

Data centre consolidation assessment

Key benefits

Improved Service Delivery

Reducing applications complexity: Allows focus in key areas, improving the supportability and delivery of fewer applications to your customers, backed by a commercially driven service infrastructure.

More transparent charging models: Allows you to demonstrate your value to the business and helps to identify key areas where costs can be reduced or eliminated.

Reduction in Complexity

Application support: Consolidating into fewer functionally rich applications, reducing data repositories, eliminating repetition of same or similar functionality, reduces interface dependencies to legacy applications

Applications development: Reducing application numbers reduces the diversity and numbers of staff to support them. This allows focus into key application areas that can be enhanced, to support a wider cross section of the business.

Reduce support costs

Hardware consolidation: Understand what opportunities already exist within the estate, to consolidate hardware.

Application Consolidation: Opportunities for reduction in software purchase and maintenance costs, improving commercial bargaining position by increasing levels of commitment to fewer third parties.

Data consolidation: Identify similar repositories of data existing in multiple applications (legacy and new world) within the organisation. How many times has an incomplete picture of a client been built because data is inaccessible in different applications?



Business issues

A Data Centre Consolidation Assessment can provide you with the expertise to find those key areas where efficiencies and improvements can drive out unnecessary costs and improve service delivery to your customers.

The Challenge

With business users demanding ever more from their IT investment, how do today's information technology leaders continue to deliver against the demands made of their hardware and software environments; increasing the perceived and real value of IT, improving service delivery whilst competing with internal business units driving their individual application agenda's - all within fixed fiscal and resource constraints?

Many organisations currently face the same challenge - business acquisition and organic growth over many years has driven levels of investment required to support hardware and software estates to unsustainable levels. The increasing demands of the client server environment have taken over, not only the physical aspects of the data-centre (space) but also the logical (support) and fiscal ones. The increasing management overhead of these technologies is now forcing many companies to look seriously at the benefits that hardware and applications consolidation can bring to their bottom line.

The increasing complexity of corporate IT environments is being driven in many cases by duplicated functionality, multiple support and development streams, and increasing levels of hardware to support bespoke business functionality and data assets. This is coupled with business drivers demanding tailored, rapid application solutions to meet their organisation's challenges.

However, the presence of multiple bespoke solutions offering business flexibility is often self-defeating, undermining the benefits associated with those solutions, through increased costs, inflexible support models and regular duplication of existing technology solutions across the enterprise.

The Solution

A Charterhouse Data Centre Consolidation Assessment: A tailored engagement that investigates and analyses the opportunities to drive unnecessary cost out of your data-centre environment and to improve service delivery to your clients.

The brief is to undertake a high level assessment of the areas shown over leaf, reporting back to the CIO the current status of existing opportunities or plans, highlighting areas where additional benefit can be derived and identifying dependencies and constraints that will affect a consolidation programme from moving forward.

The assessment is vendor agnostic and will highlight areas where improvements could be achieved through best practices, the implementation of technology refreshes and hardware or application consolidations.

The report

The assessment is a tailored engagement that investigates and analyses the consolidation opportunities within the IT environment. We provide you with an in-depth report for you to use in your on-going consolidation projects.

Areas typically covered in the report are:

- Hardware consolidation opportunities at both physical and logical levels.
- Software inventory to facilitate licence and support cost reductions
- High-level infrastructure and application dependencies review
- A review of support components with recommendations highlighting possible areas for consolidation
- Application functionality reviews to document where Individual applications duplicate functionality across departments provide opportunities for consolidation.

Why have a Data Centre Consolidation Assessment?

Technology and applications investment has continued to grow in spite of recent integration advances. The increasing use of 'ntier' client server applications and technologies, with complete end to end environments supporting single applications, has led to significant increases in the hardware and software being deployed within the corporate data centre.

You may already have plans to consolidate areas or complete data centres. The Assessment can review these plans providing best practice recommendations to ensure you deliver your project goals. Alternatively, you may be unsure where to start with a consolidation project and require expertise to help you identify where the approach and opportunities that exist within your environment.

As an established and progressive professional services organisation with many years of experience consolidating and migrating data centre environments, Charterhouse is able to help you discover and deliver these consolidation opportunities, giving robust, independent advice to help you meet your business challenges.

The Approach

The assessment will involve Charterhouse consultants working closely with the client's own operational and applications delivery staff to undertake a bespoke review of their hardware and software environment. The focus is not restricted to the physical elements of the environment but will also review how applications and software are delivered and operationally managed to ensure a complete picture of your unique situation.

Based on the findings of the audit and observations, a detailed report will be created that will outline the findings, and compare and contrast against current best practices, focusing on the areas most likely to offer benefit through consolidation opportunities. The report will also recommend the most appropriate migration or consolidation approach for each specific area.

The Team

Our consultants are experienced professionals who have worked for many years in data-centre environments involving mainframe, midrange and client server computing. Each consultant has extensive operational experience in data centre management, working with clients throughout Europe and North America, specialising in highly productive use of time, quality deliverables, and reliability in meeting the client's requirements.

Throughout all phases of the assessment, Risk Management is applied to ensure no risk to your services.