Migrate and Manage Your SAP Environment with Microsoft and Red Hat for Increased Agility, Performance and Scale.

IT organisations are adopting flexible, cost-effective cloud technologies to modernise their business and infrastructure. Wherever possible, they are looking for opportunities to improve performance, availability and stability – all while reducing operational overheads and resource constraints.

Companies running SAP® business applications have an additional reason to update their infrastructure; the requirement to migrate to SAP HANA® and SAP S/4HANA by 2027. However, many are struggling to modernise the critical SAP environments and applications they have built up over the years.

Manually migrating SAP workloads from on-premises to cloud can be a heavy lift, with more workloads adding up to increased complexity and the possibility of errors. Through Microsoft's SAP Deployment Automation Framework, Red Hat and Microsoft remove these difficulties and streamline the process to achieve SAP migration in hours or days, rather than weeks or months. The result is a reliable, modern cloud-based platform that enables customers to gain business agility, innovate faster and make informed business decisions in real time.

A SMOOTH SAP CLOUD MIGRATION

Migrating applications to a new infrastructure is typically full of challenges. Manual operations can result in poor performance, potential downtime and increased security risks. Automation is critical in more

rapidly understanding all of the components needed to effectively redeploy existing SAP workloads to Microsoft Azure's powerful and scalable cloud foundation.

By running SAP solutions on Azure and automating standard practices with the Red Hat® Ansible® Automation Platform, customers can accelerate migration to the cloud with a complete end-to-end streamlined and automated process. They can replace expensive, manual and error-prone processes with automated, flexible processes, freeing up employees to focus on activities that add value.

Speed of deployment is increased with consistent configuration policies applied across all aspects of SAP and IT infrastructure, from servers and network devices to operating systems, applications and security. Importantly, this is all achieved in hours, rather than weeks, greatly reducing the impact of business downtime.

CHANGE THE APPROACH TO DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

Deploying automation with Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform on Azure leads to a fundamental change in the management of operations and processes for SAP systems.

In contrast to simple automation tools, it delivers a unified foundation for creating, deploying and sharing consistent automation content and knowledge at scale across SAP environments.

An IDC analysis[1] determined that organisations utilising Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform had 68% more productive IT infrastructure management teams, 41% more efficient application environment management teams and 31% more productive network management teams.

[1] IDC White Paper, sponsored by Red Hat. "Red Hat Ansible Automation Improves IT Agility and Time to Market," June 2019. Document #US45090419.

IT teams can use Ansible Automation Platform as a framework to deliver Infrastructure-as-Code and automated outcomes in a consistent, repeatable and scalable way across SAP environments of any size. Once Ansible Automation Platform is used to define an application locally, it can be repeatedly deployed and redeployed. Reusing code in this way leads to faster development, less downtime and avoids misconfigurations, so customers can benefit from increased agility and the ability to scale.

Automation also enables a self-service culture, leading to less reliance on IT teams and third parties, and a lower long-term cost of ownership. Additionally, Red Hat, SAP and Microsoft offer a simplified, hassle-free support model that covers the entire environment.

AUTOMATING SAP WORKLOADS TO AZURE WITH THE ANSIBLE LAB

Red Hat's SAP on Azure automation offering provides an efficient, tried and tested and automated way to move SAP workloads to Azure with increased quality and standardisation, cost efficiency and end-to-end governance compared to doing this via a set of manual and error prone processes. To further support SAP customers to transform their SAP estates to the cloud,

Red Hat and Microsoft have developed a lab facility to showcase these joint offerings.

This facility offers customers the opportunity to utilise pre-built real-life scenarios that can be used for migrating SAP workloads to Azure, as well as the chance to explore the automation of ongoing SAP operational tasks following such a migration, including:

- System provisioning
- Configuration management
- Application deployment
- Security automation
- Orchestration
- Continuous delivery

RED HAT ANSIBLE AUTOMATION PLATFORM IN USE AT MICROSOFT

When Microsoft sought to create a standardised, centralised network automation environment that reduces routine, repeatable tasks and complexity, the company chose to work with its strategic partner Red Hat to adopt Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform, running in Microsoft Azure. Click here to read more.