

IBM Z / MAINFRAME SERVICES

IBM Z HYBRID CLOUD ASSESSMENT:

Do you know if your current Mainframe environment has the ability to support a hybrid cloud computing model?

Many technology teams are leveraging a hybrid cloud framework to help meet their organizations' ever-changing client requirements. This offering provides an unbiased assessment on how well your current IBM Z is positioned to support a hybrid cloud computing model.

We will perform a thorough capacity planning and workload monitoring analysis. All data is assimilated resulting in a Platform Gap Analysis that is summarized and packaged as a custom-developed "Platform Scorecard." The scorecard and associated report provide a set of recommendations and roadmap that will allow you to position your mainframe environment within your broader hybrid cloud strategy.

PLATFORM PATH TO CURRENCY:

The Platform Path to Currency offering is designed to modernize a client's IBM Z environment from an unsupported z/OS Operating System to the currently available z/OS level. IBM middleware, third-party non-IBM products, and associated databases are also upgraded.

In addition, this offering helps an organization modernize the underlying hardware platform. This includes hardware migration planning, installation, configuration and production level cutover for both Development and Production Logical Partitions. We will assign a services specialist to coordinate the implementation activities and work with your personnel to assist them in gaining additional experience and knowledge as your existing z/OS Logical Partitions are migrated to your new software stack.

ENTERPRISE COBOL MIGRATION ASSESSMENT:

If your IBM Z environment is COBOL dependent, you must ensure active COBOL applications are compiled using a supported IBM compiler. Knowing your COBOL inventory could reach into the thousands of COBOL source programs and hundreds of copy books, how do you even begin to start such an initiative? You need the ability to perform Mass Compiles. Evolving Solutions has the capability to perform bulk level compilation.

This service offering will address the challenge of locating backend compiler technology exposures and advise you on the work effort required to correct the problem should you choose to take that path. In addition, this offering will provide a statement of work where we will perform your compiler release to release migration on your behalf, allowing you to focus on new business functionality.

IBM Z DISCOVERY:

In many cases, as staff have retired or left an organization, a significant amount of institutional platform knowledge has also left. This review provides key insights to you for documentation and planning efforts. By allowing us to assess your current hardware, software, performance and platform security configurations, our team can then map your current systems, assess the wellness of the environment and develop a potential future-state recommendation. The information gathered is summarized into what is known as a Wellness Plan with an associated Platform Scorecard.

CRYPTOGRAPHIC ENABLEMENT:

Upgrading an organization's enterprise platforms, such as IBM Z, often results in a need to also review and update the hardware and software security primitives. To ensure a company's security posture is not compromised, a new IBM Z cryptographic hardware platform must be seamlessly implemented with the most current release of enablement software from IBM, namely ICSF.

ICSF provides the application programming interfaces by which applications request the cryptographic services. The cryptographic feature is secure, high-speed hardware that performs the actual cryptographic functions. This service offering will ensure the preceding platform cryptographic primitives are upgraded and implemented successfully.

PARALLEL SYSPLEX IMPLEMENTATION:

This offering will assist your technology team in migrating to a production Parallel SysPlex and allow you to fully leverage the clustering capability of the latest IBM Z server technology. A services specialist will be assigned to coordinate the implementation and work with your personnel to assist them in gaining additional experience and knowledge as existing z/OS Logical Partitions are configured to operate in a Multisystem environment. While performing the task activities, we will provide guided instructions and skills transfer to your technical personnel. At the completion of the engagement, we will have implemented these functions within your Test Parallel SysPlex and provide the technical guidance to carry those changes into your production environment.

IBM Z MIGRATION:

This offering will ensure your team has the proper migration strategy, implementation plan and technical support to migrate to the latest IBM Z hardware platform. A services specialist will be assigned to lead the migration plan from the beginning to going live on the new system.

The process begins with assessing the current platform environment and scoping the background tasks that need to be completed. Next, the team will develop a detailed migration project plan and timeline. The plan will include key activities, owners and milestones. As the migration plan is executed, the services team will ensure key tasks are accomplished, whether onsite or remote. The team will be in constant communication with you and will provide daily (or weekly) project updates. While performing the task activities, we will provide guided instructions and skills transfer to your technical personnel.

Prior to the new environment going into production, we will work with your team to test the new environment. The cutover will be scheduled at the time that makes the most sense for your organization. During the cutover, our team and IBM Support will be on standby to ensure a smooth cutover to your new production environment.

IBM Z STAFFING:

Does your organization need help during a busy time of year? Do you need assistance with a specific project or migration initiative? Perhaps you have resources on staff that could benefit from having access to a senior systems programmer 24x7 to ask questions of? Or a large project is on the horizon and you required senior level skills to guide and direct this project. If any of the preceding statements resonate, allow our network of resources help you with short or long-term staffing assistance. The potential skills available, but not limited to, include:

- Z/OS Mainframe system programming
- Mainframe networking
- Mainframe database DB2/IMS administration
- Mainframe security administration – Top Secret/RACF
- CICS and MQ administration
- Third Party software; Installation and support technicians
- Mainframe performance and capacity planning
- Mainframe automation and operations work
- Mainframe application development
- TCPIP and SNA Network Technicians
- WebSphere and alternative JVM Technicians
- Messaging, both MQ & Tibco
- Storage Administration