



# MIGRATING CLOUD SYSTEMS

## HOW TO MIGRATE AND TIPS TO ENSURE SUCCESS

### MIGRATING CLOUD SYSTEMS

Cloud systems are widespread these days, everyone is using them. With major vendors in the market all trying to offer more flexible and efficient cloud solutions, whether remote or physically located in the same location. These systems allow companies more in depth control of the resources and costs associated with their hardware and software usage. They enable a company to increase resources for a more demanding task, and decrease resources for lighter tasks, enabling the company to focus on innovation or product development

### WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR MIGRATING A CLOUD SYSTEM?

There are a number of reasons for why a Cloud migration may be required. Moving to a cloud environment, companies are keen to move existing systems from costly on-premise implementations to the cloud. This allows the whole environment to be maintained for them with a single transparent recurring cost. Companies may have more than one platform in use and would like to consolidate to use a single platform. A company may want to leave their Cloud environment because the scalability is simply not suitable to the internal tasks that are performed on a regular basis. Other reasons for changing to a Cloud based system are that the existing platform doesn't have all of the features that are required and the company's needs are better met with another, more flexible, system. Whatever the reason for the move, the teams and individuals who have created valuable content on the existing system will not want this to be lost or left behind.

### HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT MIGRATING ALL OF THIS CONTENT TO THE NEW ENVIRONMENT?

There are usually a number of options available to move the content and data to the new environment. You could get your existing members of the sites and communities to **manually** move their content. However, are these people going to have the time, along with their existing responsibilities, to do this migration of data to the new system? The answer to that partly depends on how much content there is in the existing platform. If the answer is no, they can't, then you could look at **outsourcing** the manual migration to another team or company that specialises in data entry. Another option is to look at what the **vendor** of the new platform offers. There is sometimes an import method or a way to upload your data in bulk provided as part of the new system. The final option is to use an **automated** migration tool, like Vamosa's Migration Architect.

## MIGRATION PROCESS

Ultimately all of the migration approaches above should follow the same simple principles:

- **Extract** the data from the source systems
- **Transform** the data to fit the new system
- **Load** the data to the new system

The key step in the process above is the Transform step. You need to ensure that you transform the data in the source system to work with the target system. Often when migrating to a new content management system there will be a number of changes made to the content types, presentation templates, and the information architecture of the site. These changes will determine the amount of transformation that is required for the existing content. The transformation task needs to account of these differences, are there new metadata fields that are mandatory in the target system? How should these new fields be populated, can the values be found somewhere in the existing content or will they need to be generated somehow? These decisions will be made by the business using insights gained by analysing the source content and understanding the new structures in the target. Once it is understood what is available in the source and what is required in the target, a process that will transform the existing content can be defined. The differences between the source and target content management systems are the key to getting the transformation process correct.

Another key transformation activity is the translation of all of the links in the content that is migrated to ensure the link points to the correct location in the new content management system. This link translation step is not something that is easy to achieve with a manual migration approach. Using an automated approach, you can design the migration to ensure that you track all links and know where the corresponding items have been moved to in the new target system. This allows for the updating of all links in the new CMS to allow for the content to function as it did in the legacy CMS.

Vamosa's Migration Architect manages link translation for migration to all CMS systems. It also has the ability to easily transform your source content into the required shape for your chosen target CMS.

## HOW WE MIGRATE CLOUD SYSTEMS

We have extensive experience of migrating Cloud systems. At Vamosa, we have migrated customers to, and from, IBM Connections Cloud, Private Cloud instances, Microsoft Office365 and many other Cloud environments platforms. These migrations can be to on-premise systems, Cloud installations or hybrid environments.

The key step, as explained earlier, is to understand the difference between the two systems. We do this by automatically analysing the source platform to understand the available features and the usage of each of these features.

This information is then used to determine the differences, if any exist, to the features that are available in the target system. We then discuss with the business the best way to transform the content for their specific needs in the target platform. This results in a design for the migration and we can then select the appropriate rules to use to transform and migrate the data.

Vamosa Migration Architect is configured to perform the transformations required to the source content and then load the content to the target CMS. The loading of the content is performed by using connectors, which utilise the target system API to load the content. All of the links are automatically updated as part of the process to ensure that the new content functions as it should in the new environment.

## HOW T-SYSTEMS CAN HELP

T-Systems provide industry proven migration and archiving solutions using best of breed software backed up by consultants experienced in all aspects of designing, managing and delivering successful enterprise migration projects.

### *CONTENT MIGRATION*

Migration of data between any source and target content management systems  
Full support of on-premises, cloud and hybrid solutions

### *DATA ARCHIVING*

Archiving of web and social media data  
Legally defensible capture, preservation and analysis of content for eDiscovery, Compliance, and Risk

### *MERGER AND ACQUISITION SOLUTIONS*

Day one collaboration solutions  
Post-merger collaboration solutions

### *CLOUD EMAIL SOLUTIONS*

Microsoft Office 365 migration  
Microsoft Office 365 tenant integration and migration  
Microsoft Office 365 managed services

### *EMAIL MODERNISATION SOLUTIONS*

Microsoft Active Directory modernisation  
Microsoft Exchange Modernisation  
IBM Notes migration  
IBM Domino retirement

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