



Cloud Strategy Workshop

OVERVIEW

Organizations of all sizes continue to move critical applications and infrastructure to public and private clouds. A recent Gartner survey revealed that 50 percent of CIOs made significant cloud investments in the last year.

As cloud adoption continues its strong momentum, executives are increasingly under pressure to adapt. They're being asked to leverage the cloud to move faster, drive efficiencies, and reduce risk. In response, leadership is asking: What's our cloud strategy?

Data Strategy can help. Through our Cloud Strategy Workshop, we work closely with businesses to answer critical questions, define key goals, and provide you with benchmark insight. The workshop results in a clearly-documented strategy that maps business objectives to technical capabilities and enables you with an intuitive approach in leveraging the cloud to further your business goals.

BUSINESS VALUE

The Cloud Strategy Workshop is conducted as a series of three sessions with key executives and leaders from IT and the business. By facilitating meaningful dialogue, balanced with expert guidance and peer insight, our workshop produces a custom strategy that helps you:

- **Define Where You're At.** Identifying how you currently leverage technology using a standardized and measurable maturity model.
- **Map Where You Want to Be.** Defining clear and simple operational and technical capabilities that directly map to business objectives.
- **Gain Insight Into Your Peers.** Comparing your current and desired state against organizations within the same industry to understand where you're ahead or behind in capabilities.
- **Define a Plan.** Creating a roadmap to quickly and easily move from "Point A" to "Point B" with unambiguous recommendations and prioritization of steps.

If your organization is under pressure to leverage the cloud to be more agile, decrease capital costs, or improve security, the Cloud Strategy Workshop provides streamlined definition of a custom strategy.

Assess your current state, benchmark against peers, map the future, and implement your customized roadmap.

CAPABILITIES & EXPERTISE

Data Strategy employs a team of Subject Matter Experts with diverse industry experience to facilitate workshops with clients. This focused attention provides clients with access to a breadth of real-world insights that help drive quick definition of the recommendations and approaches that best yield success.



OUR SOLUTION: THE CLOUD STRATEGY WORKSHOP

Our Cloud Strategy Workshop engages business and technology leaders to create an approach that obtains broad support across the organization. The result is a customized strategy specific to your business needs and goals.

The Process

The workshop is held onsite at your office or at a designated offsite location. It is conducted as a series of three, 4-hour meetings taking place approximately two weeks apart. Each meeting requires participation by key business leaders with responsibility across related application, services, and infrastructure technologies.

Data Strategy utilizes the following services to help you discover and identify your goals, discuss recommendations, and document the strategy:

- **Assessment.** We facilitate a dialogue-based assessment of the current state to determine where your organization is and the active pressures or challenges present within your environment, including applications, infrastructure, and the operating model of IT services.
- **Discussion.** Discussion focuses on your essential goals and capabilities to define where your organization wants to be with regard to IT and cloud services.
- **Measurement.** We measure your current capabilities and goals against a standardized maturity model to provide insight and comparison against peers in your industry.
- **Recommendation.** We develop concise recommendations based on current capabilities mapped against your desired capabilities.
- **Definition.** We develop an interactive definition of the business value, effort, and time required to implement the recommendations. This helps refine and prioritize proposed actions against least effort/highest-value guidelines.
- **Documentation.** We document and present the findings, recommendations, and deliverables with facilitated dialogue. Topics focus on organizational teams, skill sets, technology platforms, and processes to successfully execute strategy and implement the recommendations.

If you wish, the process may also deliver estimates related to the prioritization of recommendation timelines and the effort mapped against internal roles or staff.

WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

The two-month workshop process results in the following deliverables for your business:

Budget Insight

You will have better insight into your IT budget, specifically covering employment costs, asset maintenance allocations (operating expenditures), training, and planned capital expenditures.

Brand Preferences

We will help you identify brand preferences and potential product placement opportunities against your defined initiatives.

Inventory Map

Complete mapping of compute, network, storage, and the major software licensing footprint across your organization.

Customer Priorities

A list defined by you that details the projects, priorities, and specific timelines for execution of those self-imposed priorities.

Quarterly Review

If you choose to, we can conduct quarterly reviews to assess your progress, challenges, and technology approaches for 18 months after the workshop's conclusion.