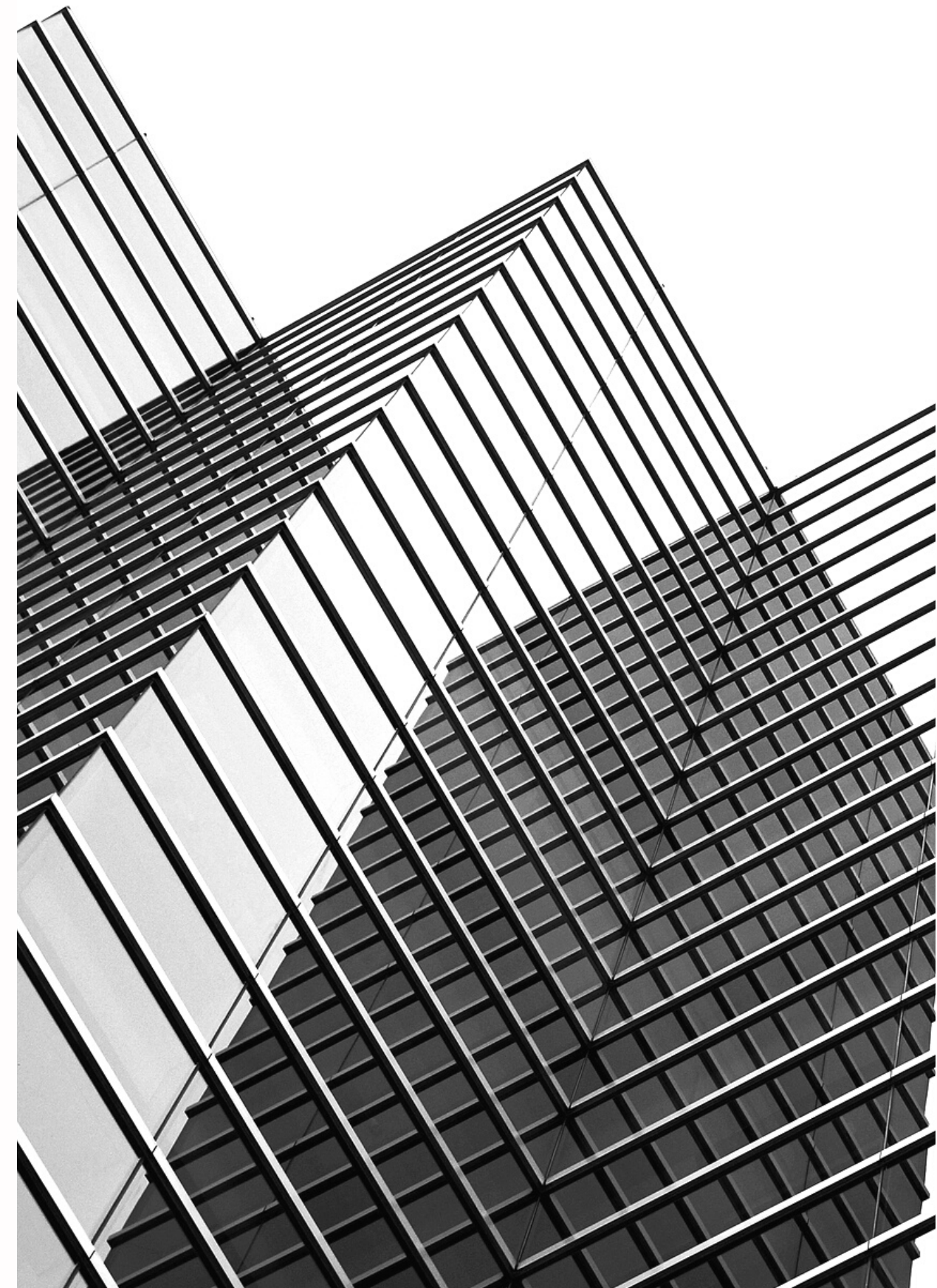


# Own Your Environment:

## 5 Steps IT Can Take to Make Better Decisions

TODAY'S IT LANDSCAPE IS MORE  
COMPLEX THAN EVER.  
LEARN HOW TO CUT THROUGH THE  
NOISE TO GET THE ANSWERS YOU NEED.



# IT GETS HIT WITH QUESTIONS EVERY DAY

If you don't have the answers to these questions, there's a high likelihood that the wrong decision will be made.

And wrong decisions can not only be costly, they can result in service disruption or security flaws - events that can significantly impact business operations, profit, and even the company's reputation.

02



# QUESTIONS

- What apps will be affected if we take these databases down for upgrades?
- Why is our cloud migration effort stalled?
- Which apps can we move to the cloud right now?
- Which IT services will be most affected by an increased focus on implementing containers and microservices
- What is the impact to business units for data privacy requirements if we move operations to EMEA?
- Which servers are near the end of their life cycle and what apps are they running?
- What are the security risks for servers running old operating systems?
- When is the last time we tested DR for our tier 1 apps?
- What are the gaps, overlap in our IT environment vs the environment at the M&A target site?
- How can we be sure to back up and store the required info, and then find it quickly when we need it?
- How does our container strategy apply to legacy apps?
- Which legacy apps can be retired after extracting core functionality and transforming them into services?
- What are the risks of doing so?
- Which servers need an OS or HW upgrade in the next 36 months?
- How can we accelerate our cloud adoption?
- Why is our cloud adoption stalled? What is the risk of infrastructure failure at our colo site in the next 6, 12, and 18 months?
- When is the optimal time to move HR servers to our new data center colo?

## 03

IT must respond to a wide array of questions from across the enterprise

# WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THEY ARE EXPECTED TO KEEP PACE WITH COMPLEX TASKS:

- Replacing infrastructure
- Testing and implementing new technology stacks
- Migrating workloads to the cloud
- Virtualizing servers
- Provisioning and decommissioning employee software, hardware, and user access permissions to business systems
- Managing service requests and other IT ops
- Maintaining legacy apps and infrastructure

## ...AND MOUNTING BUSINESS DEMANDS

- An organization with 5000 servers that have a 5 year life cycle is replacing 1000 servers per year.
- Digital transformation requires new technology, new hosting sites, deep understanding of relationships of assets and infrastructure-- difficult to track assets that are migrated, retired, rehosted.
- During any transformation or change, IT must remain in compliance with increasing volume of regulations.



04

**To get the answers and meet today's demands, IT is replete with purpose-built tools.**

**BUT THESE TOOLS ARE NOT MEANT TO WORK TOGETHER.**

05

- ✘ Useful information is locked in silos - IT and business data is dispersed across different systems
- ✘ Information is stored in different systems and is not normalized
- ✘ Duplicate information is stored in different systems and not synchronized
- ✘ Useful info sources have limited accessibility (seat license based) - no single user has access to all data
- ✘ Too much time is wasted finding and acting upon suspect information (while there was a better source for the purpose)
- ✘ Stakeholders distrust decision support tools

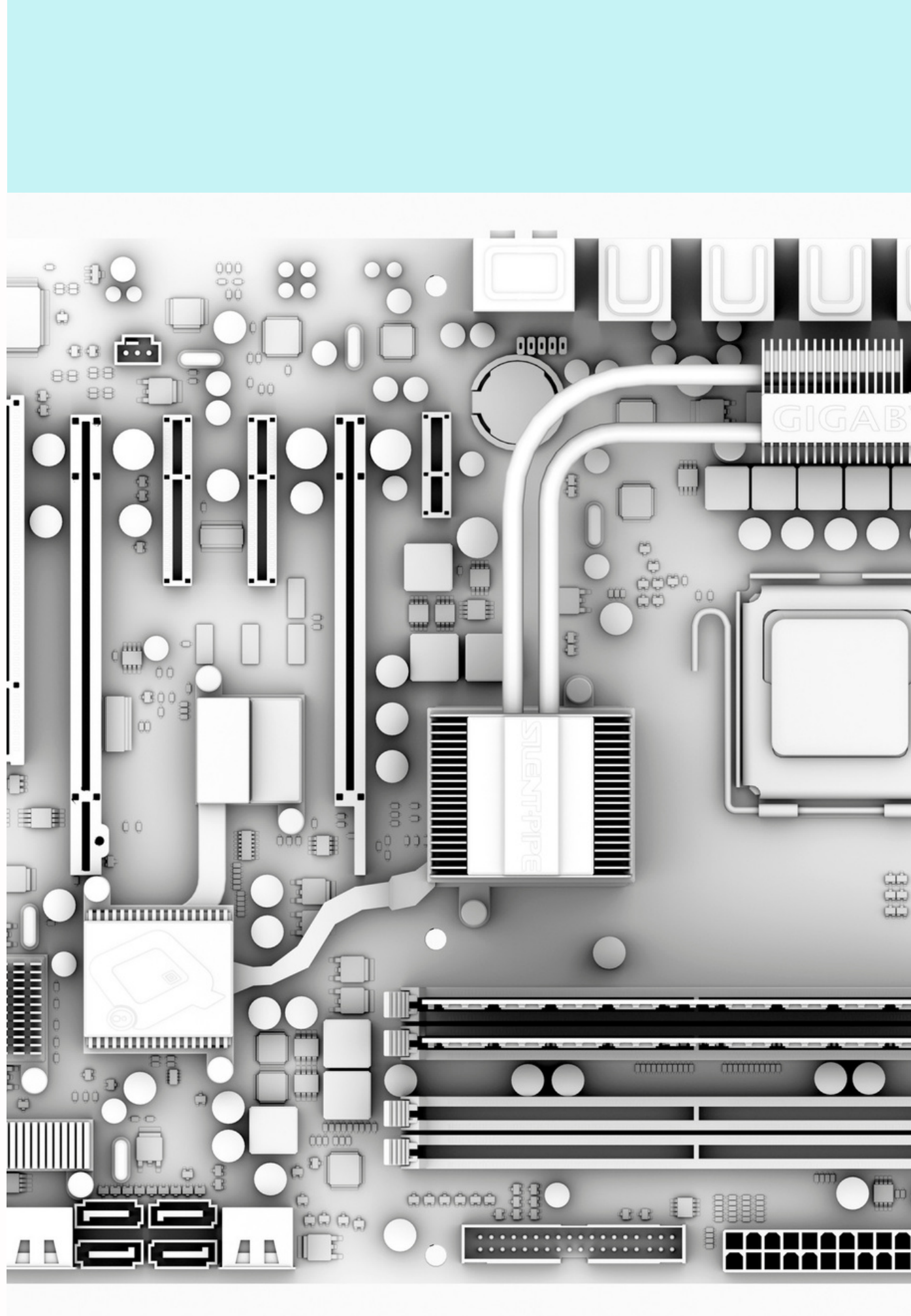
# IT'S ONLY GOING TO GET MORE COMPLEX

And, as IT accelerates its adoption of AI, cloud, and IoT solutions, and leverages the edge to gain the benefits of 5G, more decisions will need to be made in real-time.

New regulations and new customer expectations have to be factored in as well, and the wrong decision will be more visible to customers, employees, partners.

As IT tries to meet business demands to deliver innovative solutions more quickly with exciting new technology, it is also adding even more complexity to their environments!

06



**SO HOW DOES IT ANSWER THE QUESTIONS,  
MAKE DECISIONS AND EXECUTE ALL THESE TASKS  
WHILE MAKING SURE THERE'S NO RISK TO THE ORGANIZATION?**

07



Avoid unplanned  
downtime and data loss  
(RTO/RPO)



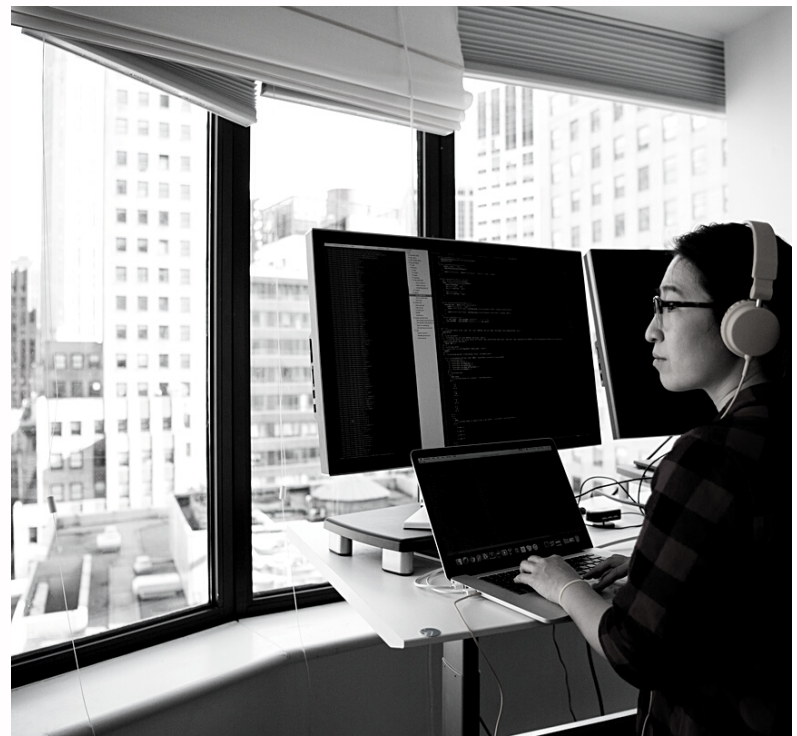
Stay compliant and meet  
regulatory and business  
requirements, SLAs, etc



Assure ability to recover  
from unplanned outages  
or disruptions



5 STEPS YOU CAN  
TAKE TO  
GATHER INSIGHTS  
AND MAKE DECISIONS



08





## 1. UNDERSTAND THE QUESTIONS AND DATA POINTS NEEDED.

This may sound obvious, but often people ask questions without providing sufficient information, or context for the request. The question may sound simple, such as, “Which servers support the main HR systems?”

IT could identify these servers and provide the response.

But the real question may have more to do with how personal information is stored, which other systems have access to those systems storing personal information, and what the impact of moving these systems to the cloud would be.

The more information that IT can get about the context of the request, the more likely an accurate and useful response can be provided. And, the faster IT will be able to deliver the relevant data points that will solve the business need, which will save time and money by avoiding additional follow-up requests.

# 10



## 2. CREATE AND MAINTAIN AN ACTIONABLE SET OF DATA.

In addition to understanding context of the question asked, having an actionable set of data is a fundamental step toward good decision making.

Actionable data is comprehensive, fresh, relevant, and valid. It's data that is aggregated from across different systems of record, and normalized for consistency. In every organization there are multiple sources where data is stored, and no single user has access to every data source.

Duplicate or unnecessary data points should be filtered out, leaving only information relevant to the task at hand, eliminating the need to sift through noise and accelerating the ability to gain insights and make decisions.

And, the data needs to be validated for accuracy with human input and insight. This is a critical step to ensuring that all data is captured, including those in homegrown systems as well as the company's tribal knowledge. Once an actionable set of data is created, it must be maintained because IT is a dynamic environment with assets being added, modified, updated, and removed frequently.

# 11



## 3. IDENTIFY ASSET INTERDEPENDENCIES ACROSS HOSTING SITES - FROM THE APPLICATION PERSPECTIVE.

IT staff must understand application-to-application and application-to-services dependencies as well as application-to-infrastructure.

Just identifying the primary application is not enough; a clear depiction of upstream and downstream relationships is required to fully prepare for changes and communicate impact to stakeholders.

When IT needs to make a decision about implementing microservices, for example, it needs to consider which applications and other services will be most affected, and be able map, track, and quantify the impact.

# 12



## 4. GATHER AND TRACK BUSINESS FACTS WITH IT ASSET DATA

When making decisions about apps, servers, or other assets, there are always business considerations.

Accounting for these constraints, restrictions, and requirements at every step of a process, from planning through execution, increases the likelihood of success.

And there's another benefit of gathering and monitoring business facts - it builds trust between IT and business units.

When decisions are made across silos, with data that is actionable and reflects the demands and goals of business units, better decisions are made.



## 5. TRACK DATA FROM MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS.

Enterprise IT organizations have amassed a plethora of tools over time to manage their increasing scope of responsibility.

Data points from these tools should be incorporated with IT assets. For example, this may include monitoring tools that capture data about application failure rates, network traffic, server loads, or assessment tools that provide data about cloud placement, and a variety of other apps and homegrown tracking systems.

Similar to capturing business facts with IT assets, making this type of data readily available accelerates the ability to make better decisions, and helps cross-silo teams gain insight into challenges and restrictions under which IT must operate.

# THE KEY INGREDIENT TO OWNING YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Today's IT landscape is more complex than ever. Your staff is inundated with questions and has more information and content than ever before—how can you cut through the noise to get the answers you need to respond?

If IT teams want to succeed in this new world of digital transformation, you need to have the right data and be able to manage their environment so you can make decisions and be ready to adapt quickly. New technologies which incorporate best practices for IT transformations, collaboration and change management can solve these challenges—and make sure that your team is prepared.

# 14




TransitionManager™ is a platform built to help IT migrate assets, modernize apps and infrastructure, and manage ongoing change in IT operations, regulatory compliance, and the evolution of technology.

TransitionManager was built by practitioners for practitioners to manage complex change and eliminate risk in the process.

**TransitionManager is delivered in three modules:**

- Its core, foundational **INSIGHT** module provides IT with access to actionable data, including those critical dependencies inherent across complex, hybrid environments.
- When it's time to move apps to the cloud, modernize applications or infrastructure, or execute migrations or any other type of change, TransitionManager's powerful **ORCHESTRATE** module manages the exact sequence of tasks to execute change flawlessly, without unplanned downtime - no matter how complex.
- Its **INTEGRATE** module connects your existing tools and systems to build a custom toolchain. This helps IT extract more value from the tools they already have and the expertise their team has in using them.



*IT needs a centralized platform which integrates business intelligence, analysis, and planning capabilities and can deliver the consistent, high-quality insights needed to make decisions*



## INSIGHT

Enables IT organizations to accelerate their ability to make better decisions

- Aggregate and normalize data from multiple sources into a single, consolidated repository
- Visualize app and workload dependencies across hybrid environments
- Collaborate across business silos with access to consistent data displayed in interactive map, chart, graphs
- Plan and manage for IT initiatives such as disaster recovery, compliance, tech refresh, app rationalization, M&A
- Manage and track business requirements with IT assets so initiatives align with strategic business goals and requirements
- Accelerate workload migration to AWS, VMware
- Map and plan simple workstream execution



## ORCHESTRATE

Orchestrates and executes complex workstreams in hybrid and multi-cloud environments

- Automate runbook generation to orchestrate the sequenced execution of human and automated tasks
- Manage multiple sets of tasks across teams
- Update critical path and event planning dynamically
- Map, plan, and execute complex workstreams across business units
- Generate complex multi-level workstreams with parallel workstreams

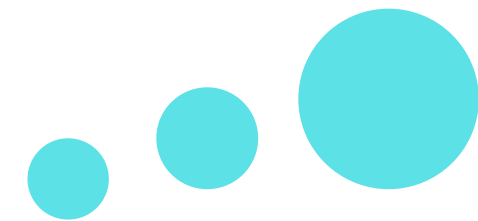


## ACCELERATE

Integrate with and streamline secure automation of third-party tools that make up the transformation toolchain. Execute at scale.

- Create a custom toolchain with tools you already have
- Execute securely and manage credentials for third-party tools
- Automate configuration of tools and targets, execute at scale
- Customize ETL integrations





As demonstrated recently with our integration with [CloudEndure](#), this functionality helps IT automate change at scale to better meet business goals. With all the right data in one place, this powerful solution streamlines the workload selection and placement process - eliminating the consuming process of having to bounce around to multiple tools and attempt to re-organize massive data sets to make decisions.

Finally, with TransitionManager at the center, IT organizations can break through the log jam and paralysis that are so common when faced with complex projects. It enables them to “own their environment,” access decision-making insights, and set a faster, more efficient transformation path toward digital transformation.

If you want to learn more about how this approach can help you make faster decisions, reduce risk and eliminate blind spots, take a look at these additional resources from TDS:

[How a global auto manufacturer accelerated their cloud adoption with a data-driven approach](#)

[Prepare for Success in Cloud Migration: Elevate Above Infrastructure and Silo Tools](#)

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# LEARN MORE

To learn more about how you can own your environment and feel confident making decisions, [contact us.](#)



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