

Presidio, AWS, and Virtana collaborate to deliver a validated cloud migration business case



THE CHALLENGE: Proving the value of migrating VMware to AWS

Presidio holds the AWS enterprise discount program (EDP) and delivers all the services around it for a large media and entertainment customer. Leadership at the company was interested in migrating the VMware farm of its primary division to AWS. The IT team had done an excellent job of building out a highly efficient data center and were, therefore, cautious about the idea of migrating. The company needed to have a compelling reason to make that move.

AWS and Presidio worked together to create an initial business case, using AWS tools to get a broad-based overview of the on-premises infrastructure, which showed the potential for a big cost savings. The heads of finance and IT were interested, but because those numbers were based on industry averages, they wanted to dig in further to understand the potential based on their specific environment.

SOLUTION: Objective data, delivered fast

That's when Presidio turned to Virtana Migrate, the Virtana Platform module designed to help organizations de-risk cloud migration. The AI-powered monitoring, analytics, and automation platform combines massive ingest of wire, machine, and ecosystem data with advanced analytics to proactively optimize the performance, availability, capacity, and efficiency of mission-critical infrastructure.

Using Virtana Migrate, Presidio worked with AWS to develop do-nothing vs. migrate comparisons and to detail the business case. Putting in the Virtana agents and collecting the data over NetFlow was seamless and fast with no disruption. Presidio was able to then put that data into cost models to compare the native infrastructure-as-a-service EC2 offering with VMware Cloud on AWS. They also incorporated the AWS optimization and licensing assessment (OLA) process. As a result, they were able to show the customer that with a certain consolidation ratio of memory, CPU, and different processor types, they could reduce their TCO by 30% over a 12- to 14-month time frame compared to their do-nothing cost.

ABOUT

Industry:


Systems integrator and its media and entertainment customer

Objective:

Quickly create a credible cloud migration business case

Success:

“Know before you go” visibility to understand detailed benefits vs. do-nothing



RESULTS: Validated cloud migration strategy that can be executed with confidence

Being able to show objective, actionable strategies was critical. There are many benefits in both the VMC and AWS offerings that are hard to capture unless you present them in a designed state, which requires knowing how to assess an environment and architect it from a consolidation perspective with licensing optimization, etc. Virtana provided the detailed data from the on-premises environment, enabling Presidio to analyze it collaboratively with AWS and VMware—and they were able to do this all in just four months. The customer was shocked to see how efficient the cloud could actually be.

The customer wanted them to “show the math” and the data sources. They gave everything to the CFO to validate how the do-nothing costs—the watermark for how credible any proposed TCO costs are—had been established and he confirmed that the numbers were spot on. Now the company can move forward with the migration with confidence, having validated the savings and understanding that the risk is manageable. This isn’t something Presidio could have provided in such a short time frame without Virtana.

“The AWS/Presidio/Virtana combination is a powerhouse. AWS was able to fund the project and create interest at the C-level. Virtana, thanks to their elegant integration, was able to objectively collect the robust single source of truth with no interference in the environment and normalize the data very quickly. And with that data, Presidio engineers were able to apply business case methodologies using our Envisioning principals around architecture. That strong collaboration enabled us to prove overwhelmingly that the customer needs to be in the cloud.” – Tim Benedict, Technology Strategist at Presidio

About Virtana

Virtana delivers a unified observability and optimization platform for managing application workloads across public, private, hybrid, and multi-cloud environments. Using artificial intelligence for IT operations (AIOps) technologies, including machine learning and advanced data analytics, the cloud-agnostic Virtana Platform solves the most difficult challenges facing enterprises as they seek to leverage public clouds. The SaaS platform enables a “know before you go” approach by providing intelligent observability into which workloads to migrate. It also ensures that unexpected costs and performance degradation are avoided once workloads are operating in the cloud. With the Virtana Platform, enterprises can confidently speed cloud adoption and reduce cloud operating costs by simplifying management of their IT environments.

