Migration and disaster recovery in the cloud
Make the cloud work for you
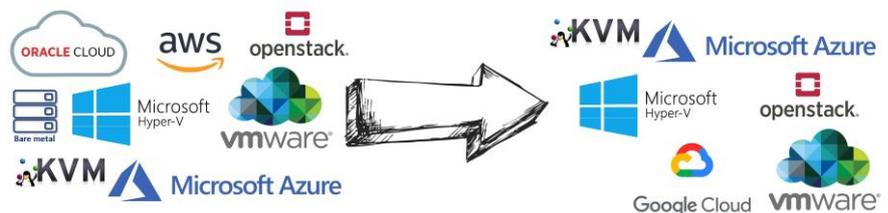
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6 thoughts to help your cloud journey:

- Reduce risk and save time: Migrate your VM's fully automated to save time and reduce risk.
- Stay independent: Migrate your virtual machines from one cloud to another with a push of a button.
- Best of both worlds: Use a combination of private, public and hybrid cloud to setup your Disaster Recovery.
- Choose your own RPO and RTO: Don't let your RPO and RTO values be determined by your cloud vendor!
- Keep automating: Assign infrastructural resources that you've freed up, to automate more stuff.
- Make use of advantages: Find out the features, terms and conditions plus pros and cons of each cloud platform and use these in hybrid or mixed form to your companies benefit.

Why cloud migration automation is important

So you have decided to move your business to "the cloud". Now ask yourself whether you want to start your cloud days with a painstaking migration process, riddled with downtime. And what about when you plan to migrate in the future from one cloud provider to another? Will you feel locked in your new platform, without a realistic exit plan?

Cloud migration automation is fundamental to a successful cloud journey, whether you have chosen a private, public or hybrid cloud solution. Not just during the initial migration, but also during ongoing optimization, setting up a disaster recovery plan and a testable exit strategy. If you can migrate automatically your virtual machines between for example AWS, Azure, VMware, OpenStack, you are less dependent on prices and conditions of a single cloud company. Enabling you to provide disaster recovery and cloud failover at the push of a button.

Don't start your cloud infra journey by just spinning up some servers and deploying a number of cloud native applications. First focus on making migrating to and from your current infrastructure as easy as possible. Automate most of what's required to migrate applications to the cloud; lower the unit costs of the individual workload being migrated and reduce migration time to fit into increasingly tighter migration windows. Reduced time translates into reduced risk of exposure to an outage: cut the amount of time during in which the business has its feet in both boats, so to speak.

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4 key thoughts about cloud automation:

- Keep focused on the value proposition of automation. Don't just migrate or automate for automation's sake. And whether it's labor savings, quality improvements, efficiency increases or something else, make sure it's measurable, so you'll know if you're getting what you signed up for.

- Automation follows standardization. If you use a lot of permutations, the automation itself becomes brittle and difficult to maintain. And there go the benefits you hoped to gain.

- Automate right from the start. If you're going to setup or exploit a cloud environment, don't add automation after the fact. Instead, infuse it as early as possible and keep iterating on it. By building it into the environment from the outset, you'll magnify the benefits.

- Stick with it. Automation requires extra effort. When a system goes down, resist the effort to simply fix the outage and not the automation that deployed it. If you don't, your automation will atrophy and ultimately become useless.

Tools to help you automate cloud workload migration

A variety of tools can help you do the heavy lifting of all tasks associated with getting applications from one cloud to another. During migration, disaster recovery or just sharing workloads between public and private cloud infrastructures. Automating these tasks is fundamental to a successful cloud journey, starting with the initial migration and ongoing to the optimization of the cloud environment. So you can increase your migration speed, reduce risks, and boost the overall value of your cloud platform(s).

We believe that cloud solutions should create IT independence and agility, not just another vendor or technology lock in. It's our mission to help you exploit the values of the cloud for your business. And retain control over your workloads.

Want to know more?

Do you want to know how Fairbanks can help with the cloud automation of your company, please contact our OpenStack Expert & Support Center via info@fairbanks.nl, http://www.fairbanks.nl/ or + 31 (0)33 - 450 85 85.

About Fairbanks

Fairbanks provides consulting, support, implementation, optimization, managed services, troubleshooting and training services for Open Infrastructure cloud solutions. Fairbanks is based in the Netherlands and as the ambassador of the OpenStack Foundation of the Benelux, also is a driving force of the OpenStack community, one of the most active communities in the world.

With managed services Fairbanks makes sure that companies can focus on their core business and don't have to worry about the cloud infrastructure.

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