

HEXAWARE

Legacy Mainframe Modernization and Replatforming to Azure Cloud for a Leading Employee Benefits Company

~57% Cost Savings Achieved by Replatforming
12 Million Lines of Legacy Code to Azure Cloud
in 16 Months

Case study



Client

| Client

- Challenge
- Solution
- Benefits
- Summary

A leading employee benefits company based in the United States, providing comprehensive benefits solutions to enterprises, sought to modernize its IT infrastructure to improve agility and reduce costs.



Challenge

Client

Challenge

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Legacy Mainframe Modernization and Cloud Cost Optimization Needs

The client was operating on legacy mainframe applications that posed significant challenges:

- High maintenance costs and process inefficiencies associated with aging systems.
- An imminent and expensive five-year contract renewal for mainframe hardware and software that needed to be avoided.
- A pressing need to adopt a cloud operating model to remain competitive amid digital disruption.
- The requirement for a holistic legacy application migration roadmap that could deliver sustainable ROI and leverage automation for scalable cloud adoption.
- Ensuring business continuity with no disruption during modernization.

These challenges made legacy mainframe modernization imperative for the client to achieve cloud cost optimization and operational agility.



Solution

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Challenge

| **Solution**

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Application Replatforming and Azure Cloud Migration Strategy

Hexaware partnered with the client to design and execute a comprehensive replatforming approach to the Azure cloud that emphasized minimal disruption and maximum reuse:

- **Legacy Application Replatforming:** 96.7% of the existing mainframe codebase was assessed as compatible for re-hosting with little to no code changes.
- **Single-Phase Conversion:** Migration was planned and executed in a single phase, beginning with smoke testing and architectural validation.
- **Database Migration:** The DB2 databases were migrated to SQL Server, while VSAM and sequential files were retained to streamline data handling
- **Workflow Orchestration:** Legacy CA-7 job scheduling was replaced with Control-M, simplifying workflows.
- **Cloud Infrastructure:** The solution leveraged Azure's high availability with multiple production and non-production virtual machines and SQL database.

- **People and Process:** The existing application and operations teams were retained and upskilled, with processes adapted for agile releases, enhanced testing, and deployment cycles.
- **Automation and Testing:** Migration tools and best practices ensured thorough data validation and minimized risk.

This approach ensured a smooth legacy application migration to Azure that aligned with the client's cloud operating model goals.



Benefits

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Accelerated Modernization and Sustainable Cloud Cost Savings

The legacy mainframe modernization and replatforming to Azure cloud delivered measurable value across cost, performance, and agility.

- **Significant Cost Savings:** Annual run costs dropped from \$2.8 million on-premises to \$1.2 million on Azure, an approximately 57% reduction.
- **Avoided Contract Renewal:** The expensive upcoming mainframe hardware and software contract renewal was successfully averted.
- **Accelerated Modernization Timeline:** 12 million lines of code were replatformed within 16 months.
- **Modern Development Environment:** Developers gained access to modern IDEs and development/test environments, improving efficiency.
- **Flexible Database Support:** The migration to SQL Server provided a low-cost, flexible database solution supporting both OLTP and OLAP workloads.
- **Future-Ready Platform:** The solution enabled support for containerization, orchestration, and integration with next-generation user interfaces and analytics tools such as Power BI, Tableau, and Azure Data Factory.
- **Business Continuity:** Migration was completed with zero disruption to business operations.



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Future-ready IT Transformation through Legacy Application Migration

This case highlights how strategic legacy mainframe modernization, combined with a well-orchestrated Azure cloud migration, can deliver significant cloud cost optimization, operational agility, and future scalability. By partnering with Hexaware and adopting a comprehensive replatforming approach, the employee benefits company successfully transformed its legacy IT footprint into a modern, efficient cloud-based platform—positioning itself for continued innovation and competitive advantage in the digital age.



Ready to reduce your legacy infrastructure costs and modernize your applications seamlessly?

Email marketing@hexaware.com or visit www.hexaware.com to learn more about our proven Azure cloud migration solutions.

About Hexaware

Hexaware is a global technology and business process services company. Every day, Hexawarians wake up with a singular purpose: to create smiles through great people and technology. With this purpose gaining momentum, we are well on our way to realizing our vision of being the most loved digital transformation partner in the world. We also seek to protect the planet and build a better tomorrow for our customers, employees, partners, investors, and the communities in which we operate.

With offices across the world, we empower enterprises to realize digital transformation at scale and speed by partnering with them to build, transform, run, and optimize their technology and business processes.

Learn more about Hexaware at <https://www.hexaware.com>.

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