

Intigua for Azure Migrate

Technology Overview

Enabling Cloud Transformation for Real-World Enterprises

Everyone in enterprise IT is seeking transformation: From older, closed and proprietary technology into open platforms; from on-premise systems maintenance towards demand-based cloud consumption models. Most importantly, IT transformation is about transforming the way IT works, from a siloed set of services into a real driver for business innovation.

One key to transformation is developing the ability to adopt new IT technologies quickly. There is no single silver bullet for all IT operations needs, so IT teams should be able to use the right tool for each job.

Adopting new technologies doesn't apply only to new apps - new technologies must be available also for existing apps. Many high-profile, revenue-generating legacy apps are not going anywhere, yet they must be maintained at ever-increasing scale, and under pressure to keep operational cost low. Switching these apps too to new technologies is therefore a must.

There is only one path for achieving the needed agility with low cost at scale, and that is the path of **automation**. If IT still has to perform manual operations for every new server spun up by business app teams, or if manual configuration is needed for simple monitoring or backup needs, the path to transformation is lost.

Yet many real-world IT organizations are struggling with automation. Newer tools and services available to IT, such as a modern service desk and cloud-based monitoring, often help in automating some IT tasks, lowering the cost per server. But the effects of such important improvements are offset by having to manage a lot more servers, and by the impact of a lot more changes happening in applications. So the bottom line is rising cost and complexity, despite the introduction of new IT technologies.

Automation and configuration management tools are perceived as the eventual solution to automation challenges, but they have their own limitations. These tools often target the developer audience rather than IT engineers. If you need to learn complex, domain-specific programming languages for even the simplest automation tasks, then the IT organization as a whole is likely to fail in automating its tasks. Most automation tools also don't consider the ways in which IT and business users need to establish a solid SLA between them: Failing to provide solid resource-based access controls (RBAC) and resource cap limits for IT tools means IT users will still have to go through elaborate, expensive change management processes whenever they touch an application.

Intigua's simple automation platform makes it easy for real-world IT organizations to automate their core everyday tasks:

- ❑ Simple user experience via UI and API, that lets IT experts just get to work
- ❑ Reaching every server with a unique, adaptive combination of network protocols and hypervisor/cloud APIs
- ❑ Unique, focused tooling for the deployment, configuration and maintenance of server tool agents, which make up a large chunk of current IT gruntwork and cause production bottlenecks and overhead
- ❑ Built-in controls around the resources used by IT's own tools, e.g. in terms of memory usage
- ❑ Policy and scheduled health test mechanisms for automated response to server changes or operational failures
- ❑ Smart role-based access controls allow different user roles (L1 support, tool experts, etc.) to access the diagnostics they need

Intigua's simple automation and agent lifecycle management features allow IT teams to embrace new server management, security and cloud technologies without fear of breaking something, and with minimal implementation cost. For IT organizations using Intigua, this newfound agility is an important enabler in transitioning the IT organization into an asset for the business as a whole.

The Azure Migration Challenge

One specific challenge faced by many IT teams is shifting to the public cloud. The benefits of moving to the cloud are clear: improved cost structure, focusing on core

business, and taking advantage of advanced services and architectures. But cloud migration projects often highlight IT's core challenges: with sub-optimal visibility and control, and lacking automation, it's hard to carry out migration projects with confidence.

Specifically, migrating to Azure using Microsoft-endorsed technologies requires IT teams to take a number of steps:

1. **Discover** the list of servers and the apps they belong to. While there is often a CMDB somewhere, with some sort of data about applications, it's usually not tuned to answer the needs of the migration project. Executing full discovery therefore requires installing a dedicated tool agent such as the Azure Service Map dependency mapping agent, or discovery tools from various Microsoft partners. But how do these tools get deployed to all servers in a truly automated way?
2. **Migrate** each server, typically using a backup/DR tool such as Azure Site Recovery or other Microsoft partner tools. Again, IT teams are facing the need to introduce yet another tool agent. And once more, they need to ensure each agent is fully installed and configured across the board. While some tool vendors offer their own proprietary solution for agent deployment automation, these solutions are typically weak and IT teams still end up with manual work per server.
3. **Manage** migrated servers. Once servers have been migrated, how are they to be managed from now on? For example, if some servers were previously using backups to an on-premise server, how will that work now that they have moved to the cloud? And what about optimizing servers to use new, cloud-native backup, monitoring and security services? Rewiring and retooling each server is a daunting task without simple but solid automation.

Easy Azure Migration, with Full Control

Intigua offers a whole set of features allowing quick execution of the migration workflow, specifically for Azure.

- ❑ Dead-simple integration with Azure Migrate. Guide the installation of discovery and migration agents to the right VMs simply by pointing out the relevant Azure Migrate groups. Use your regular Azure credentials - no need to set up an Azure service principal. Once a link with Azure Migrate is established, Intigua knows which server

belongs to which group, and can use this to deliver agents, run automated scripts, implement health tests, etc.

- ❑ Easily use VMware vCenter APIs to deliver Azure agents to otherwise unreachable VMs. Intigua can use SMB and SSH to reach any server, but it can also use VMware's own guest operations API. No configuration is required: Just connect Intigua to vCenter, and it will use it when needed.
- ❑ Tried-and-true agent automation technology, that knows how to tackle dozens of common issues. Intigua supports advanced scenarios such as multiple sets of access credentials, connecting to several vCenters, delayed push to servers that are temporarily powered off, etc.
- ❑ The Intigua console provides sandboxed remote access for easy, secure diagnostics in case any of the discovery or migration agents fail. Use data from built-in health tests to easily identify any agent issues, and remotely check log files for a deeper dive.
- ❑ Limit CPU and memory usage by agents to assure business users.

Check out the Intigua web site for more information about these features and others.

Intigua Offerings for Azure Migration

The Intigua platform can be used in a number of ways to accelerate Azure migration and IT cloud transformation.

- ❑ **Intigua for Azure Migrate:** Use the Intigua platform to deploy the Service Map dependency agent along with Microsoft Management Agent, to enable easy discovery. Intigua for Azure Migrate is available as a free, fully-functional trial for 6 weeks.
- ❑ **Intigua for Azure Site Recovery:** Use the Intigua platform to deploy the Azure Site Recovery (ASR), to enable easy migration.
- ❑ **Intigua for Azure Pro:** Use Intigua to manage tool and agent lifecycle before and after the migration to Azure. Introduce new Azure management services or port existing enterprise server management tools into Azure with full control.
- ❑ **Intigua Agent Manager:** Use Intigua to implement the deployment of any third-party discovery or migration tool, from Microsoft partners and other vendors.