![Logicalis - Architects of Change]

Fast, secure & economical into the cloud with the cloud construction kit

How the Production Ready Cloud paves the way to Microsoft Azure

LOGICALIS

Architects of Change

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This is why companies are turning to the cloud

The German economy is moving into the cloud. A representative survey conducted by Bitkom Research on behalf of KPMG AG among 555 companies with 20 or more employees found that more than 75 per cent of them used cloud computing services in 2019.

By way of comparison: Two years earlier, the figure was 66 per cent. 9 per cent are planning or discussing cloud deployment - and only six per cent still want to continue without the cloud. A point of criticism frequently voiced in the past is the security risk. The respondents' experience, however, is that the public cloud is less susceptible to security incidents than their own IT. Of course, this trust - like everywhere in IT - requires a professionally prepared security concept to effectively counter cyber threats. The issue of compliance also needs to be adequately considered.

When there is such overwhelming support as described, the cloud is more than a trend. In fact, there are substantial reasons for their use. IT resource maintenance and operation are thus reduced, and upgrades are carried out by the cloud provider. New applications and users can be implemented or created in minutes. IT administrators can once again concentrate on important, strategic tasks.

Cloud allows resources to be used more flexibly and efficiently. In this way, peak loads can be absorbed and costs optimised when utilisation is low. High operating costs due to server rooms (including security requirements, power supply and air conditioning) are eliminated. The cloud turns fixed investment costs into variable, consumption-dependent costs. Unused resources are simply switched off when the load is low. The freed-up capital can be reinvested - for example in our own developments or new technologies.

The cloud enables device-, time- and location-independent access to geographically distributed resources. The result is a high level of availability and new opportunities for cooperation between departments. The cloud can increase quality, competitiveness and growth opportunities. Modern, standardised and consolidated IT accelerates and facilitates the market launch of new products and services.

The main advantages at a glance:

Efficiency: The cloud enables high savings due to drastic reductions in total cost of ownership and shifting IT costs towards an OPEX model. The high degree of standardisation makes cloud services the ideal platform for managed services.

Scalability: Unlimited resources mean that IT and digital components can be scaled at top speed - and so can business processes.

Agility: Agile IT (DevOps) enables companies to improve their overall agility and thus respond immediately to new requirements.

Innovation: The cloud offers companies of all sizes the opportunity to develop new and innovative products and services with modern technologies such as AI, machine learning and blockchain.

What obstacles are there on the way to the cloud?

The transition to the cloud is a major step for any company. Many obstacles and pitfalls lie in wait on the way to the goal. If no governance or guidelines are in place, the transition may either be unnecessarily expensive or even have to be carried out several times. Escalating project costs, but also the waste of working time and human resources are therefore a potential risk that should not be underestimated.

In addition, it is inevitable that new technologies will also bring new security risks. These can be minimised, but only with appropriate security competence in the company and with correct handling. Basically, skills gaps are not only dangerous in terms of the security of confidential information, but also extremely time-consuming and costly in terms of necessary qualification measures. The deployment of a modern cloud platform can even fail altogether without the relevant expertise.

Replacing old systems and existing applications is very complex. If the process is not done correctly, it can become very costly and time-consuming. Decisions must therefore be made in advance to avoid mistakes and maximise opportunities and possibilities. A structured and proven methodology that includes all essential cloud transformation steps and considers all aspects is therefore indispensable.

96%

OF COMPANIES USE THE CLOUD
IN A WIDE VARIETY OF WAYS.[1]

CIO.COM: 2020

83%

OF COMPANIES STATE THAT
SECURITY IS A CHALLENGE.[2]

FLEXERA STATE OF
THE CLOUD REPORT: 2020

82%

OF COMPANIES SAY THAT
SPENDING ON CLOUD
COMPUTING IS A PROBLEM.[2]

FLEXERA STATE OF
THE CLOUD REPORT: 2020

79%

OF THE COMPANIES CONFIRM
THAT CLOUD MANAGEMENT IS
A MAJOR CHALLENGE.[2]

FLEXERA STATE OF
THE CLOUD REPORT: 2020

1 https://www.cio.com/article/3267571/it-governance-critical-as-cloud-adoption-soars-to-96-percent-in-2018.html
2 https://resources.flexera.com/web/pdf/report-state-of-the-cloud-2020.pdf

How the cloud construction kit assists you with the transition

Logicalis has developed a special cloud construction kit for companies that enables them to follow the path to the cloud in a reliable and structured manner: the Production Ready Cloud (PRC). The PRC promises a fast and effective introduction of the Azure Cloud, especially when internal resources are limited or otherwise planned. The PRC is a standardised and field-tested path to a mature cloud implementation and guarantees you scalability and high availability. This gives companies access to new cloud-based technologies and services in the shortest possible time, boosting innovation, growth and agility.

The cloud construction kit relies on a well thought-out structure and takes into account the most important components of a cloud project:

Design architecture

It provides a foundation with guidelines for future large-scale deployments so that added value can be realised quickly.

Security and compliance framework

Automated security and identity management, embedded compliance policies and procedures, and built-in disaster recovery to avoid disruption.

Network connectivity

Governance, transparency and manageability using a secure network providing controlled access, logging and auditing.

Application innovation

Access cutting-edge cloud technologies such as AI, ML and more, as well as agile DevOps for accelerated, application-based innovation.
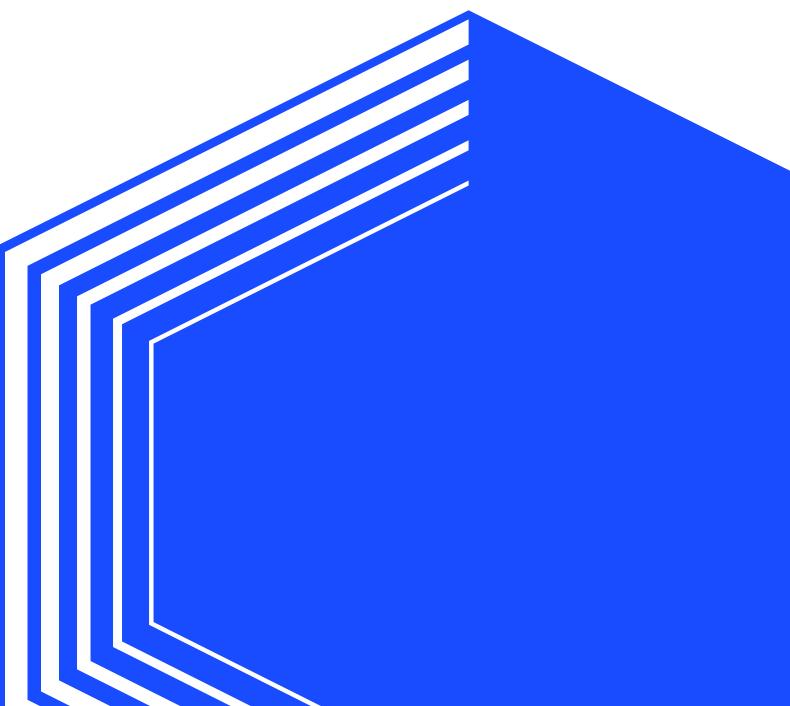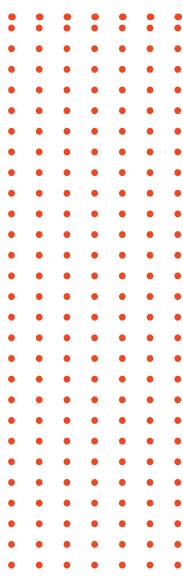
All the above-mentioned components interlock and ensure the introduction of the Production Ready Cloud in just 3 steps:

1) ALIGN

First and foremost, there is an assessment of the current state and a safety evaluation. Realistic cost estimates and possible solutions for potential obstacles can be derived from this, among other things. Recommendations around security, network, governance and application architecture round off the first module "Alignment".
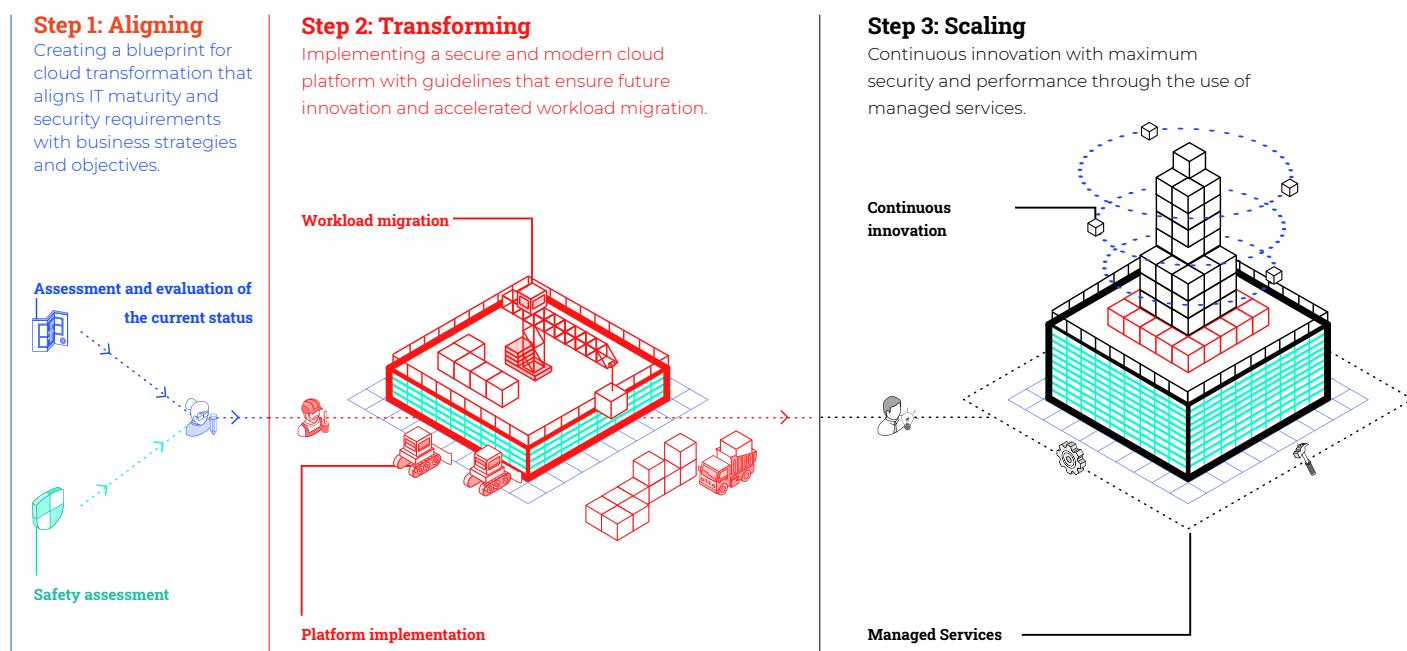
2) TRANSFORMATION

The provision of a standardised best practice platform then takes place. It provides a foundation and security for production-ready workloads. This ensures accelerated amortisation, better business productivity and reliable results. In a lift-and-shift process (i.e. without major adjustments), existing workloads can be transferred to the cloud with little risk. Of course, new applications can also be deployed in Azure. In both cases, the transition is safe and controlled. The "transformation" is complete.

3) SCALING

Scaling is the third and last step in terms of time. Logicalis takes care of continuous modernisation and innovation throughout the business lifecycle. As an Azure Expert Managed Service Provider, we maintain the highest standards for efficient cloud performance management. On behalf of our clients, we optimise costs and implement thorough security measures.

The implementation of the Production Ready Cloud consists of three steps

Step 1: Aligning
Creating a blueprint for cloud transformation that aligns IT maturity and security requirements with business strategies and objectives.

Step 2: Transforming
Implementing a secure and modern cloud platform with guidelines that ensure future innovation and accelerated workload migration.

Step 3: Scaling
Continuous innovation with maximum security and performance through the use of managed services.

Assessment and evaluation of the current status

Safety assessment

Workload migration

Platform implementation

Continuous innovation

Managed Services

How you can benefit from the Production Ready Cloud

· Speed: The Production Ready Cloud can be implemented at the highest speed.

· Trust: The solution has proven itself many times over. It has robust security, compliance and continuity features that are always kept up to date.

· Cost control: The product provides cost control by delivering out-of-the-box, detailed report creation and management capabilities.

· Innovation: The platform continues to develop along with new Azure features.
Its innovative character remains intact.

Example of a customer

Capveriant

On behalf of the newly founded fintech start-up Capveriant, Logicalis has developed both the operating platform and provided the necessary IT infrastructure as part of a cloud-only approach. Particular challenges included meeting the regulatory requirements placed on companies in the financial sector. It was mastered, as well as the implementation of a multi-tier development environment in Azure based on the open source Kubernetes system. The complete infrastructure for the new company's employees was created using Microsoft 365 Enterprise Portfolio solutions. Windows 10, Office 365 and Enterprise Mobility + Security were used. The platform has been a market success since 2018.

Why Logicalis?

Certified expertise: Microsoft Azure Expert MSP

Our in-depth Microsoft Azure expertise combined with a wide range of services makes us exactly the right partner for your cloud projects. Our global status as a Microsoft Azure Expert Managed Service Provider (Azure Expert MSP) reflects this commitment in 27 countries worldwide. This status is only held by a select group of the most capable Azure partners who are able to successfully implement demanding Azure projects.

Our Azure Expert MSP status is based on a portfolio of certified Microsoft managed services that enable our customers to launch and operate cloud services with security, governance and high reliability. This enables Logicalis to support businesses at all levels of their cloud journey.

We are among the top 1% of Microsoft Azure partners worldwide. This expertise helps our customers to take full advantage of the benefits that can be achieved with Azure:

Our expertise in managed services allows us to:

· The growth of the company due to flexibility and scaling.

· Realise the full potential of the Azure Cloud.

· To ensure the security of the platform and systems.

Successful transformation requires experience

"Global presence, local execution" - this is the motto with which Logicalis serves 10,000 customers worldwide. We are one of the leading providers of managed services. We have extensive expertise in a wide range of areas: Financial services, banking and healthcare, public sector and manufacturing are some examples. Logicalis specialises in implementing and operating cloud solutions and managing the customer lifecycle. We act quickly and agilely with the aim of achieving added value for our customers.

Logicalis is one of the most capable Azure MSPs in the region.

Logicalis is a partner with a high level of innovation.
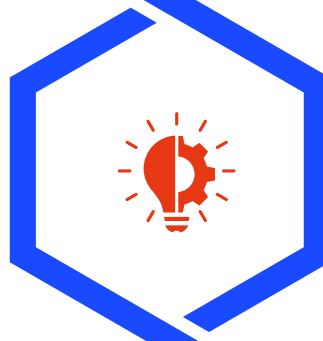
Logicalis has extensive Azure best practice knowledge.

Logicalis offers expertise certified by Microsoft.

Logicalis depicts the complete cloud lifecycle.

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About Logicalis

Logicalis is an international provider of IT solutions and managed services, helping its more than 10,000 customers around the world to successfully shape digital change. Over 6,500 employees in 27 countries form a global network of IT experts supported by strategic partnerships with outstanding technology providers.

As Architects of Change™, Logicalis GmbH focuses on designing and implementing the digital transformation of its customers from security, Cloud, infrastructure, data management through to IoT. In Germany, Logicalis GmbH has over 350 employees in Frankfurt, Berlin, Cologne, Munich and Stuttgart.

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