WORKLOAD MODERNIZATION WITH TEST AS A SERVICE

Tectrade
A CSI GROUP COMPANY

COST-EFFECTIVE SOFTWARE TESTING IN THE IBM CLOUD

In a demanding market, Independent Software Vendors (ISVs) have to meet two significant challenges: reaching new users and introducing new application features to keep ahead of their competition. At the same time, ISVs have to control the costs of expanding access to their software and rolling-out enhanced functionality. Operating and maintaining dedicated systems for demonstration and testing can be a considerable financial commitment especially if they are only used occasionally.

As an IBM Platinum Business Partner, Tectrade has many years of experience helping ISVs to win new business and to enable their DevOps teams to quickly and securely test and distribute new software on IBM i, AIX and Linux platforms.

Working together, we simplify delivery and put the focus on the application without the distraction of placing an increased burden on in-house IT teams. This enables faster purchasing decisions and improved software adoption.
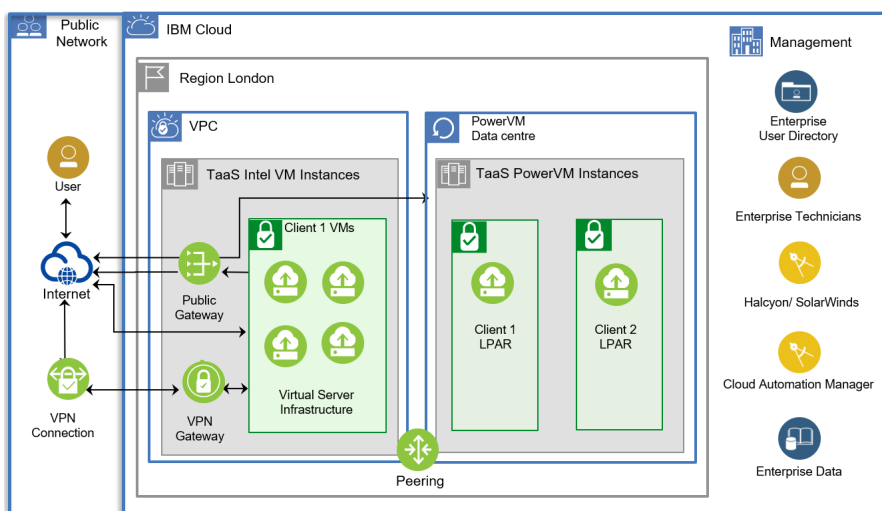
Cloud Disruption

The emergence of cloud computing offers new opportunities for application delivery, proof of concept demonstrations and testing the data security, performance and compatibility of new features.

By using IBM Cloud compute and storage, ISVs only pay when resources are used - and IBM Cloud Automation Manager (CAM) simplifies setting up and shutting down temporary LPARs as often as required.

Our Workload Modernization solutions include:

• Initial build to create an image for the temporary environment
• Refresh for each test or demo cycle:
  • Loading the LPAR image
  • Network re-connection
  • Data migration to the temporary environment
  • Monitoring and management of temporary LPARs
  • Saving the latest image
  • Deleting the temporary partition
• Quarterly configuration check

Once the temporary environment is built, there is a minimal charge for image library and CAM licensing. Other resource charges are only incurred during a live test cycle.

Platinum Business Partner

IBM

Competency
Cloud Platform
DevOps
Power Systems
Private Cloud
Spectrum Storage
Software
Storage Systems

Tectrade's Workload Modernization Solutions

Tectrade uses IBM Cloud, Red Hat OpenShift and the IBM Cloud Pak for Multicloud Manageme
to quickly setup and shut down temporary LPARs to test new features or to support proof of
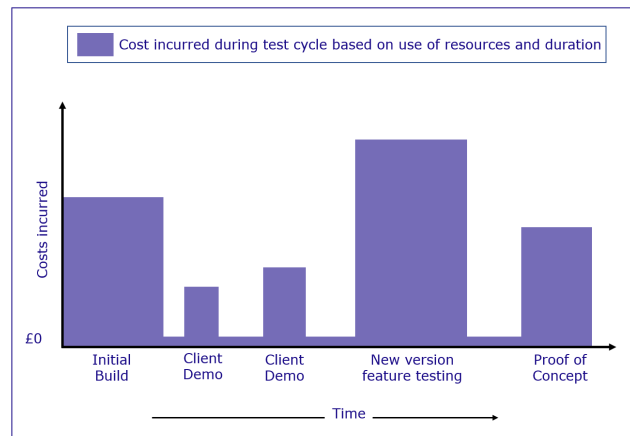concept demonstrations.

There are two distinct phases to this workload modernization solution: the initial build and then
recurring test cycles. Each test cycle comprises setting up the temporary environment, running
the test or demonstration, and finally shutting down the temporary partition when completed.

Initial Build	Tectrade works with an ISV to design a temporary environment that will accurately represent a production system running the ISV application. Working from a generic LPAR image in the IBM Cloud, Tectrade will customise ISV-specific systems and save these in an image library. Images from the library will be used to refresh the temporary environment at the start of each test cycle.
Refresh for a Test Cycle	When the temporary environment is needed for a short period, the system can be simply turned on using IBM Cloud Automation Manager. The most recent image is used to load the test LPAR. (If the production system has changed significantly since the last test cycle, the temporary system will be updated).
Data Migration	Test data must be uploaded from the ISV or client environment to the IBM Cloud storage repository. Transfer methods will depend on the volume of data: • Secure FTP for small volumes • Mass Data Migration for up to 120TB on a pre-configured encrypted, tamper-evident device. MDM overcomes transfer challenges like high costs, long transfer times and security concerns
Shut Down	Once the test or proof of concept project is completed, the latest system image is stored in the image library for future use and the temporary partition is shut down.
Quarterly Configuration Check	Tectrade will also provide a quarterly configuration check of the temporary environment to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.

Benefits of Cloud-based Workload Modernization

By using cloud resources, our Workload Modernization
Solutions provide two key benefits: speed & cost control.

- With CAM, temporary LPARs can be set up in the IBM Cloud with very little delay so tests or demonstrations can be carried out more frequently.
- A minimal annual charge is incurred for storing the image library and CAM licensing.
- ISVs only pay for resources and services when the temporary LPAR is live. Variable charges are based on usage of compute and storage and calculated from the point the temporary partition is loaded until it is finally shut down.

Additional Services from Tectrade

To help our ISV clients achieve their specific business goals, we offer a number of additional IT services, including:

- Migration of workloads to private and public clouds / Application optimisation
- Managed services for on-premise IBM i, AIX, Linux and Windows systems
- Backup and Recovery Simulator
- Disaster Recovery and High Availability
- Managed Cyber Security Services: endpoint & web filtering, phishing defence, detection and response
- Professional Services e.g. consultancy, project management, risk mitigation and roadmap reviews