Many VMware customers are planning for an upcoming merger or acquisition, data center consolidation initiative, or infrastructure end of life, and as a result are looking to leverage the public cloud as an alternative to a traditional (and costly) data center expansion.

Yet, architecting and rolling out a cloud-based solution can feel like a daunting task, and plans can quickly be derailed or delayed due to the misconceptions about cloud types and deployment models.

If you are running a VMware vSphere®-powered data center, you can update or replace on-premises infrastructure in the cloud using VMware vCloud® Air™, the ready-to-run public cloud built on vSphere.

According to IDG Research Services*, 63% of businesses surveyed expect to use cloud solutions to run their applications within the next 12–18 months, compared to 49% today.

Source: IDG Research Services, Public Cloud Adoption, 2015

This excerpt, from our guide Modernize Your VMware Data Center with the Public Cloud, provides vSphere users with the facts you need to understand how to best leverage the public cloud to replace your IT infrastructure.

Download the full guide for more insights, resources, and practical advice on other opportunities to leverage the public cloud to modernize your data center.
Perhaps your reasons for replacing your data center include cost cutting or other data center consolidation projects. Well done. When you replace your data center compute, storage, and networking needs with the public cloud, you can swap unmanageable upfront hardware expenses for a more flexible operating expense cost model that lets you pay as you go, based on your need and your budget. If your organization is planning an acquisition or a merger, or your data center hardware is reaching its end of life, you’ve also been presented with a real opportunity to make this type of change.

Speaking of change, it is the only thing that is constant for IT leaders like you. This is yet another reason why a cloud-based infrastructure makes sense. It gives you the flexibility you need to quickly respond to mergers, acquisitions, or any of the other organizational changes that need IT support.

While updating or consolidating on-premises data centers using the public cloud can be a smart move for many organizations, it is an opportunity that comes with its own set of obstacles. Many organizations wrestle with long, complicated setup processes (especially for multi-tiered applications) every time they move workloads to the public cloud. Other organizations who are running multiple disparate cloud platforms find that they must maintain separate tools (and staff with the skills) to manage each of them, which can reverse the cost savings and resource consolidation promises of a public cloud platform. Even more concerning are some of the frighteningly ineffective, antiquated perimeter security policies that do not stop attacks from spreading inside the data center and the cloud.

vCloud Air: The Fast, Secure Way to Replace Your vSphere Data Center in the Public Cloud

You can modernize your infrastructure by quickly and easily moving from your on-premises vSphere data center to a secure public cloud architecture.

Built on the trusted technology of vSphere, vCloud Air provides a true hybrid experience by seamlessly shifting vSphere workloads from their data centers to the public cloud. You can look to VMware for a secure, savvy public cloud solution that is consistent with your on-premises environment.

Keep Going

Ready to learn more about how vCloud Air can help you update or replace your infrastructure? Check out these additional resources.

Implementing Hybrid Cloud Networking with vCloud Air and NSX
Learn how you can deliver enterprise-grade networking and security capabilities powered by VMware NSX technology, providing zero trust security in the cloud.

VMware vCloud Air: Manage Your Hybrid Cloud
Automate your way to cloud self-service. In this lab you will integrate VMware vCloud Air with VMware vRealize Automation™ and manage blueprints from a service catalog, add governance to vCloud Air deployments, and reserve capacity for authorized users. The combination of both vRealize Automation and vCloud Air allows you to become more agile and enable various use cases that are not found in the traditional data center.
VMware Public Cloud Vision

The explosion of data, mobile devices, and consumerization of IT have placed unprecedented pressure on IT resources. The cloud is no longer optional, it is a necessary component in delivering the agility and enabling the innovation required to remain competitive in today’s market.

Digital innovation is in large part driven by applications and their associated digital processes. These applications can take and fulfill orders, provide support to customers, manage sales, and analyze and deliver data insights by extracting and linking data and intellectual property from multiple applications and locations into a streamlined process and experience. Connected applications depend on organizations being able to extend existing infrastructure and application services beyond their data centers, while delivering against the rigorous requirements of security, compliance, reliability, and performance.

VMware vCloud Air is the ready-to-run public cloud built on vSphere that enables our customers to modernize their infrastructures and protect, extend, and replace on-premises vSphere workloads. Because vCloud Air is built on the solid foundation of vSphere, customers can quickly and securely take advantage of the core benefits of a true hybrid cloud platform, while extending and maximizing existing IT investments into the public cloud—any application, no changes.

Modernize Your Data Center with VMware vCloud Air
Here are some IT projects to get you started:

- **Data Center Extension**
  - Seamless portability and networking with unified management and support

- **Disaster Recovery**
  - Simple, low-cost failover and recovery to and from the cloud

- **Data Center Replacement**
  - Fast, secure infrastructure shift from on-premises to the cloud

Get the Full Guide
Learn more about the opportunities that the public cloud offers for disaster recovery, data center extension, and data center replacement.

Plus, get more resources, tools and access to success stories from VMware customers.

[Download the guide now.]