

**Dell EMC Intelligent Data Mobility:
Repeatable, Streamlined, Cost-
Efficient Data Migrations for the
Modern Data Center**

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Introduction

Traditional data migration is a tedious, complex process that is also disruptive, time-consuming and an obstacle to deploying new storage arrays. The careful planning and execution of migrating data to new storage require coordination across multiple teams, create burdens associated with data remediation, and generally slow the pace and rate at which companies migrated to newer storage arrays. However, traditional data migration methods are quickly becoming outdated due to rising data growth and the rapid rate at which data centers are changing and adapting to new business requirements. Furthermore, traditional data migration services are complex and costly, driving customers to seek an alternative solution. As data centers are modernized to meet the increased demands brought on by the digital era, storage administrators face pressures to provide a more streamlined and efficient method to realizing quicker time to value of the new storage infrastructure.

These modern demands on the data center create a more fluid relationship between workloads and infrastructure. For IT managers, this means the pace of change is accelerating, both for workloads and the infrastructure, resulting in pain points such as data center hardware redeployments and more migration of data.

The new approach to data migration from Dell EMC, called Intelligent Data Mobility, addresses these challenges and strives to give storage administrators a more modern and efficient data migration experience. Intelligent Data Mobility leverages automation and intelligence that tightly align with the discovery, planning and execution process required to onboard new storage arrays. Intelligent Data Mobility also uses a standards-based approach that drives increased flexibility and savings and enables support for heterogeneous, multivendor environments.

Intelligent Data Mobility enables organizations to eliminate key pain points in the data migration process. Through its vendor- and platform-agnostic support, customers can rely on a proven, standardized methodology that reduces time to migrate and maximizes hardware availability during migration. Building off its standardized process, Dell EMC Services can customize each engagement to match organizational business needs and desired outcomes of the data migration process.

Intelligent Data Mobility also addresses one of the biggest challenges enterprises face in data migration: disruption. Typically, the biggest source of migration disruption is server remediation (i.e., the process of updating host code levels). However, the Dell EMC E-Lab, a component of Intelligent Data Mobility and one of the industry's largest certification and validation engines, enables organizations to reduce remediation requirements by 60%.

Strategic technology partners use E-Lab to certify, validate and run quality assurance tests on Dell EMC technology to ensure interoperability and easy integration with their OS platforms, storage and networking infrastructure. The continual development of E-Lab ensures customers will receive leading tools and techniques to further alleviate the stress and lessen the disruptive impact of large-scale data migrations.

Dell EMC Services provides automated, intelligent data mobility for rapid deployment onto new storage environments

Intelligent Data Mobility from Dell EMC Services provides an integrated, automated and intelligent approach and is a lower-cost, less-complex and more time-sensitive alternative to traditional data migration methods.

Intelligent Data Mobility accelerates the value, simplicity and flexibility of data migration onto new storage platforms, leveraging a standard methodology consisting of three phases:

- In the discovery phase, tools in the Dell EMC Services discovery suite are used to reduce time required to map physical and virtual assets. The E-Lab Advisor tool enables Dell EMC Services to perform automated interoperability analysis and reporting, leveraging 50 million validated technology configurations to ensure a seamless migration process.

- During the planning phase, business and technical requirements are documented, assets are analyzed, and the appropriate Intelligent Data Mobility blueprint is identified. Design and testing processes provide automation scripts, post-event clean-up documentation, further interoperability analysis, testing and validation of automated scripts on data set samples.
- The execution phase includes initializing data, validating event windows, performing data movements per agreed-on schedules, reconfiguring networks and putting new arrays into production. Dell EMC Services also provides automated documentation to include a breakdown of all processes, testing and validations performed as part of the migration.

Conclusion

The digital transformation era will continue to drive increased requirements for data and the underlying storage to support it. To address these increased demands, IT organizations will seek more cost-effective and efficient means to deploy new storage faster and migrate data from older storage arrays to new environments. Traditional data migration methods will certainly impede IT's efforts, causing them to seek alternatives.

Intelligent Data Mobility delivers unique value that starts with the company's experience and expertise in moving data across storage arrays. Historically, Dell EMC Services moves more than an exabyte of data for its customers annually and more than 200 petabytes of data from third-party storage arrays including Hitachi, NetApp and other non-Dell EMC arrays. Through this experience, Dell EMC has developed best practices and standard delivery methods that minimize the risk associated with data migration while still driving economic efficiency in the process. Dell EMC increases the time to value for new storage arrays and reduces IT staff burden associated with the discovery, planning and execution of data migration.

About Dell EMC Services

Dell EMC Services accelerates the software-defined enterprise through world-class technical expertise and service capabilities that deliver well-run hybrid clouds, big data solutions, empower ITaaS providers, and enable new digital-era applications. Our 16,000+ services experts worldwide, plus global network of partners, have the skills, knowledge, and experience organizations need to get the maximum value from their Dell EMC technology investments—with an unending commitment to an exceptional total customer experience through service excellence.

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