

## Data Platform Modernisation and Management

*Northdoor offerings around the modernisation and management of the data platform.*

Backed by expert-level certifications from major vendors, Northdoor takes a structured approach to updating and consolidating existing on-premises or cloud infrastructure. Benefits include: reduced cost and complexity; increased performance; enhanced security and governance and better reporting capabilities. Clients can also opt for fully managed support services, to remove the cost and complexity of management.

### A modern platform for managing all data

#### Putting data first

Data is rightly seen as the new natural resource for businesses, providing as it does the fuel for success in the digital economy. Of course, gathering and storing large quantities of data is the easy part – far harder is managing and making effective use of that data.

In many organisations, the infrastructure has grown in a relatively unplanned way over several years, and much data is locked away in departmental silos. There are often multiple different versions and editions of technology, adding to the complexity and management cost, and running out-of-date platforms can leave the organisation exposed to security and performance risks.

In many cases, existing systems were designed for transactional purposes, with little or no thought given to future reporting or analytics needs. As a result, it is now difficult and time-consuming for business users to get the data they require. To get back on the right track, organisations first need to update their data strategy to meet today's challenges.

#### Getting ready

To unlock the benefits of BI and analytics, the typical organisation needs to rationalise, consolidate and modernise its existing data platform. Northdoor offers a comprehensive set of services, starting with a *1-day Data Estate Modernisation Workshop* that helps determine the best fit future environment and licensing model options for all data. This workshop aims to re-use existing infrastructure and licensing wherever practical and is also naturally open to considering hybrid and cloud only environments, where appropriate.

For the existing infrastructure, Northdoor provides consolidation and optimisation services, helping clients to rationalise their databases and migrate to the latest versions. By getting back onto the vendor's standard support path, organisations reduce their risk and get the accumulated benefits of years of updates.

#### Faster and more secure

Modernising the data platform typically results in significant performance gains, potentially reducing the total number of Servers required and enables organisations to optimise software licensing fees. New security features – including aspects such as transparent data encryption and separation of duties – can help organisations maintain regulatory compliance at lower cost.

By creating a more compact and efficient on-premises data platform, Northdoor can also help organisations to reduce their IT operational costs, all while increasing the ease of access to data. Current versions of database software make it easy to create hybrid landscapes that span on-premises and cloud resources, enabling organisations to expand at lower cost and to plug in new cloud-based analytics services more easily.

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### **Remove the management burden**

Northdoor offers a comprehensive suite of services around data platform modernisation, including the non-disruptive migration of existing data to new platforms.

For organisations seeking to improve their focus on the core business, Northdoor also provides fully managed support services for databases. By engaging Northdoor to provide the data platform as a managed service, organisations benefit from our expertise and no longer need to retain costly DBA skills in-house.

Within a managed support services contract, Northdoor can also provide ongoing consultancy and recommendations for project-based enhancements to capabilities. Drawing on our technical skills in other areas, we can support clients in building a full-scale analytics capability on top of their refreshed data platform.