

# Bridge the gap

## 7 strategies to help you go from current to future state

Research shows that organizations are still struggling to successfully modernize their data centers. Challenges arise in nearly all areas — security, budget, logistics, human resources, and so on. How can your organization make healthy progress toward your ideal future state while maintaining day-to-day operations?

# #1



### Be prepared to invest in both sides — CapEx and OpEx

Your current-state, on-premises environment may need to remain operational despite any long-term goals to be fully in the cloud. Overcommitting to an all-OpEx model will deplete CapEx funds that could be needed for on-premises hardware updates, building data-intensive models such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning, or new, local, or edge infrastructure.

### Free your people — enlist help so that IT teams can drive innovation

IT teams are often too busy with day-to-day operations to make significant headway on your cloud strategy. Consider hiring another team, consultants, and/or a managed services provider.



# #2

# #3



### Manage (and reset) expectations — establish realistic timelines

Communicate clear expectations for executives in terms of transformation initiatives, timelines, impacts, and return on investment. How do you know what's realistic? Outside experts may be the most reliable source for setting future direction and architecture, and realistic timelines.

### Identify and engage high performers — nurture key talent

Take notice of IT staffers who are particularly passionate about transformation and may be able and interested in taking on new roles later in the process. Support them by providing access to training resources and learning opportunities.



# #4

# #5



### Build cultural bridges — secure buy-in and support

Transforming the data center from Mode 1 to Mode 2 isn't just one change, but a seismic shift in process and the way of doing business. Ensure all key stakeholders are aligned and work to eliminate siloes.

### Establish a cloud architecture board — formalize to unify

It's important for your IT organization to have a consistent operating model and set of practices that each member follows to deploy, manage, and secure new application workloads, all while controlling cloud costs.



# #6

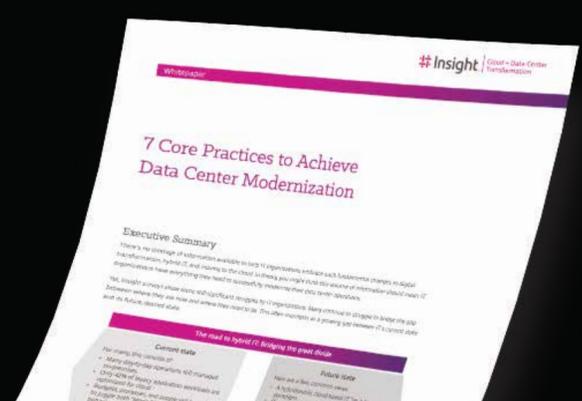
# #7



### Build technical bridges — refresh, upgrade, automate

Start looking at how a technology refresh can be used to support your future-state roadmap (e.g. open APIs, Infrastructure as Code (IAC), etc.). Standardize and automate current operations now instead of waiting for your future public cloud reality.

Learn more about each of these strategies in the whitepaper, **"7 Core Practices to Achieve Data Center Modernization."**



### Need more guidance?

Get specific questions answered or discuss your challenges by [contacting Insight Cloud + Data Center Transformation \(CDCT\)](#). We've helped many IT organizations modernize their data centers and would be happy to work with yours.