Delivering enterprise applications by way of the cloud has many advantages. It enhances security, scalability, performance, and availability for your application while simplifying your IT infrastructure and reducing your IT costs. But, as with most things in life, along with the advantages, there are also challenges to overcome when you migrate on-premises applications to the cloud environment. These challenges can include re-architecting applications, modifying application management processes, securing data, setting up zero-time recovery if data is lost or corrupted, and minimizing app downtime, to mention just a few.

Following are the stories of five large enterprises from diverse sectors who partnered with NetApp to successfully migrate business-critical data and workloads to the cloud. We hope that these stories will inspire you to take the plunge and begin—or accelerate—your journey to the cloud.

NetApp ONTAP® Cloud helps meet these challenges by enabling enterprises to “lift and shift” their on-premises applications to the cloud with minimal disruption. ONTAP® Cloud delivers enterprise-class data storage management across a single Data Fabric of multicloud and hybrid cloud deployments.
Shutting Down a Data Center in 40 Days

About the Customer
A global pharmaceutical company that develops and manufactures innovative medicines and consumer healthcare products. The company has operations in more than 150 countries; 89 manufacturing sites; and large R&D centers in the United Kingdom, the United States, Belgium, and China.

The Challenges
It seemed like a mission impossible: Shut down a data center in 40 days, transitioning all the workloads to Amazon Web Services (AWS). The company also had to:
• Use the Amazon Elastic File System for both NFS and CIFS workloads in AWS.
• Provide a highly available file service storage solution in AWS.
• Integrate production and nonproduction workloads.

The Solution
The customer implemented two NetApp ONTAP Cloud high-availability (HA) instances:
• One for highly available, redundant production workloads
• One for nonproduction workloads.

The cloud deployment provides seamless support for more than 900 individual websites.

The Benefits
The mission impossible was accomplished. The data center was vacated in five weeks, from the first demonstration to production processing. The ONTAP Cloud HA solution now provides resilient and efficient NFS and CIFS services on AWS, with NetApp OnCommand® Cloud Manager delivering single-pane visibility and control across the hybrid deployment.
Moving a Legacy Production Application to the Cloud

About the Customer
A large, multinational U.S. corporation that markets and distributes food products to restaurants, to healthcare and educational facilities, to hotels and inns, and to other foodservice and hospitality businesses.

The Challenges
The main challenge was to move mission-critical legacy production applications from an on-premises mainframe deployment to AWS. The customer also wanted to gain better insight into and control over its cloud infrastructure than its current cloud management solution was providing.

The Solution
The customer deployed one NetApp ONTAP Cloud HA instance for AWS and started using OnCommand Cloud Manager to track and manage the company’s entire cloud infrastructure from a central dashboard.

The Benefits
The customer was now running legacy applications 24/7 on AWS, benefiting from cloud scalability, availability, and security. The company also benefited from complete visibility into and central management of all its ONTAP Cloud systems with OnCommand Cloud Manager.

Gaining Highly Available Enterprise Data Management in the Cloud

About the Customer
One of the world’s largest beverage companies.

The Challenges
The customer had an ambitious “all-in” cloud strategy, aiming to own zero infrastructure. Among the customer’s key requirements were that its production application deployments in AWS had to achieve a zero-second recovery point objective (RPO) for SQL Server databases and web servers.

The Solution
The customer deployed multiple NetApp ONTAP Cloud instances in AWS. Both HA and single-node instances are used for production workloads and as secondary data copies.

The Benefits
The customer now complies with its data protection policy by achieving zero-second RPO with ONTAP Cloud HA instances. The customer also easily established cost-effective and efficient data backup with ONTAP Cloud. This initial deployment provided a clear direction forward to meet the company’s corporate “all-in cloud” objectives.
Concerto Cloud Services is a managed services provider that specializes in delivering customized hybrid cloud solutions, seamlessly deploying enterprise applications across on-premises, third-party, and public cloud platforms.

The company confronted a broad range of challenges as an enterprise-facing organization. Among them were customer requirements for both performance and capacity tiers, a 4-hour standard SLA for disaster recovery, and zero planned downtime.

Concerto Cloud uses NetApp ONTAP Cloud to optimize its customers’ public cloud storage costs and manageability. By using ONTAP Cloud, Concerto Cloud can now federate customer workloads across Amazon Elastic Block Store back-end storage platforms and its production NetApp All Flash FAS system into one seamless pool of storage resources. ONTAP Cloud enables Concerto to move customer workloads from one performance tier to another—and back—on demand.

“A four-hour RTO [recovery time objective] in this industry is extremely rare,” says A. Tuley. “We have put our foundation on NetApp because it’s the only storage provider that allows us to take our customers’ environments, whether they’re in the public, private, or hybrid cloud, and bring them up within four hours. Period, end of story.”

Eric Tuley, Director of Cloud Platform Operations at Concerto.

With NetApp, Concerto Cloud can confidently meet and exceed its customers’ current and future requirements.
Final Note

The advantages of migrating enterprise applications to the cloud are too enticing to let the challenges stand in your way. With NetApp, your company can mitigate migration risks with a stepwise approach that starts with lifting and shifting an application to the cloud, with virtually no modifications and no downtime. Immediately benefiting from the cloud’s scalability and flexibility, you can then refactor the application at leisure to a more cloud-native architecture.

For more information, visit bluexp.netapp.com.

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