

Azure Site Recovery – assessment

As an organization, you must employ a Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery (BCDR) strategy that ensures your data is secure and your apps and workloads stay online during planned and unplanned outages.

Azure Recovery Services adds to your BCDR strategy by helping ensure business continuity by keeping business apps and workloads running during outages. With Site Recovery, workloads running on physical and virtual machines (VMs) are replicated from a primary site to a secondary location. When an outage occurs on the primary site, fail over to the secondary site, where you can then access the apps. When the primary site is back up and running, you can fail back to this site.

Before you start protecting VMware virtual machines (VMs) with the help of Azure Site Recovery, you as a customer might want to have a concrete and complete picture of the expected costs (licenses, services, bandwidth, ...). This is where the added value of the “IT1 Azure Site Recovery - assessment” service starts.

What can you expect from the IT1 Azure Site Recovery assessment?

- Intake meeting in which the scope of the assignment and the requirements are explained
- Run the Azure Site Recovery assessment tool on the “on premise” server infrastructure (Hyper-V or VMware) without any impact on your production environment
- 10 days of data collection
- Compatibility rating
 - VM eligibility assessment based on number of disks, disk size, IOPS, churn, boot type (EFI / BIOS) and OS version
- Network bandwidth requirement versus RPO rating
 - Estimated network bandwidth needed for Delta replication
 - Throughput that Site Recovery can get from on-premises to Azure
 - Number of VMs to batch, based on estimated bandwidth to complete the first replication in a given time
 - RPO that can be achieved for a given bandwidth
 - Consequences for the desired RPO if a lower bandwidth is offered
- Azure infrastructure requirements
 - Required storage type (standard or premium storage) for each virtual machine
 - Total number of standard and premium storage accounts to be set up for replication (including cache storage accounts)
 - Suggestions for naming storage accounts, based on Storage guidelines
 - The number of Azure cores to set before test failover or failover for the subscription
 - Azure VM recommended size for any on-premises VM
- On-site infrastructure requirements
 - Required number of configuration servers and process servers to be deployed on site
- Estimated cost of disaster recovery for Azure
 - Estimated total cost for disaster recovery for Azure: costs for compute, storage, network, and Site Recovery licenses
 - Detailed cost analysis per VM