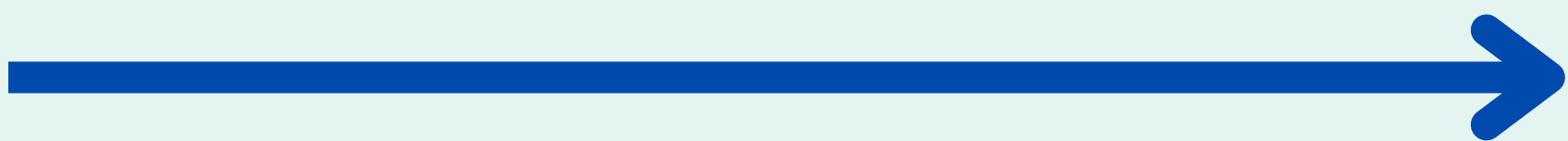


3 Steps

YOUR POWER AIX JOURNEY TO THE CLOUD



It will come down to these 3 things...

01

GET OUT OF THE DATA CENTER

Create the strategy to exit the data center. This will involve:

- Creating a timeline. Don't wait until the last minute before your lease expires
- LPAR migration (you aren't moving hardware frames)
- Moving the application data
- Adjusting your network topology (this will take a while)
- Understanding security and compliance
- Figuring out how to do an actual "cutover" from existing on-prem to the cloud

Tips:

- Don't do it on your own. Get your vendors to help. You will probably have to pay them
- Start with smaller but "real" production applications or non-production environments like dev-test
- Begin documenting your "migration assembly line" so you can scale up when the time is right
- Consider having your vendors run the new cloud environment as a managed service

OPERATIONALIZE IN THE CLOUD

Learn how to do everyday AIX IT tasks in the cloud:

- There are no “tape drives” in the cloud. Backup data will most likely become some type of blob storage
- How do you provision new LPARs, apply patches, add disk LUNs, network interfaces, etc.
- Disaster Recovery will most likely be a second cloud location in your cloud vendor network
- Establish quotas and controls so a limited number of people can create or modify cloud assets

Tips:

- Initially, do a “Lift and Shift” as much as possible without changing any application architecture
- Use your “starter” environment from step #1 to gain experience
- Work with your vendors to understand licensing implications for cloud instances
- Practice doing “full backup restores” and DR failover drills until the process becomes second nature

MODERNIZE / OPTIMIZE

Once stabilized, optimize and look to the future:

- “Lift and Shift” also carries forward lots of technical debt. Cloud flexibility can help with paydown
- Inventory existing application services and find the cloud equivalents
- If possible, update older operating system versions to more current releases. AIX 7.1 -> 7.3
- Understand vendor’s “end-of-life” dates for all operating systems and applications. This is critical

Tips:

- Create a “longevity matrix” of core applications and operating systems. How long do you have?
- Slowly implement cloud-native equivalents to those components most at risk. Change one thing at a time
- Clearly define how long you can leave things “as is” by updating the operating system and/or application versions. Let that become the driver for all other decisions