

Lean Opportunity

Data Center efficiency can fall over time due to organic growth, mergers and acquisitions and lack of ongoing optimization after applications are deployed. Simply consolidating multiple data centers can provide significant cost savings. Actively seeking Lean breakthroughs can yield even larger opportunities for improved efficiency and cost takeout.

Benefits Realization

Potential benefits may be found in a number of areas that extend beyond collapsing the number of centers.



Examples of benefits:

- ▲ Eliminating waste reduces cost / handle time
- ▲ Shifting R&D support cuts transaction costs
- ▲ Automation of workflow reduces manpower
- ▲ Virtualization reduces hardware needs
- ▲ Consolidation and decommissioning reduces hardware footprint and support costs
- ▲ Green technologies and co-location at an internal warm DR site reduce operating costs
- ▲ Documented processes enable SOX compliance

Approach

The initial focus is on targeting specific and quantifiable benefits that can be achieved in a reasonable sequence. Prioritization ensures that only the most significant benefits consume focus and budget early in the project. Continuous process improvement opportunities are scheduled for execution by the client using the least costly resourcing model.

Portfolio View

Our experience enables us to rapidly construct a portfolio view of the applications, the processes they support and the supporting technologies from all layers of the application stack. Identifying dependencies is essential to ensure that there is no disruption in service during migration. Examples of dependencies that we have identified through closer examination include:

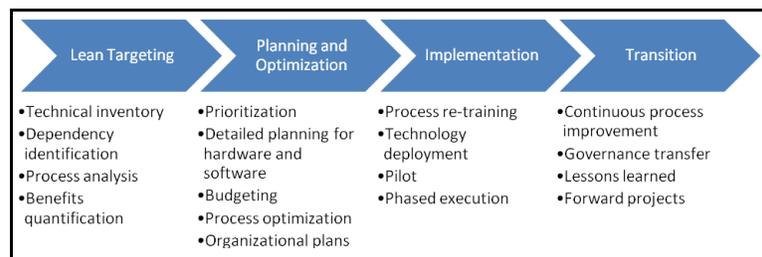
- ▲ Shared data sources (databases, feeds, manual entry)
- ▲ Ad-hoc staffing
- ▲ Shared components (middleware, application services, security infrastructure, etc.)
- ▲ Data exchange (ftp, shared files, screen scrapes)
- ▲ Consolidated reporting across applications
- ▲ Spreadsheet and ODBC links

Requisite Experience

The consultants at Actionable Strategies have hands-on experience with mission critical systems from mainframes to the latest Internet technologies. By combining Lean engagements approaches with technology depth, we partner with our clients to maximize savings from data center consolidations.

Engagement Structure

Actionable Strategies will work collaboratively to ensure that the Lean approaches can be perpetuated by the client. By combining knowledge transfer and on-the-job training, consultants will enable clients to be self sufficient in data center process improvement. The basic engagement roadmap is depicted below.



For specific details on how we can help you plan and execute a Lean Data Center Consolidation, please contact your Account Manager.