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chris.gambill@gambilldataengineering.com

On-Prem to Azure Migration Assessment Checklist

1. Business Objectives

- What are the key business drivers for the migration (e.g., cost reduction, scalability, performance, disaster recovery)?
- Have the stakeholders aligned on the expected outcomes of the migration?
- Are there compliance or regulatory requirements to consider?

2. Current Infrastructure Assessment

- Have you mapped all on-premises applications, workloads, and databases?
- What is the current hardware and software inventory?
- Are there legacy systems that might require rearchitecting or modernization?
- Are there dependencies between systems that must be accounted for?

3. Cost and Budget Planning

- What is the current cost of running on-prem infrastructure?
- Have you estimated the cost of migration, including tools, licenses, and Azure services?
- Is there a budget allocation for post-migration optimization and maintenance?

4. Data Assessment

- What is the volume of data to be migrated?
- Are there data governance policies in place for the migration?
- Is sensitive data identified and secured during the migration process?
- Have you determined the best storage options in Azure (e.g., Azure Blob Storage, Azure SQL Database, Azure Data Lake)?

5. Network and Connectivity

- Is a secure and scalable network design planned for Azure?
- Have you evaluated the bandwidth requirements for data transfer?
- Are you implementing a VPN or ExpressRoute for hybrid connectivity during migration?
- Have DNS configurations and IP address dependencies been assessed?

6. Security and Compliance

- Are there identity and access management strategies in place (e.g., Azure AD)?
- Are the necessary security controls defined (e.g., firewalls, encryption)?
- Have you ensured compliance with relevant standards (e.g., GDPR, HIPAA)?
- Is there a strategy for threat detection and response in Azure (e.g., Azure Security Center)?

7. Application Assessment

- Are applications categorized for rehosting, refactoring, rearchitecting, or rebuilding?
- Have you identified applications that can use Azure-native services (e.g., App Services, Functions)?
- Have you tested application compatibility with Azure?

8. Migration Strategy

- Have you chosen a migration approach (e.g., lift-and-shift, incremental, hybrid)?
- Is there a defined cutover strategy (e.g., big bang vs. phased migration)?
- Have you documented the rollback plan in case of issues?

9. Tools and Resources

- Are you using Azure Migrate for assessment and migration planning?
- Have you identified third-party tools needed for the migration (e.g., backup tools, database migration tools)?
- Do you have access to skilled personnel or Azure-certified consultants?

10. Testing and Validation

- Have you planned pre-migration tests to identify potential issues?
- Is there a post-migration testing plan to validate functionality and performance?
- Are end-users involved in testing critical systems?

11. Training and Change Management

- Have employees been trained on Azure tools and services?
- Are key teams (e.g., IT, DevOps, operations) prepared for the new cloud environment?
- Is there a communication plan for users affected by the migration?

12. Monitoring and Optimization

- Is there a monitoring strategy for the new Azure environment (e.g., Azure Monitor, Application Insights)?
- Are you setting up alerts for performance and cost anomalies?
- Have you planned a post-migration optimization phase to right-size resources?

13. Backup and Disaster Recovery

- Is there a backup strategy in place for data in Azure?

- Have you tested the disaster recovery plan for Azure (e.g., Azure Site Recovery)?

14. Timeline and Milestones

- Is there a detailed migration plan with defined milestones?
- Are contingency buffers built into the timeline?
- Are there regular checkpoints for stakeholder updates?

For any questions or for more help and guidance on your migration contact me to schedule a meeting today at:

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or

chris.gambill@gambilldataengineering.com