Architecture and Design Session (ADS)
Maximize the value realised from Office 365

This custom session drills into your business objectives and requirements when planning a move to Office 365. Cloud Business work to ensure you not only meet your goals and objectives, but also capitalise on the benefits of moving to the cloud. We will provide architectural guidance, preferred practices input, architecture, and risk analysis to chief technology officers, architects, and senior members of your development team during this detailed planning phase.

Today’s business environment places increasing demands on information technology (IT) organizations, rapid change, financial constraints, global interconnectedness, and meeting the expanding needs of a wide variety of stakeholders.

Technology advances in the Cloud have enabled many new business opportunities. However, teams dealing with Cloud technology can quickly lose track of its business intent. At the same time, technology projects continue to challenge IT. Many projects are unsuccessful or squander precious resources through poor quality results.

IT organizations have a desire to provide business-driven technology solutions more effectively and successfully, and look to industry leaders for help.

Background
Capitalising on expert knowledge, real world scenarios and industry expertise Cloud Business can show your organisation how to get the most out of Microsoft Cloud Technologies. Whether you are envisioning, architecting, or evaluating solutions, we have offerings to meet your needs.

Architecture Design Session
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An Architecture Design Session (ADS) is a 2 day engagement where Architects and SMEs from Cloud Business will examine your company’s current IT environment, its technical needs, along with business objectives to deliver a clear vision, strategy and plan on your migration to Office 365 , and how this can help customers reach their business goals.

- Gain an understanding current IT environment, business objectives, – including drivers, requirements and user scenarios;
- Identify a potential cloud architecture solution
- Scope out a PoC project or Pilot to help prove any proposed architecture and create a business focussed live pilot to enable a business to evaluate the feasibility of such a solution.

There are two main types of ADS offering:

- Envisioning – where a high level understanding of a business area and the potential of appropriate Microsoft Cloud technology is gained;
- Architectural Review – where an existing proposed or developed cloud migration is reviewed at a high level;
Architecture and Design Stages
Regardless of the type of ADS they each generally consist of the following phases:

- Around an ADS:
  - Preparation
  - Delivery
- Inside an ADS:
  - Discovery
  - Envisioning
  - Scope/Plan

- Envisioning:
  - Solution components
  - Key functions, capabilities
  - Integration strategies
  - External connections
  - Security considerations
  - Abilities considerations
  - Map requirements to components
  - Map scenarios to components

Architecture and Design phases

- Discovery:
  - Customer background & Business Technology Strategy
  - Project background
  - Project drivers and aims
  - Requirements:
    - functional and non-functional
  - Usage scenarios
  - Organisational/Geographic landscape
  - Technology landscape
  - Map requirements and scenarios

- Planning:
  - Establish Proof points
  - Exclusions
  - Risks
  - Issues
  - Pre-requisites
  - Deliverables
  - Longer terms outputs, plans
  - Resources
  - Escalation plan
  - Communication plan.

These items covered in the Planning phase can be tuned to the customer situation and expected next steps.