



Modernizing infrastructure to drive organizational goals



# Your foundation for growth starts here

Modern infrastructure serves as the foundation for unlocking growth and success. As organizations in both the private and public sectors prepare for what's next, strategic decision-making for infrastructure modernization is imperative. By embracing cutting-edge technology, organizations can mitigate risks, enhance performance, optimize spending, tackle technical challenges, and transform how they work.

Let's examine the key considerations, common obstacles, benefits, and use cases for modernizing infrastructure technologies – and how Insight can empower your organization to adopt innovation and stay ahead of the competition.

### Roadblocks on the path to modern infrastructure

Maintaining legacy infrastructure contributes to resource drain, reduces productivity and agility, and hinders transformation – putting organizations under pressure to adopt modern infrastructure solutions that can improve outcomes.

But, as is true with any transformation journey, there are obstacles that can get in the way of organizations looking to modernize infrastructure.

### **Common challenges include:**



### Bogged down by technical debt

Technical debt, the off-balance-sheet measure of the cost of reworking a limited or short-term IT solution, is one of the most common roadblocks to any modernization initiative. Managing and addressing technical debt requires deep expertise that starts with assessing and understanding the current-state IT environment as well as future-state goals. When organizations lack the resources and/or expertise necessary to mitigate technical debt on an ongoing basis, driving modernization initiatives can be extremely challenging.



# Compelling events that rush decision-making

If you're coming up against the end of a contract for a legacy asset — or M&A and divestiture activity — this is an inflection point at which your organization may want to consider moving to a modern alternative. But it can be difficult to identify and adopt cost—and resource—effective solutions under the wire of an impending renewal. When technology decisions are rushed with the short–term goal of solving an urgent need, this can create technical debt down the line.



#### Lack of bandwidth

Modernizing infrastructure is a resource-intensive undertaking for any organization. But, in many cases, internal resources are already overburdened and lack the strategic bandwidth required for modernization.



### Infrastructure is not Al-ready.

From networking to storage and compute, Al requires a different kind of infrastructure than traditional IT. This also includes software infrastructure that can support Al workloads. Many organizations struggle to identify the right infrastructure and workloads for enabling innovative Al solutions.

### Areas of focus for modern infrastructure

You might be wondering: What specific infrastructure components are organizations addressing with modern infrastructure solutions, and what options are available?

Insight offers end-to-end infrastructure solutions and services that encompass a wide range of technology needs that support the organization.

### These include:



### Anything as a Service (XaaS)

Traditional IT infrastructure models can hold back transformation efforts and create technical debt by way of vendor lock-in, inflexible costs and limited scalability. With XaaS solutions – such as a Storage as a Service (STaaS) and Network as a Service (NaaS) – organizations can take advantage of flexible consumption-based pricing and rapidly scale up or down as needed. When it comes to vendor lock-in, for example, the XaaS model allows organizations to scale down the usage of one vendor and potentially spin up a different one.



### Cloud and workload alignment

Common challenges faced by organizations in the cloud include multicloud complexity, overconsumption and spiraling costs due to minimal governance. Finding the right cloud approach, aligning workloads with the right cloud platform and consuming cloud capabilities the right way improves agility today and lays the groundwork for future transformation.



### Data, data center and AI

Legacy data center environments inhibit organizations from getting the most value out of their data. Modernizing the data center by adopting modern platforms – including cloud, hybrid cloud, multicloud, and converged and hyperconverged infrastructure – positions organizations to unlock high-impact capabilities, such as infusing AI and machine learning into operations.



### **Edge compute**

Innovative edge solutions such as high-performance computing for edge workloads are helping organizations create new insights and capabilities across edge locations. Additionally, Internet of Things (IoT) sensors have been a long-standing solution helping to optimize data intelligence, network usage, cloud storage and IT spending through real-time data insights.



### Security and networking

It's more important than ever for organizations to safeguard their data, applications and assets against bad actors. Future-ready security and networking solutions are allowing organizations to improve visibility and performance, reduce risk and maintain compliance. Additionally, when the worst happens, a robust recovery plan helps restore operations quickly and effectively.

### Top considerations for modernizing infrastructure



## Legacy infrastructure can inhibit your goals.

The hard truth: Legacy infrastructure usually requires additional work and costs over time to maintain, leaving your organization with fewer resources to put toward innovation. Infrastructure modernization enables the agility needed to meet changing organizational priorities and drive innovative, strategic projects.



## Modernization can be resource-intensive.

Infrastructure modernization decisions must be made with an eye to current (short-term) and future (long-term) needs and goals. These decisions rely on intensive knowledge around workloads and capabilities. Yet, internal resources are often overburdened and lack the strategic bandwidth for modernization. In these cases, organizations may consider leaning on a third-party partner like Insight to drive modernization efforts, reducing the pressure on internal teams.

#### Renewals and the need to modernize

Upcoming support renewals are a prime time to rethink your organization's modernization strategy. As you approach renewals for infrastructure support contracts, it is crucial to make informed decisions and understand modern alternatives that could be better suited to driving your organization's objectives.

To avoid rushed decision-making that can lead to technical debt, it's advisable for organizations to think about infrastructure modernization well before renewal dates.





### Solving for technical debt

The negative effects of technical debt can include reduced ROI for modernization, weak security and increased risk, excessive and unanticipated costs, problems with talent retention and poor disaster recovery. These undesirable outcomes are just a few reasons mitigating technical debt should be top of mind for any organization.

Often, it's organizations that have opted for an "easy" yet limited IT solution in the short term that are faced with larger amounts of technical debt in the long term. This can be a result of rushed decision-making as mentioned previously. When organizations construct a thoughtful infrastructure modernization strategy, this better positions them to avoid incurring additional technical debt.



### The push for Al

Al solutions have grown rapidly with no signs of stopping, and organizations are under pressure to tap into the power of Al fast. However, legacy infrastructure is often not equipped to support Al workloads, making infrastructure modernization a necessity. When modernizing infrastructure to support Al solutions, pay careful attention to aligning Al workloads with the right technology platform that will maximize agility and ROI.



### **Mounting security threats**

Vulnerabilities and gaps could be hiding in your legacy infrastructure, leaving you open to a cybersecurity attack. Modernizing infrastructure enables your organization to eliminate gaps, reduce organizational risk, maintain compliance, and implement tools that simplify security processes and drive better cyber recovery capabilities.

#### **DID YOU KNOW:**

of organizations
worldwide paid ransom
to recover data in 2023.1



### Modern infrastructure: Benefits and use cases

### What does your organization stand to gain from modernizing infrastructure?

Operational efficiency

Optimized spend

√ Improved ROI

Reduced risk/technical debt

Organizational resilience

Stronger security posture

Enhanced employee + customer experiences

Foundation for innovation

#### Modernization in action

Discover how adopting modern IT infrastructure solutions is helping private and public sector organizations spur innovation, drive progress and accelerate digital transformation.



This health system adopted an as-aservice model to gain agility in the cloud and reduce total ownership cost by about 35% over a five-year period.

Read the full story  $\rightarrow$ 



Wanting to improve and standardize their compliance guardrails in the cloud, this airline strengthened visibility with a centralized hub for monitoring and managing cloud security and compliance.

Read the full story  $\rightarrow$ 



Nearing the end of an Enterprise Agreement (EA), this architectural firm faced a decision of whether to renew the EA or go with another option for their cloud needs.

Read the full story  $\rightarrow$ 



This state government modernized aging infrastructure across storage and compute to fortify cybersecurity, automate disaster recovery and reduce downtime.

Read the full story  $\rightarrow$ 



This city government shifted to a future-proofed hyperconverged environment to support a growing demand for services and the imminent end of life for legacy storage arrays.

Read the full story  $\rightarrow$ 

# Fast-track your modernization journey with Insight

Our 35+ years of technology expertise enables us to deliver comprehensive infrastructure solutions for your organization. Drawing on decades of experience, we have a proven track record of enhancing IT infrastructure for improved efficiency, manageability, and responsiveness.

With more than 14,500 managed clients globally and 100,000+ workloads moved annually, Insight's proven expertise ensures that your IT infrastructure is optimized for performance and reliability. Our future-proof infrastructure solutions help fast-track your modernization journey and scale with your business – ensuring long-term success and adaptability to emerging technologies.

### **About Insight**

Insight Enterprises, Inc. is a Fortune 500 Solutions Integrator helping organizations accelerate their digital journey to modernize their business and maximize the value of technology. Insight's technical expertise spans cloud and edge-based transformation solutions, with global scale and optimization built on 34 years of deep partnerships with the world's leading and emerging technology providers.



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Source:

<sup>1</sup> Petrosyan, A. (2023, Aug. 31). Annual share of companies worldwide that paid ransom and recovered data from 2018 to 2023. Statista.