CASE STUDY

Using Data to Make Informed Cloud Decisions

With the advent of the cloud no longer in its infancy it is not a question of should we move to the cloud, more a question of when and what.

The cloud has allowed IT professionals to move from being reactive with mundane tasks like maintenance and updates, to being proactive with a focus on supporting business growth. So why aren't more companies making the transition? While all the logic to make the move may exist, IT decision makers may still be overwhelmed at the prospect, drowning in disparate systems information, with a seemingly insurmountable number of decisions to make and steps to take to reach cloud nirvana.

CHALLENGES

Making a Business Case. Even though investments in the cloud and money spent on updating outdated infrastructure are projected to increase in 2019, organizations may still wrestle with making the business case for the move to the cloud. Calculating the total cost of ownership or return on investment can be convoluted by approaches to allocating costs. Managers may not be able to follow the rabbit trail to the infrastructure details and budgeting minutia that would financially support their cloud proposal. Making a sound business case is further complicated by complex cloud pricing, no apples-to-apples comparison for on-prem vs. hybrid vs. cloud, and a lack of performance data to determine whether resources are overprovisioned or no longer even needed.

Timing and Time. Keeping up with the day-to-day of system maintenance, updates, urgent special projects and other fires, doesn't leave IT managers with time for investigating and compiling the information needed to put together a plan supported by thorough and accurate data. Often these projects are on hold until major budgeting events such as renewal of a datacenter contract, a major hardware refresh cycle or a security breach. Connecting a move to the cloud with an existing IT cycle can help push the timing issue out of the way.

39%
AVERAGE MONTHLY SAVINGS

Lack of Data. Often IT departments are compartmentalized, with one person rarely having a detailed picture of everything that's running everywhere, or conversely, they're drowning in disparate data sources without a way to put it together in an actionable way. Without the necessary information, making a plan to improve infrastructure or cleanup licensing and access would be an uphill battle.

SOLUTION

Airnet can help you use your own systems data, including performance data you did not even know you had, to make more informed decisions about what should move to Azure and what should not. Making a business case about the cloud is a formidable task without line of sight to your entire networking infrastructure. Internal reporting systems may not exist that help you identify the total cost of ownership for your server setup, making it more difficult than it should be to convince the C-Suite of the efficiencies achieved by moving to the cloud.

One of our solutions, The Airnet Systems Assessment Tool (ASAT), was designed to overcome the barriers to determining which workloads are most efficient in the cloud. The ASAT is an agentless, automated, multi-product planning and assessment tool for faster and easier planning and cloud migrations. It provides detailed readiness assessment reports, including extensive hardware and software information, actionable recommendations to help organizations accelerate their IT infrastructure planning and optimization process and gathers more detail on assets that reside within the current environment.

BENEFITS

Hundreds of ASATs have been performed throughout the United States, from Texas to California, Washington to New York, and North Carolina to Florida for companies in industries including finance, manufacturing, state and local governments, software and technology, and education, ranging in size from 10 servers to 10,000 servers. Airnet has helped these companies understand more about their own IT infrastructure than they have ever known. The detailed ASAT report can help make the business case for small, full-scale and hybrid cloud projects, with an average monthly savings of approximately 39% compared to hosting on-prem.

BENEFITS

With a custom ASAT report IT decision makers have the data necessary to make informed plans beyond which workloads are logical choices for migration to the cloud. Information in your ASAT report is also useful for on-prem optimization and annual IT budgeting.

An inventory of all network, server hardware and operating systems. Have a complete and thorough picture of everything that's running. A complete inventory can help you identify all workloads. This detailed inventory has even helped identify shadow IT.

Active directory audit. Improve the performance of active directory with the details from the ASAT by identifying orphan entries. Orphans often occur as organizations create or move objects, causing performance issues such as increased login times, DNS errors, and using more server resources than necessary. With the data from the ASAT you can get rid of your orphan entries, improving the function of active directory.

80%
OF ON-PREM RESOURCES ARE OVERPROVISIONED

Detailed performance data from more than 55 system metrics. Manage your infrastructure with knowlege, with the ability to make changes or earmark budgets with hard data and insight into your systems. Know how hard your servers are working with system metrics such as CPU utilization, network utilization, disk IOPS, and memory utilization.

Right-sizing recommendations. Become more efficient with actionable right-sizing recommendations for each server. Most companies have more than 80% of their on-prem resources overprovisioned. Right-sizing recommendations can help optimize your current setup as well as save potential future hardware purchases. Identifying under- or overprovisioned servers can even help reduce application complaints, improving system efficiency and your end-user's productivity.

WE CAN HELP

At Airnet, we come to work every day because we want to reduce the stress, confusion and security concerns most IT decision makers have when making the transition to a cloud-based solution. We know you're struggling with a lack of time, budget and other resources. On top of that, keeping up with the constant change in the cloud technology stack can be overwhelming. Our mission at Airnet is to make your transition to the cloud and life in the cloud as efficient, reliable, secure and transparent as possible. Contact us today to get your ASAT report, and start making the case to transition your team from project maintenance to business growth.

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Airnet Group, Inc. is your cloud partner for improving the efficiency, reliability, security, and maintenance of your IT systems while lowering the overall costs and redirecting your resources to focus on what moves your business forward. We are an IT professional and managed services provider, a Tier 1 Cloud Solution Provider and a Gold Cloud Platform Microsoft Partner.

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