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Proven Tips for a Successful Data Center Migration



Introduction

Whether you're building a new data center, moving to a colocation facility, or transitioning to a cloud/hybrid environment, a data center migration is a complicated, risky endeavor.

Many data center migration teams try to mitigate some of the risks and avoid unwelcome surprises through detailed planning and following best practices.

However, even with these efforts, data center migrations are so complex that some things still fall through the cracks. In this eBook, we've compiled a list of proven tips based on our experiences and those of our customers when dealing with data center moves to help data center managers tackle often-overlooked challenges and see success—before, during, and after the move.



What Is a Data Center Migration?

A data center migration is any movement of data center assets from one location to another. Examples include moving to a new data center, moving to a colocation facility, moving from one room or floor to another within the same data center, and transitioning applications and services to a hybrid/cloud environment.

Data center migrations impact a variety of functional teams and roles, including:

- Data center managers
- Data center operators
- IT teams
- Facilities teams
- Network engineering teams
- Server teams
- Infrastructure teams
- Move team technicians



Challenges of Data Center Migrations

Managing the risks and complications involved in a data center migration is a challenge even for the most experienced data center professionals.

For example, in a data center migration, you run the risk of:

- Mismanagement of teams and resources
- Ineffective use of capacity
- Inaccurate asset inventory records
- Missing or misused cabling and other hardware components
- Unfamiliarity with the new facility
- Incorrect equipment installation

Any of these issues can potentially derail your data center migration project and hinder its success.

Keep the following considerations in mind as you plan your data center migration for a faster and easier transition and to reduce the risk of unanticipated events. They also will help to minimize the time you spend post-migration on addressing mistakes and errors.



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