Microsoft Azure

Xpress®
Cloud Solutions for the Modern Business

Simplifying cloud migration
and modernization journey
with **Microsoft Azure and Xpress**

Table of contents

xpress®
Cloud Solutions for the Modern Business

xpress ®
Cloud Solutions for the Modern Business
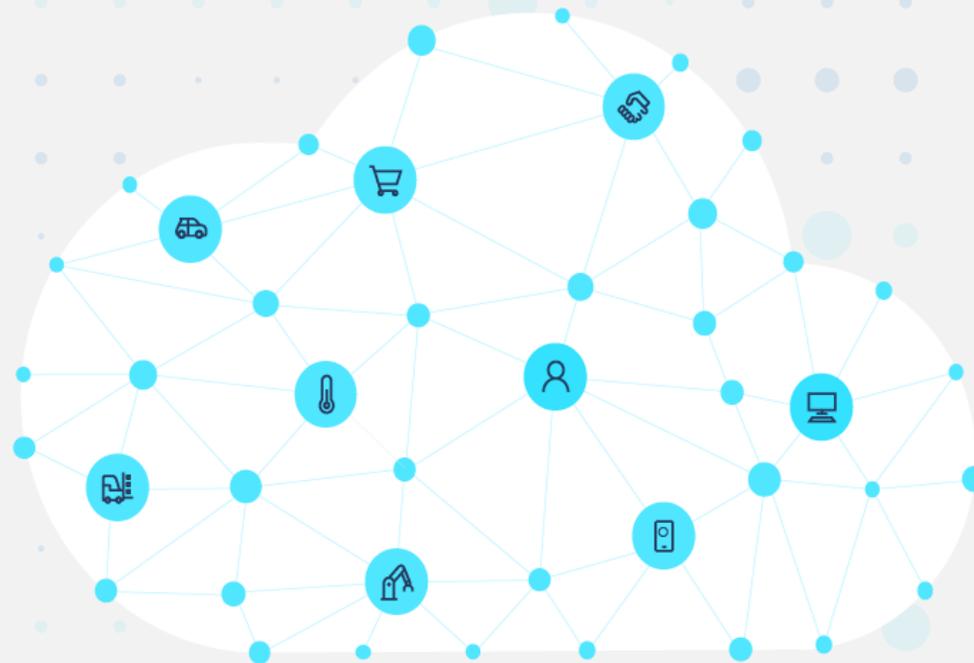
Introduction

Digital transformation is a driving force in business. No matter the industry, organizations continue to accelerate digital initiatives to advance their business and gain a competitive edge. That focus is more important than ever today as the world begins to move beyond the global pandemic into a new post-Covid reality.

The cloud has been vital in helping organizations adapt to changes in the business landscape and evolving customer demands. While early digitization strategies focused on understanding where and how the cloud could benefit the business, those views have shifted and become more encompassing. Organizations today see cloud as a critical part of their overall technology portfolio, whether that means a hybrid environment or going "all in" on the cloud.

Cloud has become an important tool for addressing top business priorities in the post-pandemic landscape and to help organizations move faster, be more resilient and adaptable to change, and strengthen security postures. And yet, while organizations recognize the value and power of the cloud, getting started migrating to the cloud and modernizing resources can feel challenging.

At Microsoft, we're committed to simplifying your cloud migration and modernization experience so you can deliver value to your organization faster.

Join us as we share insights on how you can make progress on migration and modernization initiatives, plus best practices for getting started with Microsoft Azure.

As a Microsoft Certified partner, Xpress has plenty of expertise to help you migrate to Microsoft Azure

Microsoft Cloud Solution Provider

Microsoft Small Business Specialist

Microsoft AEP Authorized Education Partner

Microsoft SILVER CERTIFIED Partner

Enterprises are accelerating digital transformation

72%

of organizations reported their industry's pace of transformation has been accelerating as a result of the pandemic.[1]

80%

of enterprises will have the mechanism in place by the end of 2021 to shift to cloud-centric infrastructure and applications, twice as fast as before the pandemic.[2]

The business benefits of cloud

The inherent properties of cloud, including elasticity, high availability, security, scalability, and more, open a multitude of benefits for organizations. These benefits offer you ways to create significant business advantages while accelerating digital transformation initiatives.

Customers that adopt Microsoft Azure can improve:

Security
Providing greater protection across your cloud and on-premises environments with security and threat detection services.

Time to market
Making it easier to innovate and bring new products, services, or enhancements to your customers at an accelerated pace.

Business insights
Providing a path to unify disparate data sources and bring a richer understanding of your customers, products, and services through data insights and analytics.

Scalability
Enabling you to meet surges in customer demand as needed, without straining your operations teams, infrastructure, or budgets.

Resiliency
Helping you with disaster recovery and other backup strategies so you can ensure greater business continuity.

Cloud at your pace
Making it possible to migrate at your own pace with solutions that simplify management and governance of cloud and on-premises IT estates.

Modernization
Uncovering efficiencies and helping to attract and retain customers and employees with modern apps and infrastructure.

Sustainability
Providing insights and reporting on your IT carbon emissions so you can more effectively make progress on your organization's sustainability goals.

Costs
By shifting from a legacy capital expenditure model to a more flexible operational expenditure model, reduce costs, paying only for the resources and services you consume.
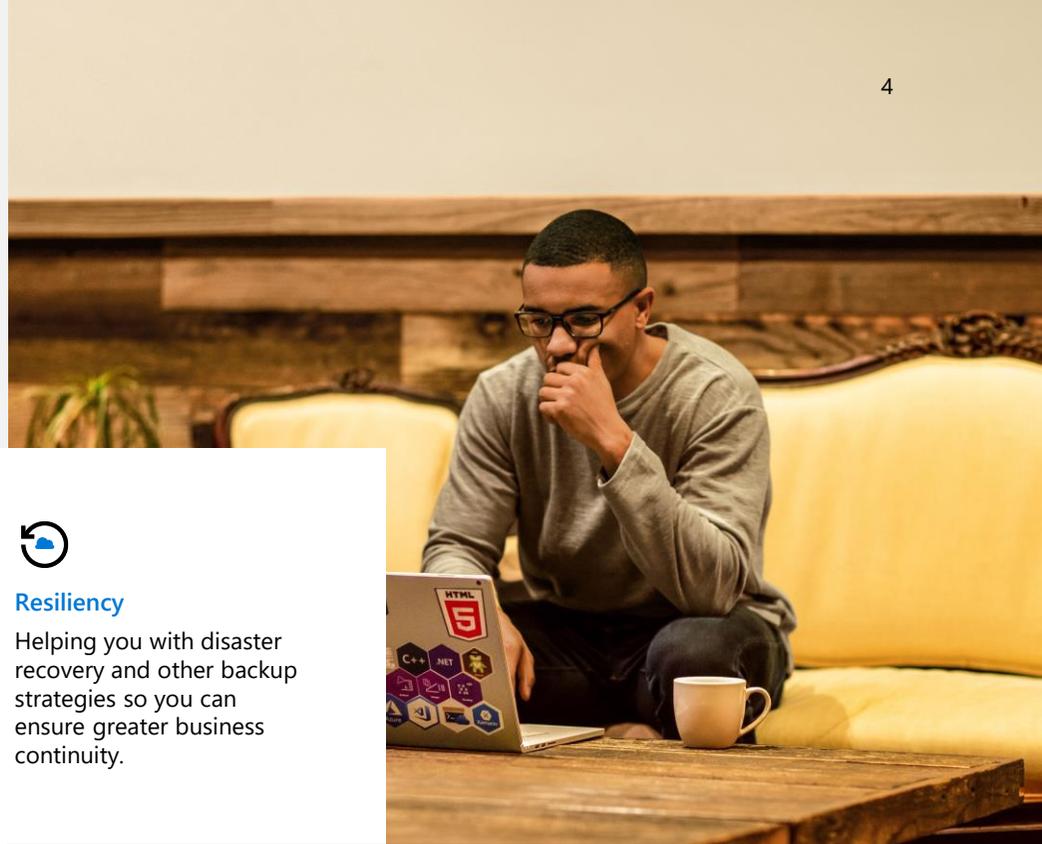
Cost and operational efficiencies with Microsoft Azure

Up to **25%** increase in productivity of IT staff.[3]

$10M savings from avoided on-premises infrastructure and staff costs.[4]

478% three-year return on investment.[4]

Up to **80%** savings with Azure Hybrid Benefit.[3]

3. Forrester Consulting Total Economic Impact™ Study: Migration to Microsoft Azure SQL Managed Databases, commissioned by Microsoft, March 2020.
4. Forrester Consulting Total Economic Impact™ Study: Microsoft Azure IaaS, commissioned by Microsoft, October 2019.

Value of cloud migrations and modernization

Making progress on your digital goals with Microsoft Azure starts with a migration and modernization journey. The two initiatives are closely related yet bring different advantages for you to consider.

Migrations involve moving applications, infrastructure, and data from your private, on-premises datacenter to the public or hybrid cloud. Migrations give you the foundation for an elastic, scalable, and secure infrastructure.

A cloud migration will help you start to realize several important benefits. For example, your organization may experience lower IT costs by rightsizing capacity, so you are only spending on the compute and storage resources that you use. When you need greater capacity, you can easily scale up usage, giving you a more flexible approach. You'll also be able to strengthen your overall security posture through Azure's comprehensive security controls, and benefit from Microsoft's $1 billion annual investment in securing its cloud environments.

Modernization initiatives, on the other hand, involve updating existing or legacy applications to incorporate newer computing approaches, such as modern application frameworks or cloud-native technologies. Modernization allows you to innovate existing applications to provide better user experiences, greater business agility, and cost efficiencies. By adopting modern frameworks and technologies, you enable greater developer velocity, making it easier for your people to create, test, and launch new innovations.

Often, modernization projects build on migration to the cloud. For example, moving data to the cloud opens the door to gaining more value from the integration across your data and applications. Once your data is in the cloud, you can extend your cloud infrastructure foundation to apply more advanced analytics, or even integrate AI/ML approaches to glean richer and predictive insights from your data estate.

xpress ®
Cloud Solutions for the Modern Business

>95% of Fortune 500 use Microsoft Azure
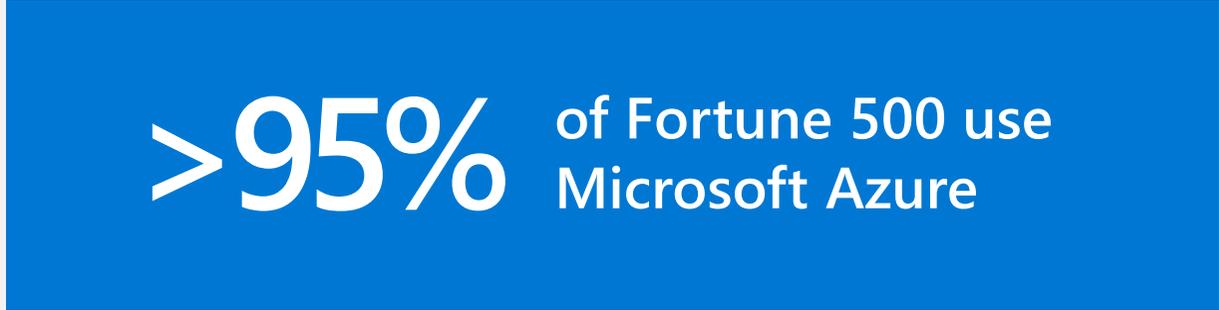
Turn your data into a strategic asset

When your data is in the cloud, you have the opportunity to turn it into one of your most strategic assets. Studies have shown that organizations that embrace the value of data fare better in adjusting to rapid market changes: they are able to be more agile, anticipate and predict change, and pivot as needed to better serve customers.

Yet for many organizations, extracting more value from data has not been easy. The volume, variety, and velocity of data are all accelerating, making it challenging to get a holistic view of data estates. That complexity makes it difficult to answer fundamental questions, like:

• What data do I have? Is it trustworthy?

• Are we managing all this data in a compliant way?

• Are people getting the data they need to make the right decisions?

• Are they getting this data fast enough?

A cloud-based approach to data can help you answer these questions by unifying and connecting all your data assets. You'll be able to scale and accelerate your approach to data so that you can harness and analyze a constant stream of data, applying analytics and AI to glean rich insights and drive better decisions.

In essence, you'll create a positive digital feedback loop where you'll be able to drive greater transformation to improve customer experiences, transform products and services based on signals from users, empower employees to be more productive, and more.

xpress®
Cloud Solutions for the Modern Business
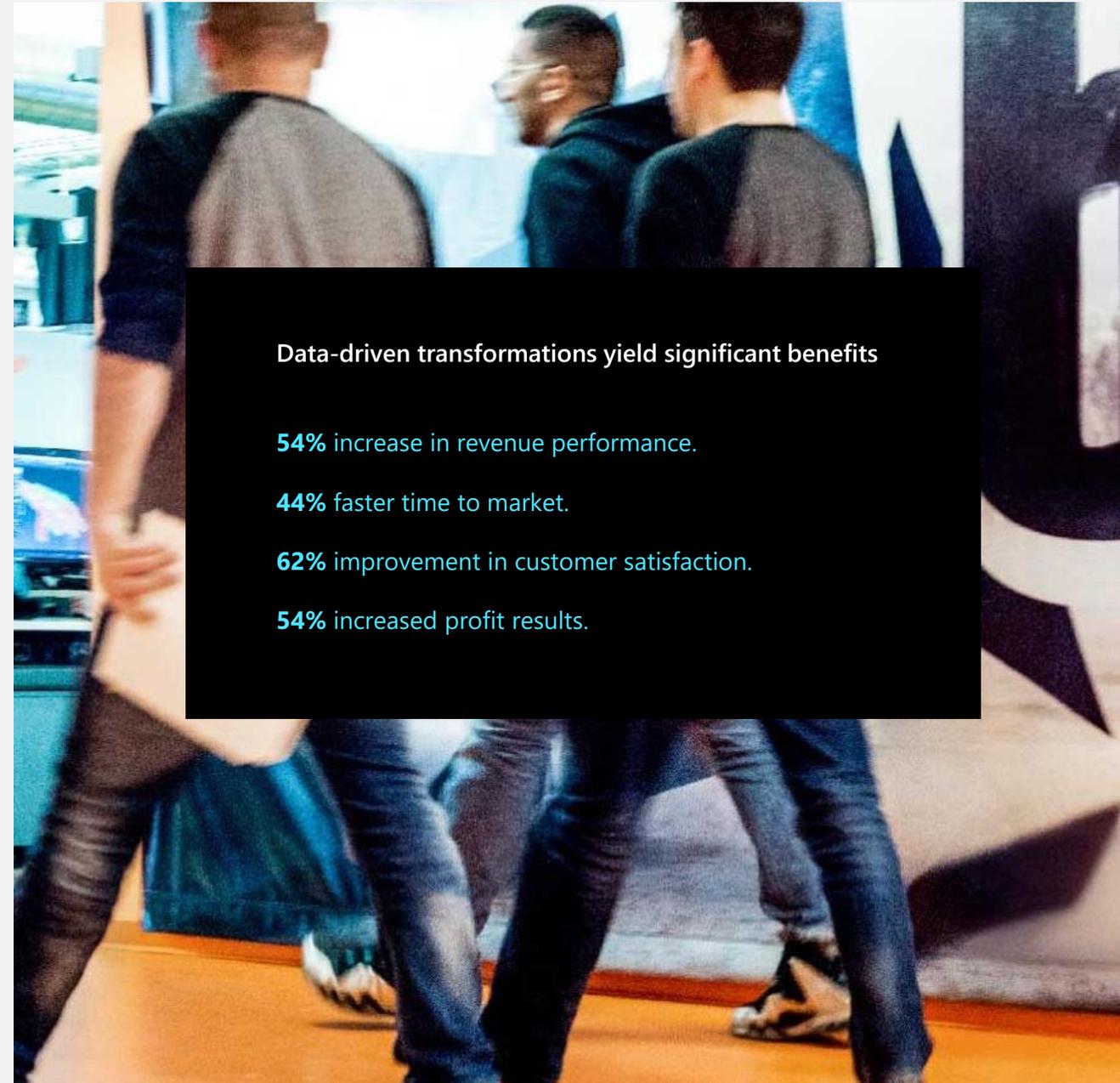
Data-driven transformations yield significant benefits

54% increase in revenue performance.

44% faster time to market.

62% improvement in customer satisfaction.

54% increased profit results.

Successful migration and modernization use cases

Migrating to the cloud is just the beginning. As you begin your journey to the cloud, you can take advantage of additional cloud capabilities that yield value in other areas.

Let's look at some of the most popular use cases explored by our customers.

Legacy system modernization

Create a strong infrastructure foundation by moving legacy infrastructure to Azure. You'll be able to take advantage of Azure services that help boost performance and increase operational efficiencies for your organization.

Accelerate innovation

With the pace of business continuously accelerating, organizations need to decrease time to market, ensuring new innovations are accessible to customers faster. Azure provides a fully managed platform with robust tools and capabilities to meet your application development needs—from migrations to legacy application modernizations to building new cloud-native applications, and more—so your people can make progress faster.

Security and compliance

With security a top priority for business and technology leaders, organizations are looking to the cloud for all the ways it can help in protecting valuable data, apps, and infrastructure. Azure offers a secure cloud foundation with multilayered, built-in security controls and unique threat intelligence to help your security teams identify and protect against evolving threats.

Data estate modernization

Many organizations today struggle to gain additional value from the large and distributed data estates within the business. Azure's data and analytics services provide a path to unify that data in the cloud and make it easier to gather, store, process, analyze, and visualize your data to gain better and more actionable insights for your organization.

Application modernization

Modernize legacy applications to deliver enhanced experiences to your customers and employees. Azure also makes it easier to develop new applications, so you can build, manage, and continuously deliver improved application experiences.

Support hybrid IT estates

Many organizations take a gradual approach to the cloud, migrating some core systems and applications but also maintaining legacy on-premises infrastructures and applications. Microsoft has built Azure with that reality in mind: it's designed to help you bring the agility and innovation of the cloud to your on-premises environments. Azure provides a holistic, seamless, and secure approach that's consistent across your on-premises and cloud resources.

82% of enterprises have a hybrid cloud strategy.[5]

92% of enterprises have a multicloud strategy.[5]

Key drivers

- Legacy systems/custom requirements
- Regulations and data sovereignty
- Latency and technical hurdles
- Consequence of no proactive strategy

5. Flexera Blog: Cloud Computing Trends: 2021 State of the Cloud Report.
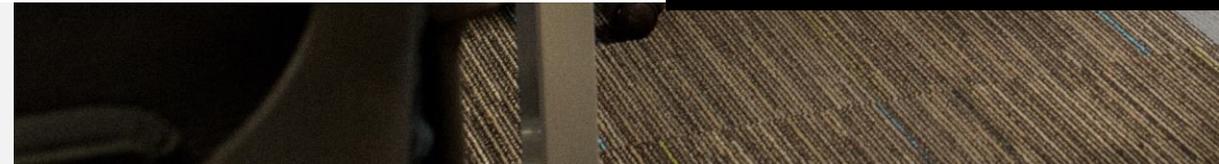
Flexible ways to get started

When approaching either a migration or modernization initiative, Azure provides flexible options for getting started. You can opt to handle the migration on its own or alongside modernization goals, depending on your organization's needs.

Focusing on the migration first provides the benefit of letting you reduce your datacenter footprint quickly. You realize more immediate cost savings as a result. And this approach allows more time for testing and optimizing applications to ensure cloud readiness.

Adding modernization workstreams while you are migrating helps you decrease your time to market. Rather than the most rapid cost savings, you'll be focusing more on unlocking application innovations that deliver richer user experiences and enhance productivity. At the same time, you'll have the opportunity to accelerate the velocity of application development.

Your approach doesn't have to be all one way or the other. You have flexibility to choose to directly migrate some systems and apps, while other systems and apps might benefit more from a modernization effort.

Even more importantly, you don't have to migrate everything at once. Azure gives you the flexibility to migrate at your pace, supporting you with hybrid solutions that make managing and governing cloud and on-premises assets easier and enabling consistent experiences across both domains.

Performing a Cloud Readiness Assessment can help you select your path forward, determine the effort required to migrate or modernize, and gauge the timing that would be most beneficial for your organization.
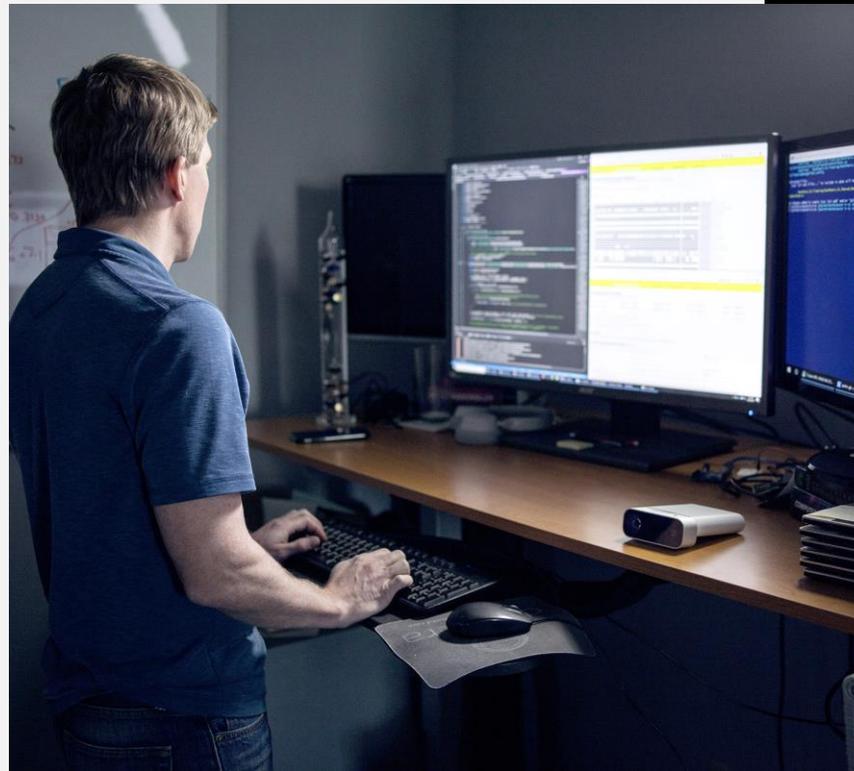
Migration and modernization considerations

What's the immediate business need?

- Optimizing costs
- Shifting from CapEx to OpEx
- Realizing cloud benefits quickly

How hard is it to do?

- Complexity
- Level of skilling or retraining needed, or new staff required
- Cost and resources needed to refactor or rebuild

Longer-term business goals?

- Time to market
- App innovation
- Productivity
- Application development velocity

Solving today's top industry challenges with cloud

Beyond the most common use cases, organizations across all industries are using cloud to not only advance their digital transformation strategies, but also solve industry-specific challenges. Explore these industry snapshots of what's possible by moving to the cloud.

Retail

Digital transformation is a top priority for retailers to support evolving buyer patterns, from the increased interest in contactless shopping and curbside pickup, to greater demand for more personalized digital experiences.

The cloud is helping retailers transform so they can:

• Reimagine the retail experience
• Build more resilient supply chains
• Know their customers better

The Albertsons family of brands gains agility and scalability at lower cost to support an increase in digital sales by migrating to Azure.[6]

Manufacturing

Manufacturers are turning to the cloud to help them become more agile, innovative, and competitive in their markets. Integrated technology is vital to helping attract the next generation of employees and building next-gen factories that are automated, efficient, and resilient.

Cloud is helping manufacturers to:

• Create more agile factories
• Increase supply chain resiliency
• Unlock innovation and deliver new services

Outokumpu, a Finnish manufacturer, uses Azure to increase output by 10-15 percent, while reducing quality defects by up to 40 percent.[7]

Financial services

Within Financial Services, increasing and evolving regulations, as well as rising cyber and financial crime, make compliance and security top priorities. Also important are increasing agility, modernizing aging systems, and delivering richer digital experiences to customers.

Financial services firms look to cloud to:

• Deliver differentiated customer experiences
• Modernize core banking and payments
• Manage risk across the organization
• Protect against financial crime

Dutch-based ABN AMRO unlocks data insights for better decision-making with an Azure-based data mesh solution.[8]

Healthcare

The pandemic has accelerated several trends within the Healthcare industry, from the rise in virtual healthcare to the need to protect sensitive data from cybercrime while at the same time making data more accessible to providers and patients.

Healthcare organizations are using cloud to:

• Enhance patient engagement
• Improve clinical and operational insights
• Protect health information.

New South Wales Health Pathology modernizes health diagnostics with an Azure-based, large-scale digital health platform.[9]

6. Albertsons Companies case study: Albertsons and Microsoft partner on cloud adoption to enable digital transformation.
7. Outokumpu case study: Microsoft Customer Story-Outokumpu: A sustainable stainless steel giant with a data-driven mindset.
8. ABN AMRO case study: ABN AMRO embraces an Azure-first data strategy to drive better business decisions.
9. NSW Health Pathology case study: https://customers.microsoft.com/en-us/story/1384019799287777382-nsw-government-health-provider-azure

Microsoft Azure

→ Talk to us about your cloud vision and let us help you get started. Contact us

→ Visit our website to learn more.

xpress
Cloud Solutions for the Modern Business

www.xpress.co.in

Tel : 022 66122000

Mail : sales@xpress.co.in

Microsoft
Cloud Solution Provider

Microsoft
Small Business
Specialist

Microsoft
AEP
Authorized Education
Partner

Microsoft
SILVER CERTIFIED
Partner