

Explaining Data Center Consolidations, Migrations, and Relocations



ARCLIGHT
SOLUTIONS

A data center and cloud migration can fundamentally transform how you deliver IT services and yield an attractive return on investment for IT and business operations. But you need a rock-solid migration plan tailored to your operating environment to get you there.

ArcLight will work with you to create a methodology specific to migrations that will help you create the plan and achieve the transformative results you are looking for while ensuring operational stability in the process.



STAGE 1: INITIATION

ArcLight works with you to launch the Initiation Phase, which includes gathering key objectives that lay the groundwork for a successful migration. It establishes the business case, and the project charter organizes the project teams and a high-level migration strategy begins to take shape.



STAGE 2: DISCOVERY

The Discovery Phase identifies and documents your physical and virtual environments, including the application inventory and interdependencies. With a combination of manual and auto data collection methods, discovery identifies critical data at the business, infrastructure, and application layers.



STAGE 3: PLANNING

The Planning Phase is where the team determines dispositions and performs move-group planning. During this phase, a clear and consolidated picture of what will be necessary during the execution phase takes shape. The project plan and schedule evolve into the master plan for execution.



STAGE 4: EXECUTION

A data center or cloud migration is 75% planning and 25% execution. Migration risks are avoided through testing, pilot migrations, contingency rollback planning, and detailed cutover run books to support execution readiness. Post-testing, acceptance criteria, and solid issue tracking ensure we do not walk away from the scene with a hidden bomb still ticking.



STAGE 5: CLOSEOUT

The Closeout Phase can catch organizations by surprise with hidden risks and expenses and take longer than expected. We look at long-term infrastructure optimization, as closeout takeaways can trickle into critical ongoing operational efficiencies. Additionally, it's important to ensure SLA agreements and contracts are updated, which are commonly overlooked during this phase.

CONSOLIDATIONS

Data Center Consolidations reduce the number of physical data centers and/or servers being used by either decommissioning legacy servers, repurposing servers, and/or reducing servers via virtualization and/or hyper-converged technologies. The goal is to achieve a higher level of density and decreased footprint. In many cases, the physical consolidation of facilities has similar attributes and includes the sale of the facility, exit from a lease, and/or reuse of the space for other mission-critical needs. Some of the top benefits of Consolidations are:

- **Lower facility cost**
- **Reduced cooling loads**
- **Fewer software licenses**
- **Reduction in carrier connectivity**
- **Less hardware**
- **Power savings**
- **Simplified network**
- **Documented environments**

DATA CENTER RELOCATION

Data Center Relocations move infrastructure from their current location to a new location. It involves only two data centers: the sending data center (source location) and the receiving data center (target location). These are accomplished in the following ways:

- **Asset inventory**
- **Rack elevations**
- **Circuit inventory**
- **Power/cooling utilization/availability**
- **Costing analysis**
- **Migration strategy**
- **Project management**
- **Asset moves**
- **Asset disposal/data destruction**

Relocation success starts with identifying the optimum target location; therefore, site selection is critical.



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