

Nowadays, cloud adoption is an established trend among companies. In particular, many companies choose the cloud as the preferred location to host their data and concerning workloads.

Cloud technology has a natural and steady evolution, and it offers a lot of opportunities to take data workloads to the next step. For example, it is possible to leverage Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) components in order to cut administrative costs of your solution and paying for resources effective usage. Moreover, the variety of available services on the cloud enable architect to design and implement solutions in which different types of workloads (batch and streaming, for example) co-exist and converge seamlessly, like in the so-called Modern Data Warehouses.

However, whether you want to migrate your actual on-premises workload or to build something new from scratch, the huge number of different services and available combinations may be overwhelming at first. Many components have similar features and cover the same area of technology, and to choose the ones that fit the best for a particular architecture you have to take into account some key factors like: development and maintenance, availability of native connectors to data sources, synergies between components of your solutions, cost models, and so on.

This workshop aims to help customers that want to approach the Azure data ecosystem, getting off to a good start to build a new home for their data and workloads. Such goal will be achieved in three simple steps.

## 1. ENVISIONING

Customer will get an overview about the state-of-the-art of the Azure Data Platform offering: both new and well-established services, common problems that could arise and how to solve them. Also, security will be a pivotal topic throughout the whole session, both in general and service-specific terms. The envisioning session will have a practical approach, with real-world use cases and best practices from field experience.

## 2. ASSESSMENT

The second step will consists in gathering information about the actual data ecosystem of the customer, like:

- database services and data sources currently in use
- · types of workload
- ETL/ELT processes
- access and security requirements
- pain points of the actual solution
- desired improvements
- · constraints to keep in mind

## 3. PROPOSAL

Gathered data will then be used to design one or more proposals to move the actual architecture to Azure, or to host in Azure a brand new one (depending on what the customer is asking for). Such proposals will include:

- · a conceptual schema of the solution
- a descriptive list of the service which compose the architecture
- the reasons that led to such choices
- · any pros, cons, and attention points
- a possible range of monthly cost to maintain the solution.

These comprehensive proposal are the cornerstone of a successful delivery project, whether it will be carried on independently by the customer or with the help of our expertise.

