APPLICATION PROFILING ADVISORY

Determine optimal approach to drive out cost from the application portfolio

ESSENTIALS

A flexible, agile approach to application portfolio analysis enabled by semi-automated analytics

- Business classification
- Application rationalization
- Disposition analysis
- Cloud suitability and selection
- Return on investment
- Optimization roadmap

FOUR INVESTMENT OPTIONS

- Modernize / Build New
- Migrate
- Retire
- Retain

Business Challenges

In order to be successful, all IT organizations need to decrease cost and complexity, frequently achieved by reducing or eliminating technical debt and simplifying their environment, while increasing agility and speed to adapt to the rapidly changing world and deliver business results quickly. We believe that this is achieved through digital transformation. Typical costs to operate and manage IT are massively inflated by technical debt. Technical debt is a concept in software development that reflects the implied cost of additional rework caused by choosing an easy solution now instead of using a better approach that would take longer. Its impact is far reaching beyond applications and impacts operation model, infrastructure, and staffing and frankly impacts the business as well as in the forms of diminished user experience, non-alignment with changing business needs and slower time to market.

At the end of the day, Dell Technologies' message is first and foremost about adopting modern application development techniques and tools to eliminate technical debt. However, it is also about reducing the impact of technical debt already incurred, or in financial terms, servicing the debt. In order to do this, we look to optimize legacy applications across the entire application portfolio in order to select which should be made cloud native, which can benefit from operational efficiencies, which should adopt more effective operation models and optimize infrastructure through virtualization, HCI, CI and software defined methods, and even which should be retired and their data archived for legal and compliance purposes. Many IT organizations are wary of undertaking such a comprehensive review of their application portfolios because they are concerned about the complexity, cost and resources required to conduct the analysis.

Service Description

The Application Profiling Advisory service captures your key business, technology and financial drivers to evaluate the application portfolio. It offers cost and saves time by leveraging semi-automated tools that accelerate analytics-based decision-making. The resulting data set is shared across Dell Technologies consulting service offerings to provide a single, comprehensive application portfolio view, built for quick results and to minimize resource time commitments.

Business Classification

We conduct workshops to evaluate and gather data on the applications and services with key stakeholders and service delivery managers. No installation on your systems or network is required. Business classification identifies and weighs these critical business priorities

using our proprietary tool-based methodology. Exiting this phase of the profiling service you have an accurate view of the importance of your business application portfolio and you are armed with the information needed to right-size your infrastructure investments and reduce operational costs.

Application Rationalization

Our structured, repeatable approach to rationalization begins by mapping business functions and activities to applications in order to identify functional redundancies as well as under-served areas. Affinity mapping reports provide rapid results. Redundant groups are identified and prioritized for follow-on analysis.

Disposition Analysis

Looking at both business and IT alignment, we determine how best to invest in each application. The four investment categories used for traditional applications are build new/modernize, migrate, retire or retain. Applications that align with modernize include those that provide high value to the future plans of the organization and offer low risk. Applications that are tagged to be migrated are running on outdated technology or are being offered by high-risk vendors. There are applications that may have weak or missing business functionality or run on a weak technology platform that you will want to retire. Finally, there are applications that you will want to retain, as they are inexpensive to run. All of these characteristics are tied to a rules engine, automating and reducing the required time and resources.

Cloud Suitability & Selection

Cloud suitability answers two critical questions. Which cloud option is best suited for my application and how readily will the application move to the new cloud platform. Leveraging findings from disposition analysis, we dive more deeply into application workload characteristics to determine the best cloud model; public, private, hybrid or multi-cloud. A weighting of business, technical and financial rules is applied and combined with a composite workload suitability score resulting in a Cloud Fit Index rating. The index ranges from Excellent— indicating that a choice of cloud options will be suitable and the level of effort required to move to the cloud is minimal—to Poor, which is designated as unfeasible or not cost effective to move to the cloud. Aggregating results across the application portfolio provides a powerful strategic plan for future cloud computing.

Business Case

To help make the best business decision for the application portfolio, we must add a financial analysis to provide us with a view into the total cost of ownership for the application. The final application portfolio transformation roadmap can be built once we factor in the business case for the application portfolio being analyzed.

Summary of Benefits

Dell Technologies Application Profiling services' semi-automated approach to analyzing business, technical and financial characteristics of applications assures fast, consistent, and less resource intensive results than traditional manual services. Our experienced consultants work closely with your application and business teams to ensure that your organizations technical and business criteria are fully expressed and consistently applied with rule weightings that are tailored to your organization. With more than a decade of application optimization success, and thousands of application analysis initiatives, Dell Technologies Consulting Services has the deep technical expertise as well as the business acumen to be your partner for aligning your application portfolio with your dynamic business requirements.

Learn more about Dell Technologies Consulting Services

Contact a Dell Technologies Services Expert

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