremental visibility and results through iterative sprints.



4. Activities and Deliverables

This engagement can feature any combination of the deliverables described in the table below:

Deliverables	Description
Data Platform Discovery	The discovery steps of the process cover 'Business Understanding' and 'Data Understanding'. Both steps involve the Valcon Data Platform experts analysing the business question to be answered and analysing the data available to determine the best approach and assess the quality of the data itself. The outcome of this phase is a detailed understanding of the business problem and available data, a refined approach, and recommendations and actions to deliver a cloud-based data platform in the context of your organisation's requirements.
Data Platform Architecture and Design	The design phase bridges the conceptual to the physical design and architecture of the solution. Valcon's Smart Data Platform accelerators are architected using industry standard patterns that enable us to quickly translate your data requirements into a suitable architecture. The high-level design will be refined based on the detailed understanding gained during the discovery phase. A detailed physical architecture will be produced that drills down from the high-level design to a level of detail that informs the implementation.
Data Platform Implementation	The implementation steps of the process include 'Infrastructure Provisioning', 'Landing Raw Data' and 'Data Pipeline Development', 'Integration', 'Testing', 'Deployment', 'Documentation' and 'Playback'. This is an iterative process and involves UAT testing at different stages platform implementation, typically as data is landed in the Bronze, Silver and Gold layers. Integration is an optional step and may include integrating your data with other data management tooling, such as Master Data Management, Reference Data Management and Data Governance tooling. Deployment involves productionising and operationalising the platform with appropriate security, monitoring & metrics in a controlled environment for consumption through a designated cloud-based BI environment.

5. Effort and Cost

Effort will be determined collaboratively between the Valcon and the client based on the skills mix and scope required.

Please refer to the Pricing Document for current rates.

- Rate card prices are exclusive of VAT.
- Expenses are recharged at cost and supported by receipts.
- Expenses may include reasonable travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs.
- The payment schedule will follow milestone completions as agreed in the Statement of Work.

6. Assumptions

The successful delivery of the engagement depends on assumptions and dependencies jointly agreed between the Valcon and the client.

These may include (but are not limited to):

- Access to required stakeholders, systems, or information
- Timely decisions and approvals
- Availability of resources and infrastructure
- Defined governance and communication processes

All assumptions and dependencies will be recorded and validated as part of the Statement of Work (SoW).