

Tap into the full potential of Microsoft Azure

Drive innovation, gain insights and modernize your applications and infrastructure on Microsoft Azure

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Summary

A Cloud Center of Excellence (COE) is a centralized governance function acting in a consultative role for an enterprise. It can improve outcomes and manage risks by setting cloud policy, guiding vendor selection, and assisting with solution architecture, workload placement, and migration strategy.

Service providers like Lumen can act as an outsourced COE for organizations without an existing solution – or augment a COE that’s already in place. Lumen® Managed Security Services proactively protects your organization round the clock from downtime and other damages resulting from lost access, lost data, and security breaches. Security is assured as the same experts and systems that are used by Microsoft Azure to safeguard their own solution offerings.

To maximize efficiencies, minimize downtime and keep costs low, enterprises need to move from on-premise data centers to the cloud. An integrated solution like Lumen® Managed Security Services can help Microsoft Azure users rearchitect and virtualize workloads, including those such as SAP workloads that can’t be deployed in containers.

To learn how Microsoft Azure and the Lumen Center of Excellence for Microsoft Azure can help you overcome cloud journey challenges and fully realize the benefits of an Microsoft Azure-integrated cloud environment for your business – read on.

Common challenges of cloud migration

The complexity of IT environments today means many organizations need time-consuming assessments to understand, analyze and design their optimal network infrastructure. Understanding the right execution venue for applications, including high production workloads, is key – as is having clear goals for optimal SLAs, well-defined financial targets, and a full understanding of the capacities required for workloads on Azure cloud.

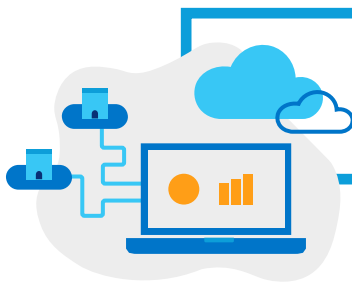
A successful cloud journey requires:

- A central repository for IT data, including applications
- Sufficient documentation to create a design
- People with deep cloud technologies expertise
- Strong communication between apps and infrastructure teams
- Clear application and infrastructure performance metrics, including CPU utilization, storage size and type
- A considered approach to application transformation in the cloud

From the physical resources needed to move apps and data onto the right servers, to security and privacy for apps, performance checks and seamless migration to Azure cloud, following best practices will help deliver the most robust solution to meet an organization's business needs

What to consider

One of the first questions an enterprise should ask itself is whether Microsoft Azure migration – and its long-term management – can be handled by in-house staff.



A successful migration relies on experts capable of avoiding common pitfalls when moving workloads to Microsoft Azure. But beyond migration, qualified teams are needed to manage those workloads once they get there.

An experienced partner can strengthen an organization's existing skillset. When you work with Lumen, you're supported by a dedicated team of cloud experts, including:

- A dedicated cloud infrastructure architect—with first-hand experience and knowledge of Microsoft Azure
- A migration architect—who understands that moving workloads to the cloud doesn't mean matching environments server for server
- A security architect—who foresees how an enterprise should adapt to a changing security profile and expanding threat landscape
- An application architect—who can help prepare and move legacy apps to Microsoft Azure, and assist in the adoption of cloud-native application transformation and development



Unleashing the benefits of Microsoft Azure with a managed solution

Wherever an organization is on their cloud journey, a partner with the right know-how, tools and solutions can help smooth the path forward.

Organizations using a managed solution can expect to reap the rewards of:



Greater flexibility

- With hardware, software, and configuration tools to meet the needs of virtually any business applications
- Cost-efficiencies, with no long-term investment in depreciable compute assets or data center real-estate
- Adopt cutting edge technologies immediately



Greater agility

- Adjust resources to meet demand, instantly and automatically
- Simplify the procurement of compute resources and software
- Use resources efficiently with a fully integrated inventory
- Fast speed to market with the ability to automate deployments



Enhanced security

- Native toolsets, workflows, and integrated Identity and Access Management (IAM) eliminate expensive third-party solutions
- Seamless compliance processes thanks to simplified logging



Better business continuity

- Geographically diverse data centers without the expense of own/lease/collocate
- Built-in data replication tools
- No responsibility to building separate networks between cloud DCs



Clear financials

- Pay only for what you use
- Invest in innovation instead of up-front capital expenditure
- Get a fast ROI on compute heavy

Get the benefits with Lumen and Microsoft Azure



Dynamic computer power with robust integration readiness

Cloud solutions built to automatically scale up and down to meet your business needs.

Providing enhanced value using pre-built components and services with fast implementation and ease of integration.



Powerful governance, control resources and policies for cost optimization

Lumen leverages Microsoft's best practices to deliver effective governance models using Microsoft Azure tools, well defined policies, resources visibility, security and cost management.



Continuous innovation in PaaS, SaaS services and application modernization enablement

Microsoft Azure's platform is designed to make it easy to extend and integrate your systems with AI, ML, Bots, IoT Media and hundreds of other cutting edge technologies to modernize or transform your business.



Lumen: a trusted Microsoft Azure partner with a dedicated network

Lumen offers a predictable, consistent experience through a complete integrated solution that combines adaptive networking, connected security, collaboration, and management services.

While our experts help you migrate to the cloud and manage your hybrid environments, our network provides dedicated direct connections to Microsoft Azure to help ensure the low-latency performance, high bandwidth capacity, and availability needed to run big data workloads. Azure can be leveraged for high-performance applications, workloads and data can be moved as needed, and security is built directly into the network and platform.

Partnering with Lumen is a win-win situation. Enterprises can create truly hybrid IT models that are flexible and responsive across on-premises data centers and Microsoft Azure environments – powered by the fastest, most secure network for next generation apps and data. And by using digital technologies to drive greater efficiencies, enhance data security, and maintain market differentiation, we help those businesses meet the demands of a hyper-competitive world.

Are you ready for your cloud migration journey? Meet with our Solution Specialist Overlay team to find out today.

Why Lumen?

Lumen is committed to empowering human progress through technology by reimagining how applications are delivered.

Born of the digital world, and with our all-in-one platform, we have an architecture capable of enabling the amazing experiences promised in the 4th Industrial Revolution and helping our customers thrive in it.

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