



From legacy to cloud-native: Remove operational overhead and embrace innovation with generative AI

Simplifying Microsoft workload migration with generative AI and Amazon Web Services (AWS)

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A new way to migrate Microsoft workloads

Moving on-premises workloads to the cloud can be a gamechanger for business performance. Migrated and modernized workloads optimize costs through reduced hardware and maintenance expenses, enhance security with built-in tools and automatic patching, and increase flexibility and scalability to meet demand. They also offer easier compliance for regulated industries, improved disaster recovery, and simplified management with central monitoring tools.

Yet, many mid-market businesses haven't migrated and modernized their on-premises Microsoft workloads due to concerns around potential disruption to business operations, limited in-house skills to handle specialized migration tasks, and uncertainty about what costs will be involved.

As a result, they are still saddled with high licensing and support costs for Windows Server, SQL Server, and older .NET frameworks. Security risks often arise from unsupported systems and missing documentation, while developers who can refactor outdated stacks are increasingly scarce. These inflexible deployments make it hard to respond to business needs and are incompatible with AI and cloud-native tools, blocking innovation and analytics integration.

Simplify your migration with generative AI

AI coding assistants offer a new solution to this challenge. For example, AWS Transform is the first agentic AI service developed to accelerate enterprise modernization of full-stack Windows. It simplifies the transformation journey for mid-market businesses running Microsoft workloads on-premises by automating and accelerating many of the most complex and resource-intensive aspects of migration and modernization.

This eBook will show you how to safely and compliantly leverage the latest agentic services to simplify and accelerate your Microsoft workload transformation journey. It provides credible, outcome-led stories that provide a clear path to migration and modernization for your Microsoft workloads.

Key benefits of Microsoft workload migration

- Reduce costs with pay-as-you-go pricing and optimized infrastructure
- Scale resources up or down quickly to match business needs
- Strengthen security and compliance with built-in cloud controls
- Enhance performance and flexibility through application modernization
- Accelerate innovation with access to analytics, AI, and advanced services
- Improve reliability and disaster recovery with cloud resilience capabilities

Overcoming migration challenges with AI

Executives and project managers want the business outcomes that can be achieved through Microsoft workload migration. But they also want to protect their intellectual property (IP), safeguard cybersecurity, ensure regulatory compliance, and avoid disruption to day-to-day business operations.

Successful modernization depends on your ability to understand how legacy systems function, even if documentation is missing or outdated. It also requires a roadmap that defines which workloads will be refactored, replatformed or rebuilt, providing a structured, phase-based timeline for transformation.

Agentic coding can help you to overcome these challenges. For example, AWS Transform's agentic AI for Microsoft full-stack workloads can analyze legacy code, map dependencies, and generate modern, cloud-ready code—reducing the need for deep in-house expertise and manual effort.

They can also automate testing and help you to maintain compliance and security throughout the process.

The result? Tasks that once took weeks or months can now be completed in days or hours. Applications can be modernized up to four times faster and with greater confidence, while freeing up resources to focus on strategic initiatives.

Of course, protecting your IP and data as you use these technologies requires specialist knowledge and skills. A trusted AWS Partner, such as Clouadar, can help you leverage them responsibly to deliver critical workload migration projects and unlock the benefits of moving Microsoft workloads to the cloud.

Why AWS for Microsoft workloads?¹

77%

The average cost savings for Windows server deployments

45%

The average cost savings for Microsoft SQL servers

98%

reduction in unplanned downtime

71%

faster deployments

Harnessing AI-assisted workload migration

With generative AI and agentic coding, organizations of all sizes can cut migration and modernization timelines by 30–50%, streamline modernization costs, and safely transform their Microsoft workloads on AWS.

As a Premier Consulting Partner and certified managed service provider (MSP), Clouadar can provide expert support to help you leverage agentic AI securely, compliantly, and efficiently to accelerate your migration and modernization journey. Our team can help you apply this technology to streamline and de-risk the modernization journey with:



AI-assisted modernization

- Discovery and documentation of undocumented .NET and SQL Server code using AWS Transform
- Automated test generation to safeguard behavior before refactoring
- Agentic coding to accelerate refactoring, code cleanup, and upgrades



Workload refactoring and migration

- Incremental migration from .NET Framework to .NET 8
- SQL Server modernization (to managed SQL Server on RDS, or migration to Amazon Aurora)
- Containerization of workloads for ECS/EKS



Secure AI enablement

- AI model orchestration via Amazon Bedrock, ensuring no source code leaves the perimeter
- Bedrock Guardrails and IAM integration for enterprise compliance
- Tool-agnostic evaluation within a secure AWS context

Our three-step approach to workload transformation



1.

Discovery and assessment

- Assess and inventory your Microsoft workloads (Windows Server, .NET apps, IIS, SQL Server)
- Use AI-assisted code comprehension to map dependencies, APIs, and database links
- Establish a toolset and framework aligned with your organizational developer and catalog policies
- Incorporate AWS Cloud Adoption Framework dimensions—business, people, platform, operations, and security
- Build a business case/total-cost-of-ownership (TCO) analysis

Outcome: Get a clear roadmap detailing your migration backlog, with prioritized workloads and validated readiness plan.

2.

Mobilize, baseline, and pilot

- Use AI-generated unit and integration tests to safeguard business logic
- Leverage CI/CD integration for automated regression validation
- Complete incremental refactoring and pilot projects
- Configure externalization and containerization for ECS/EKS
- Use agentic coding loops with human validation to accelerate safe refactoring
- Apply parallel operational excellence best practice and improvements targeting cost optimization, monitoring, and security guardrails

Outcome: Gain confidence that migration won't break critical processes while accelerating delivery timelines and reducing risk.

3.

Refactor, harden, and cutover

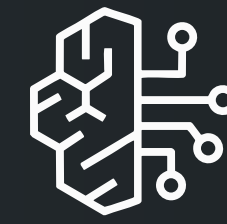
- Implement security guardrails and compliance checks via AWS Bedrock and governance frameworks
- Conduct load, performance, and failover testing before production cutover from legacy to modernized workloads
- Operationalize infrastructure-as-code pipelines, managed services, observability solutions, and FinOps solutions
- Reduce technical debt, improve resiliency, and leverage emerging AWS AI tools

Outcome: Unlock secure, compliant, cloud-ready Microsoft workloads with reduced TCO and a solid foundation for innovation.

Key AWS solutions for workload transformation



AWS Transform:
the first agentic AI service
for transforming workloads



AWS Bedrock:
secure, compliant access
to multiple GenAI models



Anthropic Claude Code:
agentic AI-powered
coding assistance



Amazon ECS/EKS:
containerization targets
for .NET workloads



Amazon RDS/Aurora:
modernization of SQL
Server databases



AWS Lambda and API Gateway:
breaking monoliths into
services or serverless functions



CDK/CloudFormation/
Terraform on AWS:
infrastructure as code
for modernized apps



ClouDar's role as trusted advisor

Through engaging ClouDar as your trusted advisor, you can ensure AWS's tools and frameworks are applied to deliver measurable business value by:



Designing a structured, phased approach—from analysis and documentation, through pilots, to final cutover



Applying proven context engineering and agent orchestration techniques so AI worked efficiently and effectively



Guiding cost management and efficiency, ensuring workloads stay within budget



Supporting change management and skills transfer, training your teams on modern AWS services and AI workflows



Acting as a local, reliable advisor, combining AWS expertise with knowledge of compliance and cost concerns in Belgium and Europe



Why ClouDar?

- 100% AWS focus—Premier Consulting Partner
- Deep expertise—AWS specializations including the AWS DevOps Competency, the AWS Digital Sovereignty Competency, the Data and Analytics Competency, and the Government Competency
- Customer obsession—personalized approach, ISO 27001 certified security
- End-to-end AWS services—consulting, migration, DevOps, Well-Architected Reviews, and managed services
- 24/7 local support—no call centers, with AWS-certified engineers available around the clock
- Cost optimization and transparency—FinOps, clear billing, and AWS reselling without hidden markups
- Cloud sovereignty and compliance—visibility, control, and regulatory alignment
- AI and innovation—scalable generative AI solutions built ethically and in compliance with GDPR
- Highly certified team—150+ AWS certifications, with a local presence in Belgium and the Netherlands

Reimagining media production with a modern digital platform

Helping TinkerList to unleash innovation, efficiency, and growth in the media production industry via modernization on AWS

The challenge

TinkerList, an all-in-one content management system for TV production, faced significant issues with its Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) platform. The platform was difficult to maintain, hard to scale, and expensive—especially during peak loads. Deployments were slow, which hampered development speed. The company wanted to increase efficiency and reduce operational burden. But it lacked in-house AWS expertise to build a modern, cloud-native platform.

Our solution

TinkerList partnered with Clouadar to design and implement a new, state-of-the-art cloud-native platform. The new solution leveraged Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), serverless architecture and container technology to maximize efficiency and scalability. The entire infrastructure was written in Infrastructure-as-Code (IaC) using AWS CloudFormation. Clouadar's managed services allowed TinkerList to focus on product development while ensuring high availability and scalability.



Results

- Operational efficiency: TinkerList was freed from the operational burden of managing traditional infrastructure, enabling the team to focus on core product development.
- Faster releases: The new platform enabled more frequent and confident releases, accelerating innovation and responsiveness to customer needs.
- Cost optimization: TCO became directly linked to customer usage and workload, making IT expenditure predictable and scalable.
- Reliability: The new platform scales automatically to meet demand, ensuring high availability and performance even during usage peaks.
- Global expansion: AWS's global infrastructure supports TinkerList's expansion into new markets like Australia and the US, offering low latency and consistent service quality worldwide.

Accelerate your cloud journey today

Speak to our migration and modernization experts to transform your Microsoft workloads with Clouadar and AWS

Modernization with AWS and generative AI transforms migration challenges into successful business outcomes: Reduced costs, faster time-to-value, improved compliance, and greater innovation capacity.

By combining the power of AWS Bedrock, Claude Code, AWS Transform, and modern DevOps practices with the guidance of Clouadar, you can modernize your Microsoft and legacy workloads with confidence.

The path forward is clear: Modernization is no longer a high-risk, multi-year project. With generative AI accelerators and AWS-native services, it is a structured, achievable, and outcome-driven journey.

