

DECISION CHECKLIST | CLOUD & HYBRID

Cloud Cost Assessment

A practical starting point for IT and finance leaders reviewing spend, commitments, and workload placement.

Compare the last three to six months of billing and usage. Focus first on the workload and cost drivers you can explain, then test changes against performance, resilience, and contract requirements.

1 Data transfer and egress

Which workloads send data to users, other clouds, or on-premises systems? Include inter-region transfers and recurring cross-cloud flows.

Pull: billing exports by transfer SKU, network diagrams, monthly outbound GB

2 Storage and retention

Where are you paying for inactive data, excess replicas, snapshots, backup retention, or premium storage with little access?

Pull: storage tiers, access frequency, replication policies, backup inventory

3 Commitments and discounts

Do reserved capacity and savings commitments match steady usage, or are you buying discounts on oversized resources?

Pull: commitment utilization and coverage, expiration dates, contract terms

4 Compute utilization

Which instances, clusters, and databases have sustained low use? Check scheduling, sizing, and minimum capacity before renewals.

Pull: CPU and memory trends, idle resources, autoscaling settings

5 Workload placement

Would predictable, transfer-heavy, or latency-sensitive workloads cost less or operate better in a different cloud, colocation, or hybrid model?

Pull: full-term cost, licenses, migration effort, connectivity, recovery needs

YOUR NEXT DECISION

Identify the three largest cost drivers, their owners, and the least disruptive changes to test. Compare expected savings with the work, risk, and contract commitments required to achieve them.

Request a 20-minute infrastructure review: corepathnetworkgroup.com/contact