

Data Center Consolidation

Part of the Infrastructure Consolidation Solutions Family

EMC® Consulting’s Data Center Consolidation solution helps you consolidate your data centers and relocate them with less risk, in the shortest time, and most cost-effectively.

Challenges

Develop Comprehensive Plan and Metrics

- “The single biggest error typically made in today’s consolidation projects is to fail to define and agree on financial measurement and tracking metrics from the start.”
(Source: Gartner)

Leverage Consolidation to Improve Operations

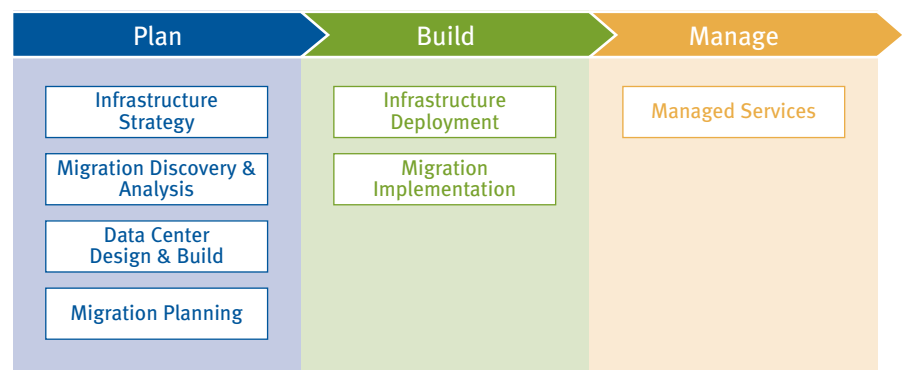
- Consolidation projects that reported large savings included what Gartner refers to as ‘indirect consolidation savings’... [like an asset management program.]
(Source: Gartner)

Business Objectives

With their internal customers requiring more and more processing and storage capacity, data centers have reached capacity. IT managers are evaluating new virtualization technologies to better leverage resources. Organizations are rethinking data center architecture and planning as a result of regulations and increased scrutiny on disaster recovery, including consolidation or relocation of data centers—an extremely complex project with major impact on service levels provided and costs of IT operations. Relocation involves every IT asset and supported application, so comprehensive planning is critical for a smooth relocation with the least disruption to the business.

Solution Framework

EMC Consulting addresses people, processes and technology to deliver data center consolidations and relocations. EMC’s approach maps to the Plan-Build-Manage phases of the IT lifecycle. Using this simple framework, EMC Consulting performs the following activities:



Plan

- Create detailed inventory of data center applications and systems and their interdependencies
- Identify and analyze consolidation and virtualization options by risk and potential ROI
- Develop phased application centric approach to minimize business disruption
- Treat the relocation event, for migration planning purposes, as if it was a planned disaster

Build

- Test and document the new architecture
- Migrate using best practices and the most relevant technologies, including replication

Manage

- Provide skilled staff augmentation and outsourced management services through EMC Managed Services
- Optimize architecture by tiering and optimize operations through EMC IT Service Management solutions

In addition to Data Center Consolidation, EMC’s Infrastructure Consolidation solutions include Platform Consolidation, which focuses on server, storage, and tape consolidation within a single data center. EMC can also help you improve process efficiency using IT management best practices through our IT Service Management solutions.

Solution Value

The Data Center Consolidation solution helps you:

- Identify and manage risks associated with the data center migration and consolidation.
- Minimize impact to business and users by ensuring that the outages are within acceptable limits by the business.
- Create reusable assets and processes that can be leveraged after the data center move, such as a configuration management database and a foundation for a comprehensive disaster recovery plan.
- Align costs of the move to the value of the information, which results in the most cost-optimal approach.

In addition, EMC can reduce overall risk to the business by implementing updated security procedures and devising business resumption plans for the new data center(s).

Why EMC

EMC has performed hundreds of large-scale data migrations, developing an industry-leading information- and application-centric approach to migration. Many customers depend on EMC for robust business continuity and disaster recovery services that minimize disruption during data center consolidation and relocation projects.

Reducing complexity in your environment helps you streamline data center architecture and get the most value from information, at the lowest cost, at every point in its lifecycle—the essence of information lifecycle management. By designing a tiered architecture for your data center, EMC aligns your IT infrastructure with the needs of your business, based on information's changing value.

Recent EMC Consulting engagements include:

EMC supported a major data center consolidation for a large financial services provider, consolidating six data centers in a one-year project—planning to implementation. EMC Consulting managed consolidation and migration of all open systems and mainframe sites and migration to the disaster recovery site. The open systems environment included three production data centers and one disaster recovery site. The mainframe environment included two production datacenters and one for disaster recovery.

Due to rapid growth caused by a stream of acquisitions, the customer experienced an increase in both the number of applications and the complexity of the supporting systems. As part of a CEO-led initiative, EMC was asked to improve the company's failover/disaster recovery capabilities, easing the operations burden on the current staff while improving its efficiency. EMC Consulting achieved the following:

- Defined a complete data center migration/consolidation strategy, encompassing people, processes, and technology.
- Executed a plan to consolidate five data centers into two metro-clustered data centers.

Large Financial Company

- Increased application performance
- Reduced overall DR costs
- All migrations were accomplished without business interruption

Major Healthcare Provider

EMC Consulting's timely and seamless data center consolidation and disaster-recovery implementation enabled the client to meet its RTO/RPO requirements.

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Getting Started

For a complete list of Data Center Consolidation/Relocation Services, visit the [EMC Consulting](http://www.EMC.com) section of www.EMC.com or contact your EMC account manager or EMC Consulting representative.

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