

Case Study

Leading Materials Science Company Moves to Multicloud IT Strategy as First Step in Data Center Modernization

The client

A leading innovator in materials science, the client employs approximately 50,000 people and has 10 research and development centers spread across North America, Asia, and Europe. The company has been at the forefront of creating life-changing products for nearly 170 years.

The challenge: Adopt a new multicloud strategy as part of an overall data center modification initiative

Historically, the client relied upon a managed services provider to host and manage its global IT environment and provide data center hardware and infrastructure. So, when new leadership took the reins and assessed the relationship from a new perspective, the client decided it was time to take an in-depth look at IT infrastructure and data center management practices. Drawing on its positive relationships with key Insight Cloud + Data Center Transformation (CDCT) players, the client engaged CDCT to inventory and update its infrastructure.

In particular, the client wanted to update its infrastructure, including 3 major and 165 smaller data centers and more than 3,000 applications.

Industry:

Materials science and manufacturing

CDCT provided:

- Multicloud strategy and design initiative
- Cloud workshops
- Provisioning
- Migration services

CDCT services:

- Consulting Services
- SnapStart Assessment
- Cloud Envisioning Workshop
- Residency Services
- Managed Services

The solution: A multicloud IT strategy workshop with CDCT experts

CDCT started the process by conducting a series of seven workshops to help the client envision and create a multicloud strategy. The workshops focused on issues critical to modernization, such as IT security, infrastructure, and workload alignment.

The workshops provided an excellent opportunity to assess the client's cloud readiness, assets, goals, and hurdles to modernization — and to demonstrate how CDCT could effectively partner with the client to design and implement a multiphase plan to successfully adopt a multicloud approach.

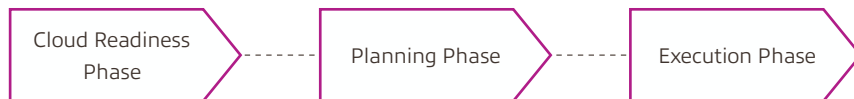
Typically, these workshops bring all the stakeholders together for two or three days of workshops. However, since COVID-19 made meeting in person impossible, CDCT was tasked with conducting the workshops remotely. In order to accommodate stakeholder schedules and optimize engagement and input, CDCT broke the workshops up into shorter two-hour segments, spread over a two-week timeframe, and conducted the sessions remotely. Additionally, as the pandemic shifted priorities and timelines for many projects and objectives, CDCT helped the client focus on the most important components of the multicloud strategy.

CDCT also led the client through a SnapStart Assessment to discover all the different applications and infrastructure components of the IT environment and facilitated conversations with AWS® and Azure® to discuss the build-out process for the new multicloud infrastructure.

Throughout the workshop and assessment process, CDCT helped the client identify and solve potential IT challenges, including refreshing infrastructure for SharePoint®, providing critical access to IT talent during the adoption of VxRail® through a Residency Services engagement, and F5 troubleshooting to address challenges in the client's email environment.

The benefits: A strong foundation for ongoing data center modernization and multicloud build-out

The client and CDCT have an established, strong partnership that has led to multiple new engagements and plans for ongoing modernization initiatives. Today, the client has completed the Cloud Readiness Phase of its multicloud strategy and will soon move on to the Planning Phase, which includes design and implementation of the strategy. Upon completion of planning, the client will begin execution, including migration, scale optimization, and innovation, with CDCT ready to assist and support every step of the way of this multi-year project.



Benefits:



A clear understanding of the client's cloud readiness

A comprehensive and multiphase multicloud strategy



A strong relationship with a trusted partner to execute the phases of the strategy

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