



DATA SHEET

Mainframe Modernization Assessment

Identify Opportunities for Increasing Agility and Reducing IT Cost

Discover a path to mainframe modernization with help from Microsoft experts and best practices.

Mainframe Modernization Assessment helps you:

- Determine the impact of modernization on business.
- Review legacy code to determine best-fit applications.
- Establish a plan for mainframe modernization.
- Assess cost, risk, and timeframe for a range of modernization solutions.

Staying in step with rapidly changing markets, regulations, and economies is demanding on business. To gain a competitive advantage, organizations must strive for business agility while reducing costs, inspiring innovation, and maintaining a careful alignment between business and IT.

For organizations with legacy applications that require frequent, costly maintenance, application modernization is often the first step in establishing an agile IT infrastructure. Mainframe Modernization Assessment is a five-day engagement, delivered by Microsoft® Services, which helps CIOs determine the technical feasibility, risk, cost, modernization options, and road map for moving from an IBM mainframe to the Windows Server® platform.

With the Windows Server platform, your IT team will benefit from a mature, familiar development environment that can help shorten development time, lower costs, and ease application support. Many companies that have moved from IBM to Windows Server yield a return on investment in less than three years, while realizing improved scalability and performance.

Take a Pragmatic Approach to Modernization

An experienced Microsoft IT Architecture and Planning (ITAP) Advisor will carefully assess your IT environment, mainframe application code, and IT infrastructure to determine the options, risk, timeframe, and effort for moving applications to the Windows Server platform.

Modernization Options

Rather than focusing on one specific migration path, Mainframe Modernization Assessment takes a holistic approach, examining an array of legacy application modernization options. These options are then evaluated through detailed code analysis to help carefully align the overall solution to your needs. After analyzing code, a Microsoft ITAP advisor will present you with a detailed report and road map to application modernization. Modernization options include a combination of the following:

- **Renew:** Keep applications on the mainframe and add functionality with the Windows Server platform through host integration services and Web services.
- **Re-platform:** Migrate application source code to Windows Server by recompiling existing code to the Microsoft .NET architecture, while maintaining the look and feel of the original application.
- **Re-factor:** Convert COBOL to Microsoft Visual C+® or Microsoft Visual Basic® and execute the code on Windows Server.
- **Rewrite:** Use the existing application as a model for rewriting the code in Visual C+ or Visual Basic.

Explore your mainframe modernization options according to key business drivers.

- **Re-architect:** Design a new Windows Server–based system from the ground up.
- **Replace:** Replace an application with a similar off-the-shelf product that runs on Windows Server.
- **Remain:** Continue to use your legacy mainframe and applications as-is.

IT in Alignment with Business

Through Mainframe Modernization Assessment, a Microsoft ITAP advisor works closely with both business and IT to map best-fit modernization solutions to key business drivers. This helps you assess the business impact and risk associated with a range of solutions. As a result, you gain unprecedented insight into the state of IT, helping you identify opportunities for reducing IT cost and complexity.

Reduce Risk and Uncertainty

Mainframe Modernization Assessment incorporates Microsoft best practices and is delivered by a Microsoft ITAP advisor with years of experience in Microsoft solution design and management. His or her knowledge and close relationships with Microsoft product groups and experts ensure that you receive the highest-quality service delivery available. Your Microsoft ITAP advisor will help you develop a solid modernization plan and guide you through the modernization options that best fit your strategy. To gain insight into the risks and benefits of modernization, you will be provided with a clearly defined framework for evaluating tradeoffs.

Architecture and Planning Services

Microsoft is committed to your success. Once you have determined the feasibility of moving to the Windows Server platform, your Microsoft ITAP advisor will provide you with the expertise needed to align IT with organizational strategies and drive the long-term execution of the migration. Platform rationalization, a part of architecture and planning services delivery, helps you extract more value from your IT budget by rationalizing applications and infrastructure, and providing a gap analysis of service-level expectation, architecture assessment, and more. Microsoft Consulting Services will support you in designing the future state of your IT infrastructure according to Microsoft best practice and guidelines. Microsoft will support your mission-critical environment and provide access to product groups 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For more information about consulting and support offerings from Microsoft, contact your Microsoft Services representative or visit www.microsoft.com/services.