Cloud Management

ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO MIGRATE YOUR BUSINESS TO THE CLOUD

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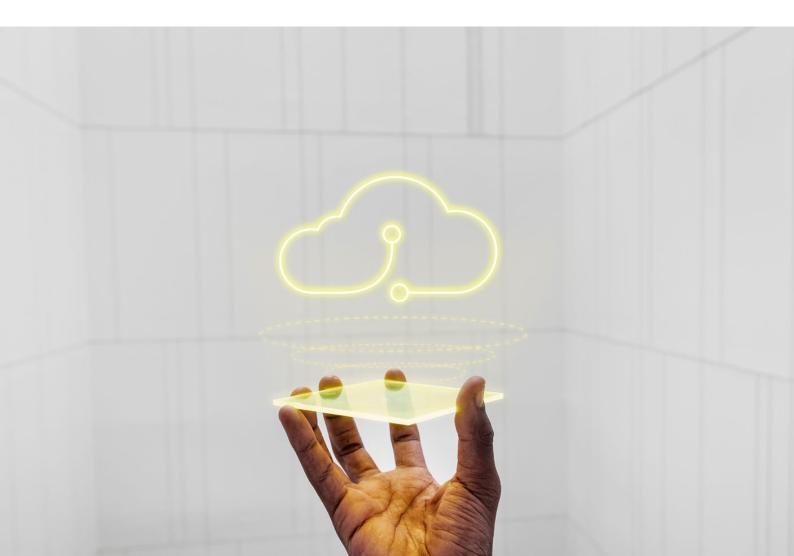
This ebook will help you take your first steps in migrating your business to the Cloud.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY COMPANY SHOULD MOVE TO THE CLOUD?

Maybe you are considering a new financing in your company, you have to change the hardware or you are already immersed in a business scalability process. If that's the case, read on...

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Key tools for teleworking

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DIGITAL TOOLS FOR TELEWORKING WITH MICROSOFT TEAMS



Microsoft Teams is the perfect complement to Microsoft 365. In fact, it has already become one of the best-known terms for teleworkers. The following is a discussion of the digital tools for teleworking that it includes.

How to choose the best teleworking software?

The above verb is one of the most conjugated since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. Many employers were faced with the challenge of choosing an effective program. Among other requirements, the chosen option must meet the following.

- **Adaptability.** It will depend on the goals to be achieved and the added value you want to enjoy.
- **Simple installation and compatibility** with existing software.
- **Storage** capacity of the teleworking software.
- **Security.** Protecting company data is essential. The option to recover lost information is also crucial.

- The **network that the teleworker will use.** It must comply with the stipulated security measures.
- A clear and **easy-to-understand control panel**.
- The option to communicate with other colleagues and the company.

On the Internet, it is possible to find various programs for teleworking, but very few include all of the above. Avoiding the use of complementary options prevents distractions for employees who prefer **a single platform.** As mentioned now, there is an ideal solution for any company that is already delivering optimal results.

Why is Microsoft Teams the perfect tool for remote work?

Because it **seamlessly combines teamwork with telecommuting.** This is supported by the interesting variety of remote work tools that are now detailed.

Conversation among teleworkers

Users only need to access the main panel, click on a colleague's name, and start typing. The process of sending and receiving emails slows down activity. The option to share documents for collaboration and files within seconds **increases efficiency and productivity**.

Option to make calls or video calls. Simply click on the corresponding option. It's possible to **schedule video calls for up to 250 participants. Online events can accommodate up to 10,000 participants.** Including subtitles is essential for better clarity during each call. It's even possible to call the room's phone number, reducing reliance on the internet.



Creating Work Groups

The main interface allows grouping teleworkers into specific teams. Each document, notice, or schedule sent will reach all members of the group. The use of a file repository ensures that every professional knows what they need to do at all times. It's possible to add a bot to each team to provide necessary answers to anyone with doubts. It's worth emphasizing that access to the platform as a developer is open. Work teams will have the option to **create Teams integrations** for their business processes and applications.

Integration with Other Programs

Microsoft Teams only integrates not seamlessly with Microsoft 365 programs (Word, Excel, etc.) but also with other applications like SharePoint, Stream, or **Yammer.** Combining these tools is always beneficial for organizing each project better. It should be noted that Microsoft Teams operates not only on Windows but also offers versions for MAC, Android, and iPhone. Simply download the compatible alternative for the operating system of the devices to be used. Subsequently, choose from the available subscription options.

Control of Email Access

Microsoft Teams **offers email exchange and hosting**, along with a **custom domain address**. It integrates with rights management services to restrict access to specific employees. This helps enhance the **security** of every information exchange.

File Storage

File storage is based on the SharePoint Online platform, creating a **site for each channel** where we can store data within the limitations of the SPO platform.

Telecommuting

It's sufficient to have a mobile phone, tablet, or laptop with an internet connection. Access to the main panel allows you to start telecommuting **immediately**. The mobile application supports voice messages. The constant connection among members of the same workgroup contributes to success.

Corporate Video

The application allows for creating, managing, and sharing company videos. Meetings can be recorded with **subtitles or transcribed into text**. Attendees will have all the information in various formats, enabling them to focus on instructions during the meeting.

Individual Agenda

Planner is the application that assigns pending tasks to each teleworker. Combined with Microsoft Teams, it enables **personalized scheduling**. The goal is to help employees better organize their time.

Security

Shared data is encrypted. Depending on the configuration, it may require a second factor of authentication for access. Both business and user data are protected.

Scalability

The program adapts to the needs of each company as they evolve.



It can be stated that **Microsoft Teams offers a set of digital tools for telecommuting that are extremely useful.** The preceding information serves to confirm this and clear up any doubts about it.





Managing remote teams

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ENDPOINT MANAGER: REMOTE TEAM MANAGEMENT

The management of remote teams is one of the services offered by Endpoint Manager, which also includes Microsoft Intune. Below, we review the main features and advantages for business owners.



How to manage teams remotely?

Endpoint Manager is a cloud-based service that **facilitates Mobile Device Management (MDM) and Mobile Application Management (MAM)**. From the company's perspective, it allows monitoring the usage of devices (laptops, tablets, and mobile phones) provided to employees.

Additionally, it enables configuring device controls and managing the reception of messages or emails from non-company individuals. If the company hasn't provided any devices, Endpoint Manager secures business data by isolating it from personal data. If devices are provided, the same level of protection can be applied based on licenses. **It's part of Microsoft 365**, which allows all devices to contribute to increasing productivity and security. Additionally, it makes possible:

- Establish a **set of rules** for device usage.
- Improve and authenticate the applications used.
- **Prevent** company information from being shared.
- Certify that the **devices used are secure.**



Telecommuting: Working in teams remotely

This way of working became prevalent with the arrival of the coronavirus. Even the most committed employees had to adapt to a new scenario.

Therefore, the use of productivity monitoring tools became essential. Additionally, other options facilitating communication among professionals within the same department also grew. Certainly, **to achieve objectives**, a manager is needed to set the direction. The use of Endpoint Manager is essential, as explained earlier, and to adapt to the specific needs of each group of employees.

It features a simple control panel for file sharing. Monitoring activity is essential for achieving success.

How to manage remote work

Telecommuting and management form an inseparable duo. It's important to set guidelines for employees while maintaining flexibility.

Generating new information daily necessitates the use of an effective tool. Endpoint Manager is one such tool, as it allows for:

- Assigning the **use of each application** to each employee or department.
- **Configuring applications** to always run correctly with the chosen settings.
- **Updating the tools** commonly used in the company,

- Generating reports to identify the most used application and understand its usage.
- **Deleting company data** from applications if desired.
- Establishing effective **access controls** in conjunction with Azure AD.

Opting for this solution requires compatibility with employees' mobile devices. Once this requirement is met, access to all office suite products is provided. This enables employees to access any resource necessary to carry out their professional tasks smoothly.



Companies consider that training experts is key to migrating their solutions to a secure Cloud system.

Advantages of Endpoint Manager

Apart from contracting a single service, which saves costs for the company, there are other benefits such as:

- Providing employees with a **secure environment** in which they can perform their work.
- **Boosting productivity** by automating the organization of applications that need to be performed (both by the company and by employees) in a more logical manner.
- Establishing **policies for accessing** company data.
- Protecting devices across all compatible operating systems from a single platform.

- Avoiding expenses on maintenance or service updates, as both processes are automated.
- Monitoring messages sent and received from both cloud and on-premises locations.
- Enabling the implementation of BYOD (bring your own device) policies so employees can use their own computers without risking company security.
- Helping manage assets and acquired licenses more easily and efficiently.

Is Endpoint Manager the best available alternative?

Everything will depend on the **peculiarities of each company.** In general terms, the answer to the question is affirmative.

However, it is **common to need some complementary software**. Endpoint Manager includes all the necessary options for remote device management. Moreover, its operation in the cloud enhances its effectiveness and makes it a worthy option to be considered.

Any company working with Windows environments should consider trying this option. Consolidating the usage time of each device into a single control panel is crucial as it allows tracking the number of accesses to the device and applications.

It's important to emphasize that the program also establishes usage patterns and even warns about potential worst-case scenarios. Understanding this information beforehand is very helpful.

The above information confirms that **remote team management** and Endpoint Manager go hand in hand. For a modest price, it's possible to enjoy the latest technology and create an ideal work environment. Controlling each device enhances company data protection. When you add access management and improved communication to this factor, the result cannot be more positive.

Telecommuting ceases to be a problem thanks to the adaptability of such a practically perfect tool. Trusting Endpoint Manager for **remote team management** is undoubtedly the best option for facing the digital transformation of internal team processes. Its ease of use directly contributes to becoming familiar with its operation in a very short time.



How to protect your business data

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HOW TO USE MICROSOFT AZURE TO PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS DATA AND SERVICES



Using Microsoft Azure to protect your business is one of the most reliable alternatives available, utilizing a network of interconnected remote servers to function as a single unit. Next, we'll discuss the features of the Backup function and all its advantages.

The importance of backups

Working with physical servers installed in your own business carries risks. Any cyberattack can lead to the loss of all stored information. However, Azure is a platform based on the Internet cloud. This allows you to **have a backup of the local environment**, virtual machines, hard drives, shared resources, and databases.

For the local environment:

Using the **MARS agent (Recovery Services)**, it's possible to obtain backups of files, folders, and the entire system. **Microsoft Azure Backup Server (MABS)** allows you to protect virtual machines such as VMware, Hyper-V, and other workloads at the local level.

In 2019, cloud adoption among businesses was 94%.

69% of organizations have created new roles in their IT departments.

Virtual Machines

Backup extensions enable **copying entire virtual machines of Linux or Windows**. MARS allows for easier addition of all folders, files, and system states.

Hard Drives and Shared Resources

Thanks to **Azure Managed Disks**, it's possible to have a reliable copy of installed hard drives. **Azure Files** helps save commonly used shared resources into a storage account.



Blobs

Azure blobs are essential for their proper functioning. Performing regular backups helps prevent unforeseen damage.

What are the advantages of trusting Azure Backup?

After discussing all the elements that can be reliably backed up, it's important to analyze the advantages of the program.

Ease of Use:

Backing up local resources to the cloud happens within seconds, something not achievable with other programs that require more complex alternatives.

Virtual Machine Backups:

It's crucial to highlight that not all backups are stored in the same space. Each backup is independent and isolated from others to prevent accidental data deletion. **Recovery Services** includes a very clear management panel that includes restore points. Configuring this service and adapting it to our needs is quite straightforward, and restoring the necessary backup is also easy.

Availability:

Any physical storage system requires continuous maintenance and monitoring. Azure **automates both factors**, ensuring it is always available and adjusts to the corresponding workload immediately.

Unlimited Data Transfer:

Azure does not charge based on the amount of incoming or outgoing data. Outgoing data refers to data from **Recovery Services** during restoration. Importing large amounts of data incurs a specific cost. Both data at rest and in transit are always protected.

Centralization of Operations:

Monitoring and alerts are integrated into Recovery Services. There is no need to choose a special version of Azure to enjoy these features. Using Azure Monitor allows for enhanced monitoring capabilities and more comprehensive reporting.

Application-specific backups:

Azure Backup does not create generic backups that require subsequent adjustments to restore functionality. Each backup includes the configuration specific to the application that uses the corresponding data. The reduction in restoration time facilitates a direct transition to execution time.

Replication Alternatives:

There are three options that directly contribute to maximizing the potential of this practical tool:

- LRS (Local Redundant Storage): This option copies data three times within a storage scale unit in a data center. It is the most economical choice to mitigate damage from local hardware failures.
- **GRS** (Geo-Redundant Storage): This type of storage replicates data to a secondary region hundreds of kilometers away from the primary data location. It offers greater data durability and protection against regional interruptions.
- **ZRS** (Zone-Redundant Storage): Data replication occurs across availability zones within the same region, ensuring resilience and locality. Critical workloads benefit from minimal downtime with this option.

Other benefits to consider

While Azure has proven to be an ideal choice, there are other aspects worth mentioning such as:

- **Compliance with GDPR**. The Spanish Organic Law on Data Protection (LOPD) is quite strict, and non-compliance can lead to various fines. In the event of a cyber attack, it is possible to recover information while protecting customer interests.
- **Scalability.** The standard version is more than sufficient for an SME, but Azure adapts to different workloads. Paying for fractions of storage ensures smooth and uninterrupted service.
- Savings. Local alternatives involve periodically purchasing new hard drives. Additionally, specific space with certain characteristics is required. The cloud allows unlimited access to all of the above. Furthermore, updates and maintenance are included in the price.

Thus, using **Microsoft Azure to protect your business is a wise decision**. It's all about making data storage a simpler and more reliable process. This will determine your ability to continue overcoming challenges and facing new stages with the utmost assurance of success.



HOW AND WHY TO CREATE CLOUD BACKUPS FOR BUSINESSES WITH MICROSOFT AZURE

Cloud backups for businesses help address critical situations such as a cyber attack without losing competitiveness. Below, we detail how Microsoft Azure is an ideal tool to easily achieve this goal.



Considerations for Backup Systems for Businesses

When choosing a cloud backup system for businesses, there is a wide range of options available. However, we consider it essential to address the following questions:

- What type of program does the company need? It will depend on the amount of information to be stored and the tasks it needs to perform.
- How are backups performed?

We can choose between a full backup, a differential backup, or an incremental backup.

- What is the most suitable frequency for the backup?
- Where will the information be stored? The cloud is an ideal alternative.
- Will the process be automatic or manual?

How to create a backup plan for **businesses**

The plan before performing **cloud backups for** businesses that enable disaster recovery should include several key points. To ensure effectiveness and achieve timely results, it's important to detail:

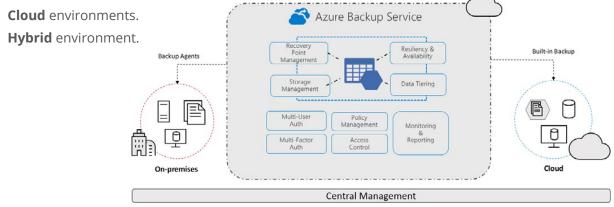
- The **details of the plan**. We should include the purpose and scope of the program.
- The company's data backup policy.
- The **data backups.** We specify which ones • we want to perform. Progressively, we will add the chronograms with the chosen periodicity.

- Data recovery. It is essential that we clarify the details of the data recovery process.
- The maintenance and revision of the **plan**. We conclude the plan by adding how the functionality of the executed plan will be monitored.
- Appendices. We include contact details of the teams involved, data backup locations and resources to be backed up.

What kind of information can be backed up?

Although we believe that only data backup can be performed, it is possible to increase its scope. Thus, we have the option of backing up:

- A web page.
- All local storage.
- Virtual machines.
- Files.
- **Cloud** environments.



What does Microsoft Azure offer?

As a Microsoft Partner, it is a cloud hosting that allows users to back up data from:

- Resources can be stored in different regions of the world. It operates in North America, Asia and Europe. Also in the East, the United Kingdom and Asia. Each storage location must be present in the same area where it is to be backed up.
- Facilitates **access control** based on Azure and Azure RBAC role.
- **Resources running in different environments.** We can create separate stores for developer, non-production and production.
- A large number of Azure virtual machines (up to 1000).
- Protection of up to 2000 different workloads. This includes workloads such as SQL or SAP HANA databases from Azure virtual machines.

What are the risks of not performing a backup?

The **purpose of backup systems** for companies is to store information in order to recover it in case of an attack or technical problem. Going for local storage means that it is not possible to recover anything if the problem has also affected them.

A review of the advantages of using Azure Backup

Backups for companies thanks to this tool are much simpler. Azure allows you to perform the following functions.

Downloading a local backup

Copies from local storage are easier to download. Copies can be obtained with the chosen time frame without the need to implement anything.

Backing up Azure laaS virtual machines

Copies are isolated so that original data cannot be accidentally destroyed. They are located in Recovery Services which includes recovery points.

Scalability and efficiency

Azure combines **the limitless scale of your cloud** with maximum efficiency. With no maintenance or monitoring required, data is accessible in seconds.



Global spending on public cloud services to double by 2023

Cloud infrastructure services are the fastestgrowing services, with more than 40% growth

Different options for storing data

Data replication is divided into three main types. **LRS** (with local redundancy) makes a copy in triplicate on a slave unit located in a data center.

GRS (with geographic redundancy) involves data being stored hundreds of kilometers away from the company's location. **ZRS** (with zone redundancy) copies data to available zones. The residence and resiliency of the data are in the same region.

The above confirms that Azure Backup is an ideal choice to run, in seconds and smoothly, **cloud backups for enterprises.**

Unlimited data transfer

There is no limit on the amount of incoming or outgoing data. There is no charge for transfers.

Data protection

Whether at rest or in transit, we offer an option to monitor and manage them. Monitoring and reporting can be scaled up with Azure Monitor.

Application-consistent backups

We do not need to do an additional remediation for data restoration. This shortens the time for each process.

Data retention

Both short- and long-term thanks to Recovery Services. Additionally, Azure takes care of allocating and managing the storage for each backup.







Setting up a disaster recovery plan

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HOW TO IMPLEMENT A DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN WITH AZURE SITE RECOVERY



Azure Site Recovery is one of the most interesting features of the platform. It is key to know how to implement a disaster recovery plan.

What is a recovery plan?

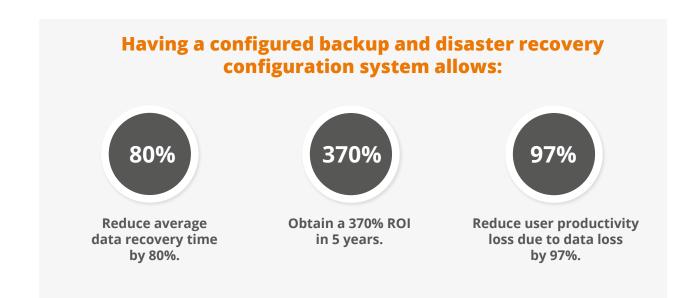
It is the best way to shorten the downtime of a site. The goal is to create an **exact replica of the running system in a different location**. Local backups do not offer sufficient guarantees as they are partial. They often cause errors that end up altering the stability of the system. If the question arises as to whether or not it is necessary to design them, the answer is always yes. It is essential for:

- Protect all the critical services of a company.
- Maintain an **active security tool** that does not disrupt the pace of work or revenue.

- Mitigate the consequences of an attack and solve the service disruption in the shortest possible time. After identifying the disruption, the necessary measures are taken to solve the incident.
- **Comply with the RTOs** (recovery time objectives) or recovery time. The plan specifies the maximum time in which a service should be inactive. If this is not met, another strategy will be used.

Why is a data backup not enough?

It is usual to schedule a backup of the hard disks on a regular basis and to host it in a separate space. During the backup, only the data is backed up, but not the functions, programs and applications used to provide the service. Azure is committed to **replicate the servers in their entirety.** In other words, in the event of an alteration to the system, it is possible to use it as it was just a few minutes before. The backups only allow access to the last one stored, which leads to a loss of valuable information. It all depends on the chosen periodicity. By using the Internet cloud, access to data is immediate and does not depend on other external factors that do affect physical servers. In fact, the failure of these can be caused by fires, floods or various breakdowns. These circumstances can not happen in Azure given its continuous updating and maintenance.



The ease of use of Azure

It is only necessary to access **Azure Portal** and replicate an instance of Azure Virtual Machines in another region. Site Recovery is automatically updated as the system is refreshed. Recovery issues will be minimized. The order of multi-tier applications running on virtual machines can be sequenced. The resulting recovery plan can be tested without affecting the performance of the site or the users. Applications will always remain available, even during outages with automatic recovery, both between regions and in the local Azure environment. To achieve this, the following steps would be required.



Configuring backups

The platform allows you to select the **type of backup to be performed**. Site Recovery facilitates the process. There is no need to add the corresponding guidelines. The system automatically takes care of backing up areas related to workloads in cloud or hybrid environments. Thus, options such as Azure Virtual Machines, SAP and SQL databases, VMware machines and on-premises Windows servers will be better protected.

Set integrated security rules

It is possible to select the corresponding privacy and security rules. Virtual machines can be failovered to the cloud, or the same can be done between cloud data centers. Using **network security groups** helps to protect them better. The Azure Backup plug-in protects data against ransomware, deletion and isolation of backup data. Accidental deletion and multi-factor authentication are more easily prevented.

Recovery points and recovery time objectives

Both contribute to making a company's workload easier to recover. In addition, it lowers the **cost of deploying**, patching, monitoring and scaling the disaster recovery infrastructure locally. There is no need to manage backup-related resources or create a second data center. Without physical infrastructure and with enormous flexibility, it is possible to upgrade the storage of each copy.

ISO 27001 compliance

The backup restore plan is in compliance with ISO 27001. By enabling Site Recovery across Azure regions, it is possible to make the enduser unaware of the error. It is possible to customize the coverage by including applications

Cost savings

It is much cheaper to monitor, apply reviews, establish a recovery infrastructure and implement prevention plans; maintaining a data center, a data center manager and everything related to this type of infrastructure is quite costly; you only need to pay for the processing resources to be used. that are considered essential. In addition, Azure provides the ability to restore data in seconds, availability backup and technical support.

A commitment to the highest possible functionality

Designing a contingency plan is synonymous with having a total guarantee of adaptability to any type of situation. As an example of a critical service, the **web page of a business** is the gateway that customers will use to place orders, make complaints or comments. Any page can fail, but the most important thing is that the error is almost imperceptible and that services are restored more quickly. Considering that the costs are more affordable and that the platform is easily adaptable to any type of business, the result could not be more favorable. **Azure Site Recovery** is a must for any company that wants to be competitive and modern. The contingency plan proposed by this tool has become a very reliable one. The success of a business can depend on its implementation when dealing with incidents of various kinds.





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