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Accelerate Cloud Modernization With AI-enabled CloudHedge

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Abstract: Organizations are looking to navigate complex application environments, optimize infrastructure, and avoid costly virtual machine license cost increases and lock-ins. CloudHedge, offering a comprehensive approach to application modernization, provides AI-driven tools to aid organizations in modernizing their application environments. Its DART tool builds multidimensional generative application intelligence with insights into application dependencies, technical debt, costs, and risks, offering tailored recommendations for cloud migration, while OmniDeq acts as an AI-powered copilot for modernizing applications and simplifying containerized application deployments across various cloud platforms. Together, these solutions help a business reduce its costs, reduce risks and technical debt, accelerate modernization, and maintain a modernized status on a long-term basis.

Introduction

Often in today's broad IT landscape, the distribution of application environments can add complexity. For example, increased interdependences among the applications increase risk in general and can add time to modernization efforts, resulting in delayed or even stalled migrations. Additionally, suboptimal approaches to application modernization and data migration can lead to inefficient usage of cloud resources, which limits scalability and adds unnecessary costs.

Recent shifts in hypervisor licensing have escalated those cost-related pressures, and the now-increased cost of a virtual machine environment is prompting some organizations to focus more intently on their container-based modernization efforts instead.

Under these circumstances, businesses need to leverage the right tools and the right partners to help them modernize as effectively as possible. Two solutions from [CloudHedge](#)—an evaluation tool called [DART](#) (Discovery, Assessment, and Rationalization Tool), and an application modernization platform called [OmniDeq](#)—could provide considerable assistance. DART gathers insights about existing application environments to help organizations understand the application landscape—from network, to dependencies, to cost—and recommendations for appropriate rationalization to a cloud environment, while OmniDeq serves as a copilot for modernization activities, automating container code, package inclusion, and deployment blueprints.

Interconnected App Environments

Application distribution is an important issue right now. According to research by Enterprise Strategy Group:

- 83% of surveyed organizations are embarking on significant planning projects to ensure that new applications are deployed in the optimal location.¹
- 75% reported that they have incurred significant costs and operational impacts due to applications deployed at a suboptimal location.

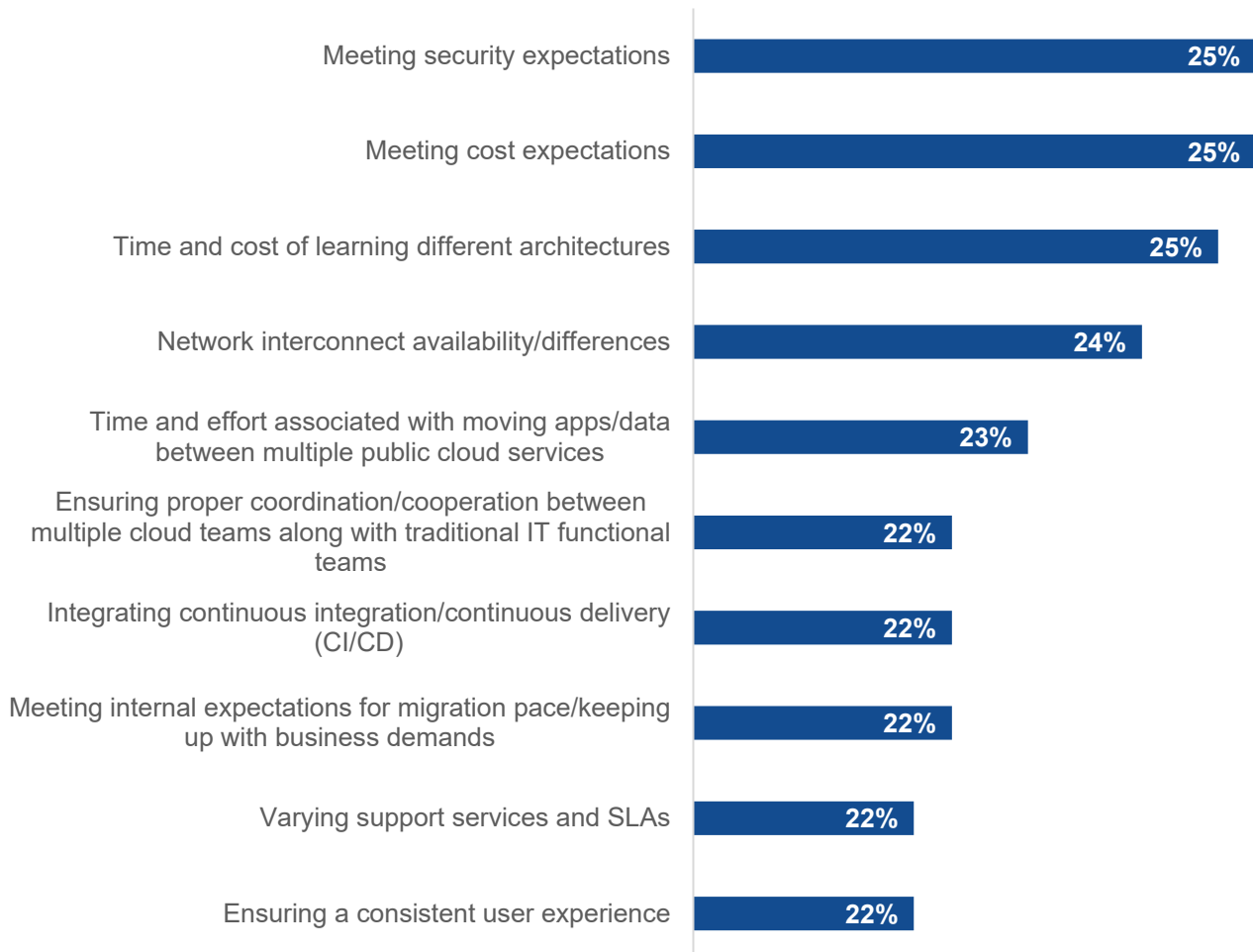
¹ Source: Enterprise Strategy Group Research Report, [Cloud Application Deployment and Migration Decision-making](#), August 2024. All Enterprise Strategy Group research references in this Showcase are from this report unless otherwise noted.

- On average, 66% of a developer’s time is spent maintaining, troubleshooting, migrating, or modernizing existing applications, taking cycles away from new innovation.²

Environmental complexity burdens container-based application modernization activities, which increases the amount of time and effort developers must focus on maintenance and migration of the existing application environment. The complexity becomes more evident and costly during application migration and modernization activities. The ten most common challenges with cloud-based modernization/migrations (see Figure 1)³ all speak to a larger theme of ensuring that the application will meet expectations, whether it is for cost (25%) or user experience (22%), once it is modernized and in the cloud. In addition, there is constant pressure to keep pace with the demands of the business (22%). Addressing these challenges is nearly impossible without the right insights into the requirements of the existing application environment.

Figure 1. Top Ten Challenges With Cloud-based Application Migration/Modernization

In terms of application migration to a public cloud provider, either from an on-premises location or from a different public cloud provider, what are the most difficult challenges your organization faces as a result of using multiple cloud service providers (CSPs)? (Percent of respondents, N=296, multiple responses accepted)



Source: Enterprise Strategy Group, a division of TechTarget, Inc.

² Source: Enterprise Strategy Group Research Report, [Application Modernization and the Role of Platform Engineering](#), October 2024.

³ Source: Enterprise Strategy Group Complete Survey Results, [Distributed Cloud Series: The State of Infrastructure Modernization Across the Distributed Cloud](#), August 2023.

Consider that 72% of surveyed organizations said that they struggle to properly size workloads to achieve an optimal infrastructure (on- or off-premises) environment. Those businesses need better tools and services, ideally AI-enabled ones, that can ensure faster, safer application modernization.

CloudHedge AI-driven Application Modernization

CloudHedge is a technology vendor that offers an AI-powered software portfolio to help organizations confidently streamline their enterprise modernization efforts. CloudHedge not only accelerates those efforts, but also makes them more predictable and precise:

- CloudHedge's DART solution gathers multidimensional generative intelligence about an existing application environment to help an organization understand the dependencies, costs, technical debt, and risks associated with modernization and migration activities, thereby enabling a more objective-driven, agile approach to application modernization.
- CloudHedge's OmniDeq offering serves as an AI-powered automated copilot for modernization and helps automate and accelerate application modernization activities. With it, organizations can quickly deploy multiple containerized applications on any cloud or on premises within hours.

CloudHedge offers these platforms directly to enterprise organizations as well as providing them to the services partner community to give organizations of all sizes the insights and tools necessary to modernize their application environments.

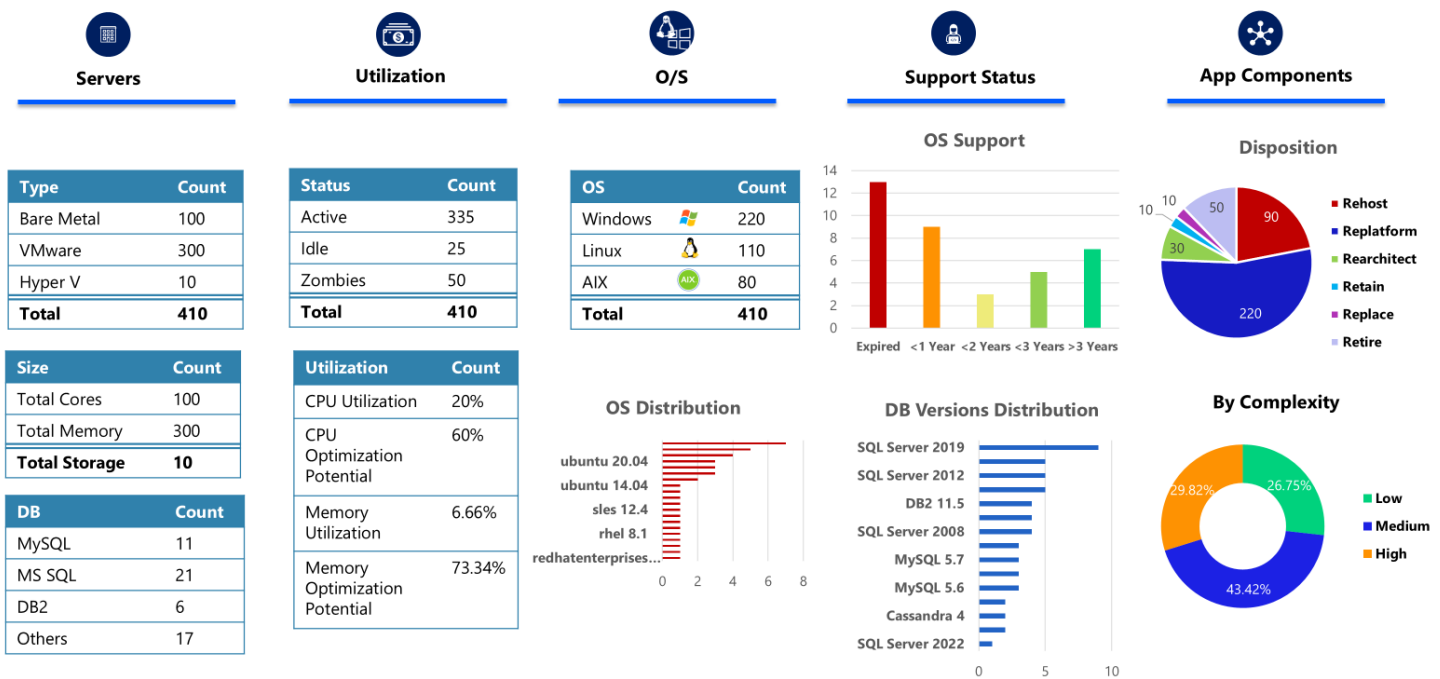
CloudHedge Discovery, Assessment, and Rationalization Tool (DART)

DART provides benefits to organizations that include:

- Multidimensional, generative intelligence about the existing application environment. This solution is agentless and does not require access to source code on target systems. Operating in a fully automated manner, it uncovers and assesses overall topology, including application inventories, components, dependencies, and areas of complexity. DART is also capable of examining operating system distribution, hypervisor usage, support statistics, database versions, resource consumption/utilization, and application network mapping/analysis.
- Delivering continuous application intelligence to evaluate multiple cloud indicators for each application. DART provides customized recommendations based on cloud-readiness indicators for each application (i.e., it provides insights into each application's readiness for cloud migration and modernization, including dependencies, performance, and compatibility with cloud-based services). It does so not only for the initial review, but also on an ongoing basis for vigilance. In this way, DART supports an organization by creating an intelligent roadmap for iterative modernization over time.

Organizations get access to multiple reports (see Figure 2) tailored for IT decision-makers that include detailed technical insights as well as macro-level business impacts.

Figure 2. Example DART Report



Source: CloudHedge

At a real-world, business operational level, organizations can expect plenty of benefits from DART, including:

- Reduced business risk, which translates into more confidence regarding numerous modernization activities.
- Reduced cost, as DART offers recommendations on how to optimize applications to minimize cloud repository costs.
- AI-driven recommendations for rationalizing the modernization approach for suites of applications and processes, including guidance tied to the “6 Rs” of cloud migration (retire, rehost, re-platform, repurchase, refactor, or retain on premises) to enable faster development of migration-related business cases.

CloudHedge OmniDeq

OmniDeq simplifies application migrations across infrastructure and locations. CloudHedge has designed its OmniDeq software to serve an AI-assisted “copilot” to help organizations accelerate application modernization efforts associated with rehosting applications in the cloud and re-platforming them into containers.

OmniDeq supports application deployments across multiple container platforms, including Kubernetes, Tanzu, and OpenShift, as well as across multiple cloud providers, including AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud Platform.

The software comes with full API capabilities to plug into existing continuous integration/continuous delivery pipelines within partner or client organizations, supporting continuous, iterative application modernization.

Organizations leveraging CloudHedge OmniDeq can expect benefits that include:

- Greater agility and more control over application deployment. That, in turn, can help the organization improve its infrastructure utilization, better control costs, and meet its sustainability goals.
- Simplified and accelerated public cloud adoption and cloud-based modernization, including improved access to cloud-based tools.

- Faster, easier migrations.
- Improved operational agility, as OmniDeq maintains application blueprints to enable effective ongoing cloud operations and easier management of technologies as they evolve.

Conclusion

The challenges of application modernization and migration are significant, and the importance of having increased insights into those complex environments can't be overstated. The solutions that CloudHedge offers provide such insights in a thorough, comprehensive, cost-effective manner.

CloudHedge's name is apt, considering that it helps its customers establish a long-term hedge against falling into another expensive lock-in situation regarding virtual machine licensing. Not only can CloudHedge help organizations migrate, but it can also help them containerize their apps in the process. Truly modernizing an application environment is a long-term hedge against essentially being held hostage.

Enterprise Strategy Group recommends any organization that is dealing with a distributed application environment in need of modernization to inquire with CloudHedge to figure out how to get started on the journey toward gaining more agility, simplicity, and control.

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