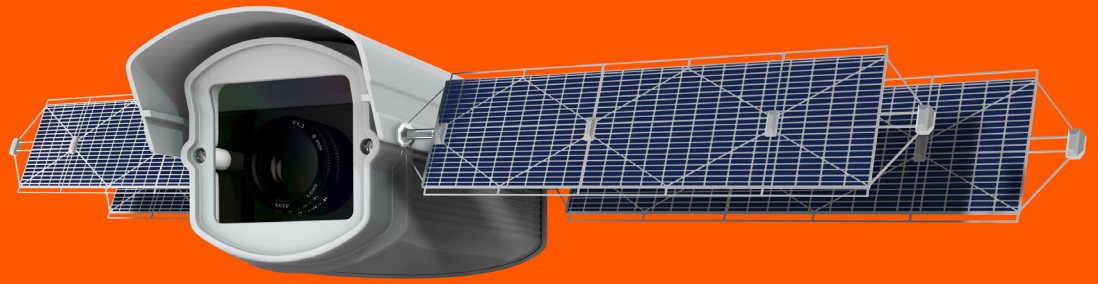
# Is your **cloud transformation** keeping your **organization safe**?



## A guide to rethinking your cloud security

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# **Rethink** your cloud security today

Rapid digital transformation and increasingly sophisticated cyberattacks have brought about new and intense challenges for security leaders. In this new era, preventing, detecting and containing cybersecurity attacks has become more problematic.

Keeping up with the pace of change is a constant struggle and with a growing alert volume and a shortage of skilled security professionals, security leaders are being asked to provide consistent security around the clock.

When it comes to cloud transformation, security concerns remain top of mind. **In a recent study by the Ponemon Institute, cloud was identified by 47% of respondents as being the most vulnerable endpoint for attackers.** This perception has been exacerbated by the fact that many organizations have been forced to accelerate their cloud journey and, understandably, overlook many security controls and processes.

**Let's get started with rethinking how to secure your cloud transformation.**

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# 3 tips to **secure your cloud transformation**

Whether you're planning a migration to the cloud or trying to optimize the control and oversight of your existing cloud infrastructure, consider these three factors to ensure you are doing so securely.

### 1. The cloud is only as secure as the way it's configured

One of the biggest threats to cloud security is misconfiguration. Every different "flavor" of cloud, from SaaS to PaaS and IaaS, demands a different set of requirements and configuration approaches. The cloud model you pursue will determine your responsibility, the load you carry as a consumer of cloud services, and the configurations you need to make to ensure security. We recommend that you evaluate these models carefully to ensure you choose a model that's right for your organization. In addition, continually monitor changes to foundational configuration to harvest the benefits of a model and enhance security.

### 2. Ensure that your "landing zone" is an evolving component of your infrastructure

The landing zone is the underlying core configuration of your cloud environment. However, it's much more than just the start of your journey; it needs to evolve and grow with you. A recommended next step is the refactoring of applications to ensure cost optimizations are achieved. Both the landing zone and the onward journey require continuous security. A cloud environment, if nurtured in a flexible way, can help you unlock the agility, scale and cost benefits of the cloud. However, the agility brought by these environments requires a new way of thinking and business practices to remain secure while realizing the benefits of a cloud environment.

### 3. Build resilience with adaptive security

Significant cost savings and business benefits can be gained by using the power of existing security tools from your cloud provider, such as Microsoft, to help monitor your cloud environment.

Not only will this help simplify your environment, but it will also help you deal with the alerts overload that you're likely to be seeing, so you can investigate and prioritize threats through automation. Implementing security assurance and monitoring will also help you to meet compliance requirements.

This shift from a reactive to an adaptive security model will help to rapidly prevent, detect and remediate security threats so you can build resilience.

# Unlock the full **efficiency and security benefits of the cloud**

If you're still using a legacy-based Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) solution, one of the best ways to unlock cost savings and efficiencies is to move to a cloud-based SIEM solution like Microsoft Azure Sentinel. Here are the three key benefits:

## A more robust cybersecurity posture

In a recent survey by the Ponemon Institute, 51% of respondents identified a cloud-based SIEM, like Azure Sentinel, as being one of the top 10 technologies that can help to greatly improve their cybersecurity posture. Keeping on top of security and the growing number of threats is a constant challenge for security professionals. Azure Sentinel can give a bird's-eye view across an organization, combining the power of the cloud with Microsoft's large-scale security intelligence. It makes threat detection and response smarter and faster, using AI to provide better security.

## Efficiency of Security Operations Center (SOC) teams

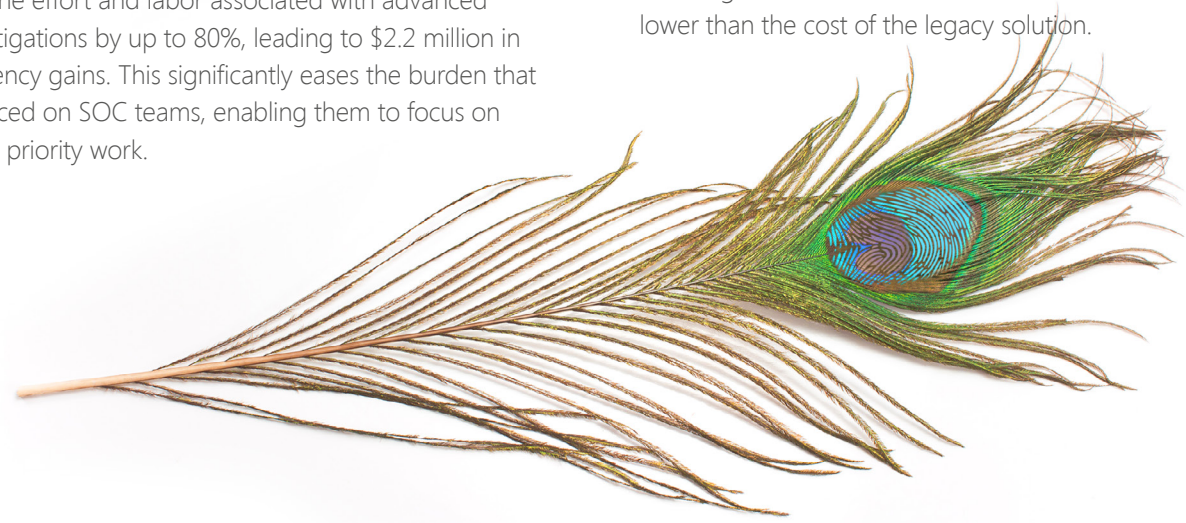
Many organizations face a data overload with an increasing number of alerts, and with resources that are often stretched, it's difficult to prioritize and results in uneven investigation quality.

In a recent study, Forrester found that customers using on-premises or internal custom-built solutions were "unable to scale these labor-intensive solutions in cost-effective ways," and that they needed to "invest significant resources in maintenance activities and investigating false positives."

The study also shows that Azure Sentinel was shown to reduce the number of false positives by up to 79% and the effort and labor associated with advanced investigations by up to 80%, leading to $2.2 million in efficiency gains. This significantly eases the burden that is placed on SOC teams, enabling them to focus on other priority work.

## Up to 48% lower than the cost of legacy solutions

The Forrester study showed that, when compared with a legacy SIEM solution, Azure Sentinel enabled customers to achieve significant savings on licensing, storage and infrastructure costs totaling $4.9 million. In addition, it enabled organizations to avoid the capital investments required for storing logs on-premises, meaning that total costs for Azure Sentinel were 48% lower than the cost of the legacy solution.



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# Take the **first step**

If, like many of our clients, you've had to accelerate your journey to the cloud, it can be hard to know what steps to take to fully unlock the benefits.

A good place to start is our **Cloud Security Assessment.**

We'll work with you to understand your business ambitions in a security context, and your existing cloud security infrastructure and processes to come up with a holistic assessment of your security landscape and risks. From here we create a roadmap to help you realize your security vision over the long term.

**Our workshop includes:**

- An assessment of your cloud security posture, incorporating best-practice recommendations from Microsoft on Azure, as well as framework alignment with Center for Internet Security (CIS) best practices
- An assessment and proof of concept based on key challenge areas, including selection of cloud, on-premise or hybrid technologies
- Outcomes include: proposals that outline approaches to address quick wins through to strategic rework.

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# Why **Avanade?**

## Wherever you are on your cloud journey, Avanade can help.

We're the experts at helping you secure your Microsoft and hybrid IT ecosystems. Our security services provide a holistic approach through advisory, implementation and managed services. Recognized as the Microsoft 20/20 Security Advisory Partner of the Year, we provide proven methodologies, deep expertise and leading-edge technology.

We can help secure your cloud services so you can protect your organization and build resilience.

Visit avanade.com/security to find out more.




# Contact us

Visit **avanade.com/security** to see how Avanade can help you.


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**About Avanade**

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital and cloud services, business solutions and design-led experiences on the Microsoft ecosystem. With 39,000 professionals in 25 countries, we are the power behind the Accenture Microsoft Business Group, helping companies to engage customers, empower employees, optimize operations and transform products, leveraging the Microsoft platform. Majority owned by Accenture, Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation. Learn more at www.avanade.com.



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