# PowerCenter to the Cloud: Best Practices for Data Management Modernization

**Where data & AI come to LIFE**

# Contents

## Preface: How to Use This White Paper

Today **cloud is the new normal, and moving to the cloud is a business imperative**, as 84% of data leaders strongly believe modernizing legacy systems is essential for maximizing artificial intelligence (AI) benefits.[1] The cloud makes it possible for you to continuously iterate, innovate, optimize operations, achieve unparalleled scale and elasticity, realize cost efficiencies and accelerate time to value.

As part of overall modernization initiatives, organizations are building their modern data platform on the cloud and moving their workloads from on-premises data warehouses to cloud data warehouses (CDW) like Snowflake, Microsoft Azure Synapse Analytics, Amazon Redshift, Oracle ADB or Google BigQuery. This supports advanced analytics with cloud-native data management capabilities such as AI/machine learning (ML) to gain agility and speed; lower administrative, operational and infrastructure costs; and scale. These work together to help you innovate, deliver business value and compete to win rapidly.

For many years, Informatica PowerCenter has been a leading and trusted enterprise-grade **data integration** platform for global enterprises. It has been used to run our customers' mission-critical workloads to help them connect, transform and load data into on-premises data warehouses such as Teradata, IBM Netezza, or Vertica.

However, as popular as PowerCenter is, it was not optimized for the cloud. So, suppose you are modernizing your on-premises data warehouse to the cloud. In that case, we recommend that you also modernize your workloads from PowerCenter to the cloud-native **Informatica Intelligent Data Management Cloud™ (IDMC)** platform to not only run your workloads in an optimized way in the cloud but also to gain cost efficiencies and realize rapid time to value from your cloud investments.

This white paper can help Informatica PowerCenter customers and stakeholders who are in the process of — or planning on — modernizing their data and analytics environments to the cloud. It is designed to help you understand the critical factors to consider and how to avoid common pitfalls when modernizing PowerCenter assets to IDMC by providing best practices and a checklist for success.

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[1] Energize Marketing, The State of Cloud Modernization: Top Insights You Need to Know, Dec 2023.

## Chapter 1: The Benefits of Modernizing from PowerCenter to the Cloud

For years, PowerCenter has been a trusted foundation for your on-premises data integration and data management initiatives, such as data warehousing and analytics. As a result, you have developed thousands or even tens of thousands of mappings, sessions, workflows, commands and more. As a mission-critical, trusted workhorse, PowerCenter runs your mission-critical **extract, transform, load (ETL)** jobs for you every day to populate and update your enterprise data warehouse.

You might be thinking: what about my assets and investments that I have made in PowerCenter? And how do I move those assets to the cloud? We have good news: you can reuse virtually all of your PowerCenter assets and move them to the cloud with full fidelity. You don't need to abandon your PowerCenter assets, processes and institutional knowledge you have developed over the years.

When planning for a cloud modernization, you naturally want to maximize the value you get from it. Now is the time to reevaluate your data integration and management strategy to align with your organization's cloud-first strategy. That means modernizing on-premises PowerCenter workloads to IDMC. You must reuse the data integration assets and business logic you built in PowerCenter to accelerate and lower the risk of your cloud modernization.

## Why Modernize to IDMC?

There are many reasons you may want to modernize to a cloud-native data management platform like IDMC. These include:

- In the on-premises world, significant upgrades are a fact of life. But they are time-consuming, expensive and risky. IDMC eliminates these types of upgrades for customers because Informatica performs them as new software releases become available.

- As a cloud-native platform, IDMC makes it easy for customers to explore and try new capabilities and services as Informatica introduces them, rather than requiring customers to purchase and install new software versions in their on-premises environments.

- It's much easier to democratize data integration tasks to a wider range of users in a cloud-native platform like IDMC compared to an on-premises software environment like PowerCenter.

There are specific cloud-native data integration and **data management** use cases that are much better suited to IDMC. For example, you may want to stage data from an Oracle on-premises database to a landing layer in Snowflake or an Amazon S3 bucket in AWS. In PowerCenter, you would run a classical ETL mapping from Oracle to Snowflake with an engine processing it one record at a time.

However, this is very inefficient. With IDMC, you would use a modern data warehouse practice of bulk ingesting data as-is into the landing layer. This **extract, load, transform (ELT)** pattern is called pushdown optimization (PDO). You would then apply transformation and curation logic afterward. IDMC provides the highest performance and scalability with serverless and elastic Spark-based distributed processing and cloud data warehouse PDO. The result: a three times faster load due to mass ingestion efficiencies and faster processing with PDO, leveraging the native system commands and limiting data movement.

**Key Benefits of the Cloud-Native Informatica Intelligent Data Management Cloud**

IDMC delivers best-of-breed products for data ingestion, data integration, data quality, out-of-the-box connectivity, elastic and serverless capabilities, pushdown optimization and catalog and governance. These services help control costs, democratize data access and accelerate speed to market, driving a significant competitive advantage.

- **Govern your costs with Informatica usage-based pricing,** optimization engine and run-time tools that intelligently automate cost control. With consumption-based Informatica Processing Unit (IPU) pricing, IDMC allows you to mix and match products based on your implementation timeline, evolving requirements or usage demands.

- **Lower resource need with low-code/no-code development tools** and self-service for your users, including architects, developers, citizen integrators, data engineers, data scientists, analysts and IT operations. Our out-of-the-box templates and wizards cut down 80% of the design and development work. Our tools intelligently automate development efforts, like developing one mapping and leveraging it for multiple data sources.

- **Reduce complexity** with support for multi-cloud, on-premises and everything in between, with one single platform that includes data ingestion, data integration, data quality, application integration, API management and more. There is no need to hand code, integrate point solutions or look for solutions for your advanced integration and data management patterns.

## How to Accelerate Your Modernization Initiatives While Lowering Cost, Risk and Time

We understand that modernization projects can be complex and daunting, but they don't have to be. To address the challenges of our PowerCenter customers and offer them a seamless and accelerated path to modernization, Informatica has augmented its proven PowerCenter to Cloud Modernization program. This solution significantly speeds time to value and reduces migration costs, time and effort. It also reduces the risk of modernization to close to zero while minimizing disruption to ongoing mission-critical business operations. Informatica developed this program to simplify our customers' entire journey from PowerCenter to IDMC so that you can protect your investments in PowerCenter with skills and concepts easily transferrable to IDMC.
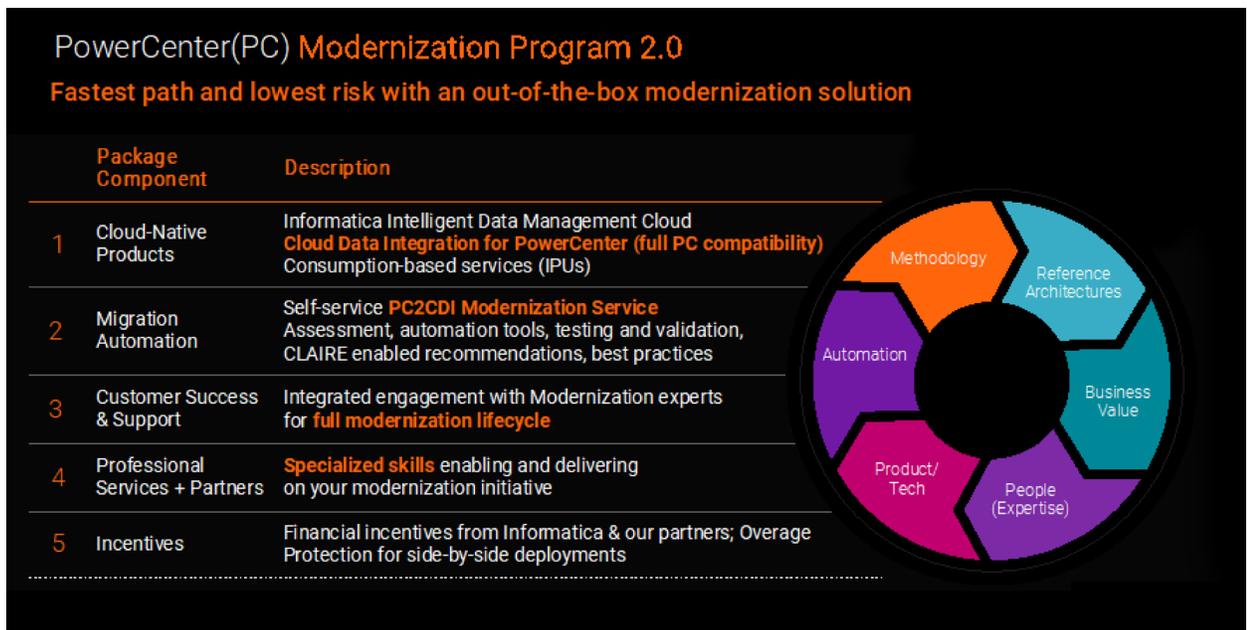


Figure 1: The PowerCenter Modernization program offers a fast and low-risk path to modernization.

With the **Informatica PowerCenter Modernization program**, you can:

- Leverage an industry leading **cloud-native data management platform** with consumption-based pricing

- **Eliminate the risk of manual migration** with the self-service **PC2CDI modernization service** that accelerates migration with AI-powered, automated conversion capabilities and a best practices-inspired, proven migration processes.

- **De-risk migration initiatives** with **Starter Pack for PowerCenter Cloud Edition**, offering expert migration support, best practices and technical skills.

- **Get premier customer support** from Informatica, which provides integrated modernization engagement and support throughout the modernization lifecycle

- **Accelerate your modernization initiatives** by leveraging specialized skills from trusted Informatica PowerCenter Modernization **Partners** and **Global System Integrators (GSIs)**, which are critical for scaling modernization programs with a proven track record of delivering large-scale migrations. These organizations have the people, processes and technology capabilities available to help customers accelerate their cloud modernization initiatives, address skills gap, drive innovation and maximize business impact.

## Steps for Accelerating PowerCenter Modernization Initiatives

With three simple steps, Informatica PowerCenter customers can accelerate their cloud modernization journeys by adopting Informatica PowerCenter Cloud Edition.

**Informatica PowerCenter for Cloud Edition**, a service of IDMC, is designed to address customers' pressing modernization challenges and offer them a seamless path to modernization. IDMC significantly simplifies data management across both cloud and on-premises environments with a comprehensive set of capabilities. PowerCenter Cloud Edition allows PowerCenter customers to move their on-premises workloads to IDMC and includes a trio of new cloud-native services:

### Step #1: Cloudify Your PowerCenter Assets

**Cloudification of your PowerCenter assets with Cloud Data Integration for PowerCenter (CDI-PC):** **CDI-PC** enables you to run PowerCenter workloads without needing metadata or business logic migration. It also allows you to centrally manage and monitor your cloud and hybrid runtime environment on a single IDMC control pane. This benefits you immensely through automated updates and real-time security fixes, helping to ensure your critical data and integration infrastructure is secure and up to date.

**CDI-PC** highlights include:

- Cloud data integration with full PowerCenter-compatible mode

- CDI Secure Agent extended to PowerCenter runtime

- Centralized cloud management, including registration and monitoring
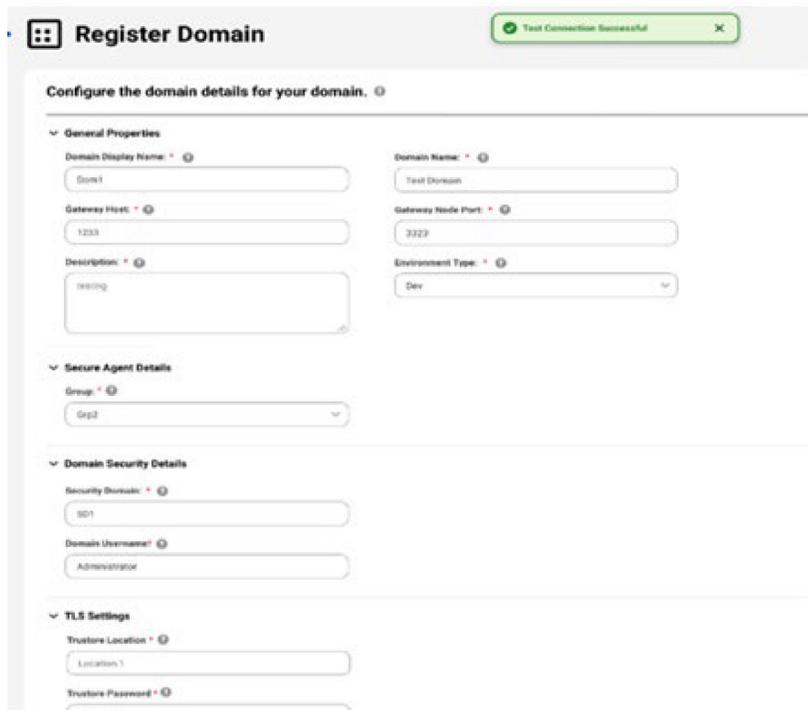
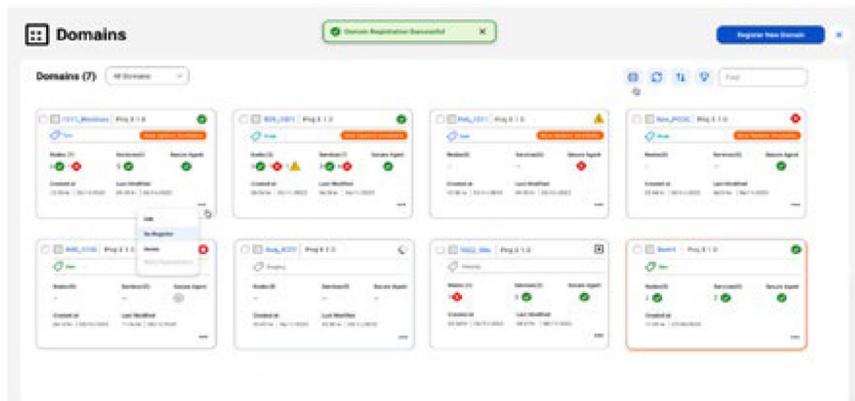Figure 2. To move to CDI-PC, you first need to register.



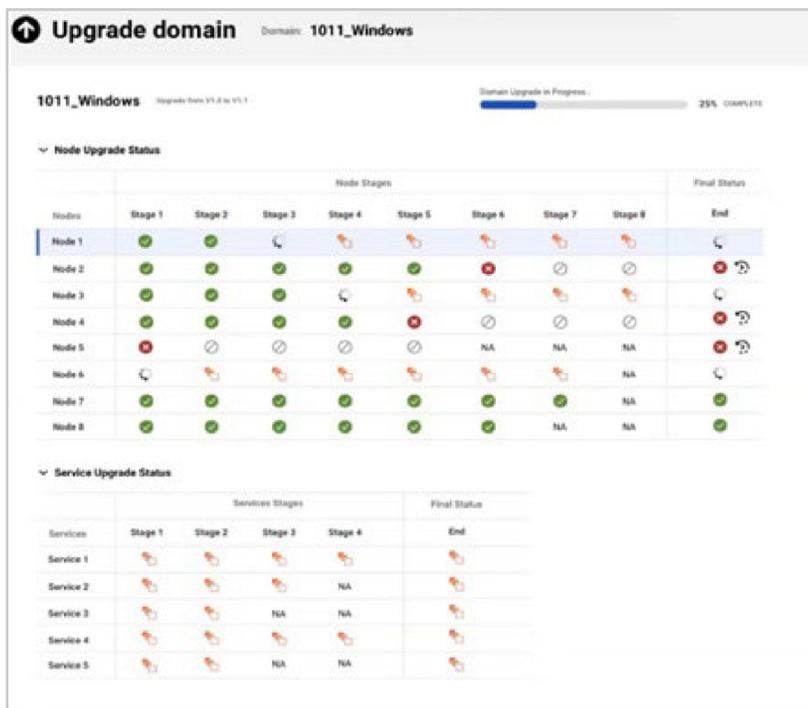Figure 3. CDI-PC provides a centralized view of your domains.

Figure 4. With CDI-PC, you can automatically apply security fixes and other upgrades.

### Step #2: Modernize at Your Own Pace with PowerCenter to Cloud Data Integration Self-Service (PC2CDI)

In conjunction with CDI-PC, the self-service **PC2CDI Modernization Service** empowers you to adopt industry-leading, cloud-native capabilities. It also helps eliminate the risk of manual migration with 95% AI-driven automation, offering faster time to value and up to 50% cost reduction. Some Informatica customers have over 20,000 PowerCenter assets spread across hybrid environments. With PC2CDI, you can re-use up to 100% of your PowerCenter assets and business logic built over years of investment and convert your PowerCenter mappings to the cloud-native IDMC platform with complete fidelity. PC2CDI modernization services allow you to modernize your PowerCenter assets to cloud artifacts at your own pace — in iterations or phases — depending on your business priorities, budget and resources.

**PC2CDI Modernization Service** highlights include:

- Deep metadata insights with pattern recognition and recommendation

- Conversion of PowerCenter assets, including mappings, sessions and workflows

- Auto-repointing to cloud-native databases and data warehouses

- Test data generation and data validation
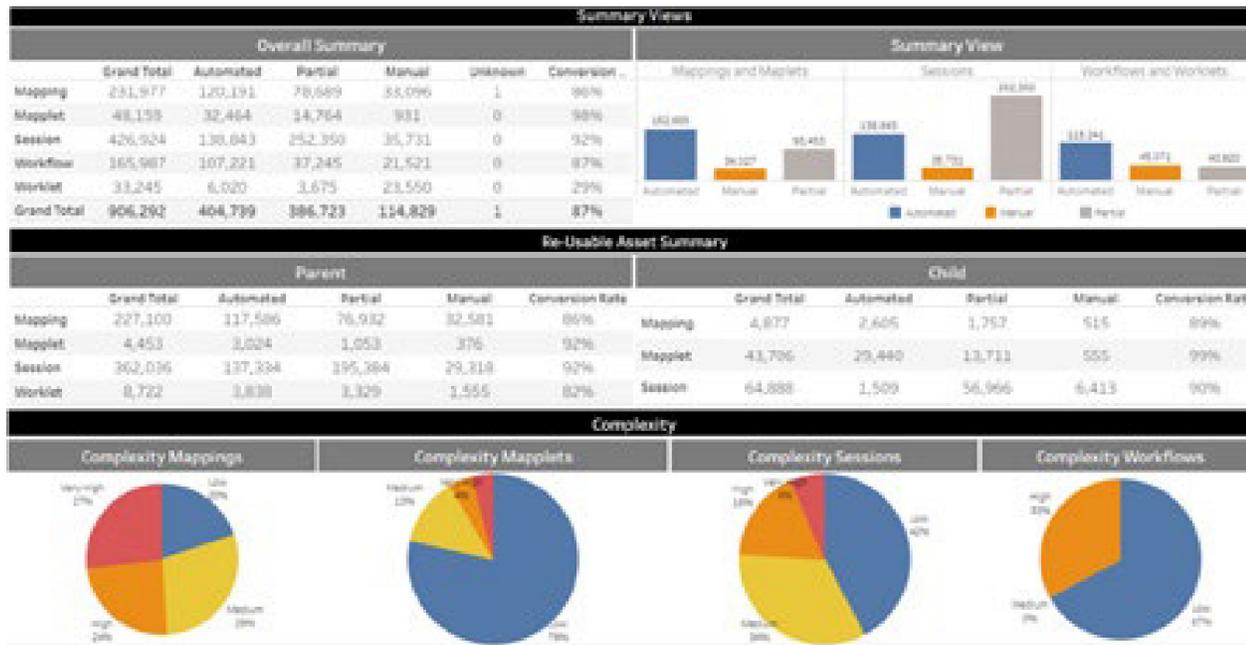
Figure 5. The PC2CDI Modernization service helps you gain a centralized and real-time view of your mappings and workflows on a single pane. This allows customers to understand their workloads deeply, and then the system provides an overlay of which workloads can be automated to migrate to CDI/IDMC.



Figure 6. Mapping Cluster Discovery increases the efficiency of PowerCenter admins and developers by providing an actionable view of the state of their mappings.

Figure 7. With an intuitive interface, AI-powered recommendations allow PowerCenter admins to create tasks and convert mappings quickly. Conversion tasks translate the PowerCenter metadata and migrate it to CDI in an automated manner.

**Step #3: Identify Data Anomalies with Cloud Data Validation for PowerCenter Modernization**

**Cloud Data Validation** capabilities allow you to rapidly identify data anomalies — such as missing, unmatched or extra records — and validate metadata conversion accuracy at the data level. This significantly reduces testing time and allows for faster production time for migration projects.

Cloud Data Validation highlights include:

• The ability to compare data sets side by side for easier viewing

• Exact and fuzzy matches

• Endpoint difference awareness

• Summary and detailed reporting

Figure 8. In Cloud Data Validation, you can compare data sets side-by-side for easier viewing and spot errors that may have occurred.



Figure 9. You can quickly determine which test results were successful in the test case report.

**Jumpstart Your Modernization Initiatives with the Starter Pack for PowerCenter Cloud Edition**

The opportunities are plentiful as you embark on your Informatica PowerCenter cloud modernization journey to deliver business value. To ensure that you realize accelerated time to value from the IDMC platform, we offer multiple 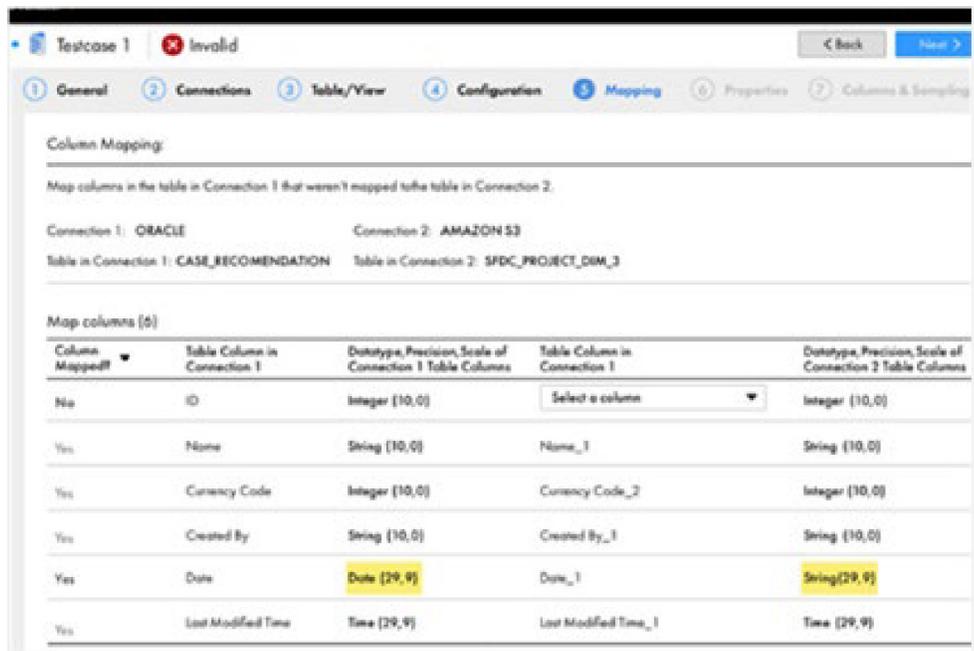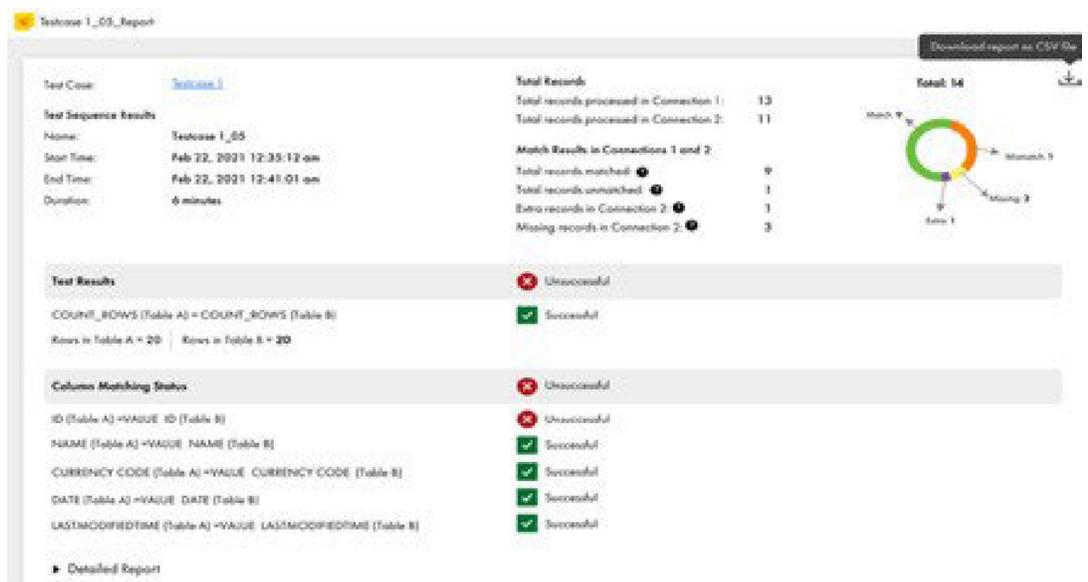technical guidance services you can leverage to deploy CDI-PC. With proper best practices, you can also utilize the PC2CDI Modernization self-service function to convert your PowerCenter assets to IDMC natively. Getting the right technical guidance service at the right time during your journey will help you modernize faster. With **Starter Pack**, Informatica assists you by proactively engaging the technical team, including a Modernization Success Manager (MSM), Modernization Factory Architect (MFA) and our Migration Factory delivery team.

With **this offering**, you will work with our experts to deploy PowerCenter on the cloud in one environment, plan for your modernization project and execute a pilot conversion. The Starter Pack consists of two major phases. Phase I focuses on the cloudification of PowerCenter by deploying CDI-PC. Phase II focuses on enabling your team to convert PowerCenter assets into native IDMC pipelines using the Informatica PC2CDI Modernization service.

| Starter Pack | |
|---|---|
| **CDI-PC Deployment** | **Asset Migration** |
| • Planning and Readiness<br>• Architecture Review (PwC & IDMC)<br>• Best Practices<br>• Security and 3rd Party Tool Integration<br>• PwC Administration in IDMC<br>• PwC Cloud Integration and Validation<br>• Production Deployment and Go-Live Assistance<br>• Access to Modernization Success Manager<br>• Knowledge Transfer | • IDMC Architecture Review<br>• Conversion Assessment Review<br>• Conversion Planning<br>• Conversion Execution*<br>• Unit Test and Data Validation Strategy<br>• Manual Asset Re-Design / Implementation Strategy & Guidance<br>• Expert Sessions*<br>• Perfofmance Tuning*<br>• Dedicated Office Hours* |
| **3 - 6 months** | |

*Delivery scope varies by Tier (See data sheet for more details)*
*Asset count will vary by customer tier*

Figure 10:  A breakdown of what's included in Starter Pack.

## Intelligent Migration Automation Capabilities

Combining automation tools, processes and Informatica expertise, Migration Factory analyzes your PowerCenter repositories to identify your mappings, sessions and workflows. The Migration Factory is divided into two parts – assess and migrate (see Figure 11). It estimates the work required to migrate and modernize your mappings and builds the foundation to develop a thorough migration plan. The Migration Factory can automatically convert most of your PowerCenter assets to IDMC. It also includes unit testing of converted assets.
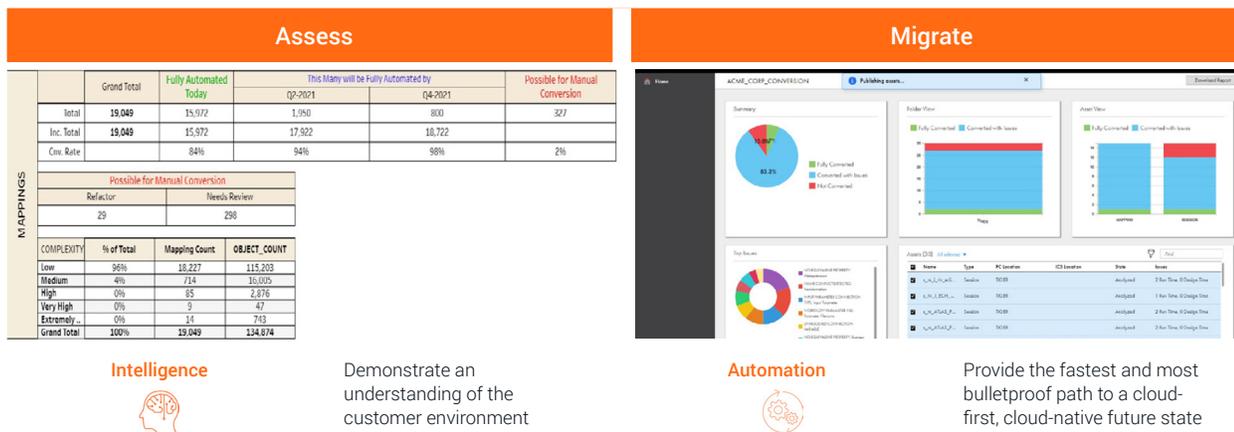


Figure 11: An overview of the Informatica Intelligent Migration Factory.

## Benefits of the Migration Factory Approach

The Migration Factory is the Informatica patented methodology for completing large-scale migrations to the cloud. It encompasses all the people, processes and tools that help an organization plan, execute and support workload migrations. In other words, Migration Factory blends the technical components of cloud migration with the business and human components. The top three key benefits of a Migration Factory approach are reduced migration time, cost and risk.

| Reduced Migration Time | Migration Cost | Reduced Migration |
|---|---|---|
| Automated migration utilities | Reduced time = less cost | Code generatiion = less errors |
| Migration Factory approach | Higher quality code = less rework | Predefined scope = less scope creep |
| Reduced time-to-market | Fewer development resources | Shorter duration = fewer scheduling challenges |

Figure 12: The benefits of the Informatica Migration Factory methodology.

Other benefits include:

### Financial Incentives

The Informatica PowerCenter Modernization Program includes financial incentives from Informatica and our partners as well as overage protection for side-by-side deployments.

### Informatica Professional Services

The solution also includes assessing your PowerCenter environment and repositories; developing a PowerCenter cloudification, conversion proposal and subsequent execution plan; detailing post-conversion steps; conducting unit testing; and undergoing knowledge transfer.

### Informatica Premier Customer Support

Your support from Informatica for PowerCenter continues as-is through your entire migration. This includes premium success support with access to adoption services, access to a customer success manager and critical milestone support.

## Chapter 2: Best Practices for Modernizing to the Cloud

Using the right approach is essential while modernizing from PowerCenter to IDMC. Here's the 10-step methodology Informatica uses.

1. Understand your organization

2. Assess your environment

3. Determine what's in scope for the cloudification and migration

4. Understand domain cloudification and conversion

5. Plan to do the required amount of testing

6. Understand key roles and responsibilities

7. Define the timeline for the complete modernization initiative

8. Set priorities for data asset migration

9. Understand dependencies

10. Establish proficiencies with IDMC

### Step 1: Understand your organization

Before you start your cloud modernization, it's essential to understand your own business. Depending on the business complexity, volume and line of business structure, you may want a centralized or decentralized approach for managing the PowerCenter workload migration and setting up your IDMC environment.

Ask yourself: How is data ownership currently distributed in your on-premises environment? Does a central team (such as an Integration Competency Center or ICC) manage the entire PowerCenter estate? Or is each business unit responsible for its own PowerCenter environment? Answering this question is essential as organizations typically organize the new data integration environment in the cloud like the on-premises environment. This approach speeds the deployment of the new cloud environment because it avoids the analysis and planning necessary to create a differently structured environment. When moving to the cloud, there is an opportunity to change your data consumption architecture. For example, with the cloud, you can become more decentralized.

Whether your organization structure is centralized or decentralized, IDMC presents an opportunity to modernize to an easy-to-manage and scalable solution that supports modern and futuristic architecture patterns for your hybrid and cloud data integration requirements.

Please refer to Appendix A for more details about centralized and decentralized organizations.

## Step 2: Assess your environment

First, you must assess your environment to identify exactly what PowerCenter assets you possess. This involves considering all your PowerCenter assets, including mappings, workflows, sessions, mapplets, worklets, etc. The Migration Factory helps you do this without disruption (see Figure 13).

Here is an example of the assessment dashboard, which includes:

- Percentage of specific asset types that can be migrated with automated conversion and how it will improve over time with subsequent releases of the Migration Factory

- Percentage of assets that require a manual review

- Complexity levels (Very High, High, Medium and Low) of assets based on complexity rules that include object counts, advanced and custom transformations, custom SQL overrides and OS commands/scripts

| Total Assets | Automated | Partial | Manual | Conversion Rate | Total PwC Scanned |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5,709 | 1,768 | 3,662 | 279 | 95% | 1,494 |

**Summary Views**

| Overall Summary | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Grand Total | Automated | Partial | Manual | Unknown | Conversion .. |
| Mapping | 1,782 | 893 | 790 | 99 | 0 | 94% |
| Mapplet | 191 | 42 | 149 | 0 | 0 | 100% |
| Session | 3,037 | 574 | 2,288 | 175 | 0 | 94% |
| Workflow | 531 | 204 | 322 | 5 | 0 | 99% |
| Worklet | 168 | 55 | 113 | 0 | 0 | 100% |
| Grand Total | 5,709 | 1,768 | 3,662 | 279 | 0 | 95% |



**Re-Usable Asset Summary**

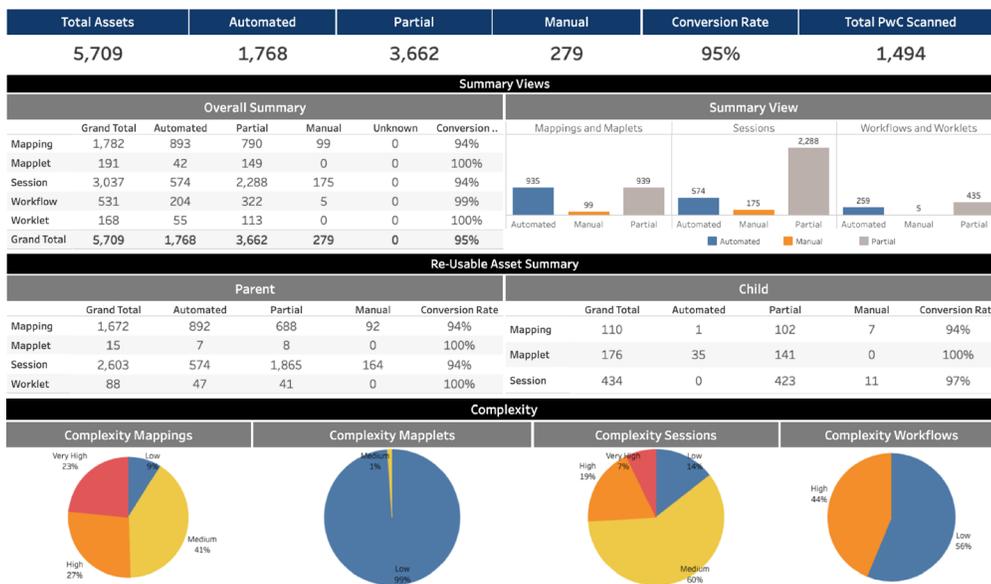| Parent | | | | | | Child | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Grand Total | Automated | Partial | Manual | Conversion Rate | | Grand Total | Automated | Partial | Manual | Conversion Rate |
| Mapping | 1,672 | 892 | 688 | 92 | 94% | Mapping | 110 | 1 | 102 | 7 | 94% |
| Mapplet | 15 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 100% | Mapplet | 176 | 35 | 141 | 0 | 100% |
| Session | 2,603 | 574 | 1,865 | 164 | 94% | Session | 434 | 0 | 423 | 11 | 97% |
| Worklet | 88 | 47 | 41 | 0 | 100% | | | | | | |

**Complexity**



Figure 13: The Migration Factory assessment dashboard shows mappings, workflows, sessions, mapplets, worklets, etc.

### Step 3: Determine what's in scope for the cloudification and conversion

Using **PowerCenter for Cloud Edition (PCCE)**, prepare your domain to be connected through IDMC to help you centrally manage and monitor your on-premises workloads. You can simply follow the existing upgrade playbook you have used in past upgrades. Once cloudification is complete, test and validate your workflows as normally in an upgrade exercise. Once this step is complete, you now have assets in IDMC that can be converted using the conversion utility available as part of the PCCE.

Before converting assets, remember that a few PowerCenter assets might become obsolete or redundant depending on your cloud migration strategy and roadmap. You should take the time to determine what assets are in scope for the migration. It's unlikely that every asset — each PowerCenter workflow, mapping and session — needs to be migrated. Do not waste time and resources bothering with assets that are no longer in use. These assets can be retired, and you don't want your new cloud-based data integration platform cluttered with unnecessary assets.

### Step 4: Understand what is covered by the Migration Factory — and what is not

Customers have reported that up to 99% of their existing PowerCenter assets can be migrated automatically with the Migration Factory. However, you might have some assets that can't be automatically converted. Although ideally, these represent a very small percentage of your overall PowerCenter environment, you must be prepared to manually redesign or rearchitect them to fit into your new cloud environment.

### Step 5: Plan to do the required amount of testing

You must realize the extent of the additional testing that must be done after data has been migrated and tested by the Migration Factory. This includes data validation testing, system integration testing, performance testing and more. This testing is required and is best performed by the people who understand the business logic and context of the assets in question. You should build test scripts to confirm your business functions are working as expected during the test cycle.

As with assets that are converted automatically, assets that have been redesigned or rearchitected must also be thoroughly tested by those who understand their business logic and technical aspects.

## Step 6: Understand key roles and responsibilities

If you work with an external partner on a modernization project, it's critical to be clear about the different roles and responsibilities.

Informatica runs the Migration Factory to convert the assets when engaged in a PowerCenter modernization project. But you must define precisely who is doing the related tasks for the modernization project.

Figure 14 outlines a chart of sample roles and responsibilities when working with Informatica. Figure 15 shows the collaborative relationship that we recommend.

| Project Role | Responsibilites | Commitment |
|---|---|---|
| **Executive Stakeholder** | • Project champion<br>• Escalation contact | As needed |
| **Project Manager** | • Collaborates with the Informatica Delivery Manager<br>• Organizes customer's resource activities, meetings and scheduling | Full-time |
| **Conversion Technical Lead** | • Primary technical contact<br>• Supplies technical artifacts to Informatica per project prerequisites<br>• Responsible for organization/secure agent configuration, data connections and/or sample data to support MF unit testing | Full-time |

Figure 14: Establishing roles and responsibilities in Migration Factory.

| | TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT | INSTALL CDI-PC | REGISTER CDI-PC | MANAGE CDI-PC |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Phase I - Cloudification of PowerCenter** | | | | |
| | Review PowerCenter Domain and Repositories | Deploy binaries to PC Domain | Integrate PowerCenter Domain and Secure Agent | |
| **Informatica Migration Factory\*** | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| **Partner** | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| **Customer** | | | ✓ | ✓ |

*\*Delivered through Starter Pack*

| | ASSES | PREPARE | CONVERT\* | | | VALIDATE | ORGANIZE | OPERATIONALIZE | TEST | OPTIMIZE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Phase II - PowerCenter to IDMC Conversion** | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Scope Work | Prepare IICS Environment | Automate Conversion | Manual Conversion | Conversion Finishing | Unit Testing | Mappings, Users, & Access control | Update Schedulers & Scripts | Data Validation & user Acceptance Testing | Performance Tuning & Best Practices |
| **Informatica Migration Factory** | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| **Partner** | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| **Customer** | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

*\*Asset Scope defined in Starter Pack*

Figure 15: A collaborative approach is taken between Informatica Migration Factory and a partner.

## Step 7: Define the timeline for the complete migration

To define your timeline, you need to lay out the steps to deployment. These range from establishing the all-important success metrics (Who will do this? How long will it take?) to completing the organization's readiness check to performing the migration.

There are three phases for migrating (see Figure 16): prerequisite, conversion and optimization.

**Prerequisite phase:** Assess and configure the IDMC environment, design the architecture and complete a pre-conversation readiness checklist.

**Migration phase:** Conversion and unit testing, data validations and deployments.

**Optimize phase:** Integration testing and unit testing until ready for production.
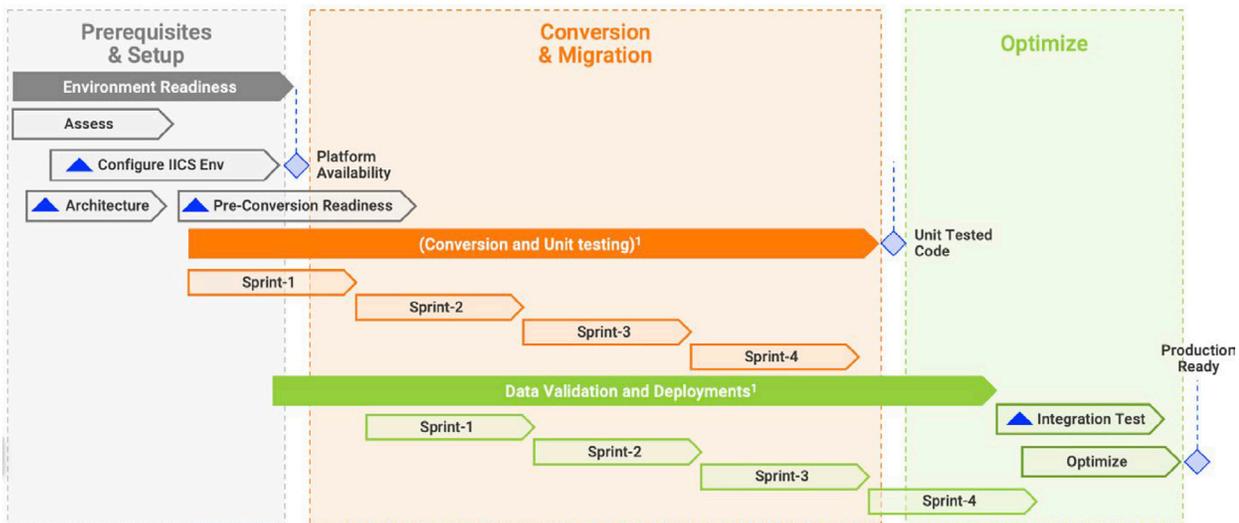


Figure 16: A sample migration plan lays out prerequisites, the migration and how to optimize.

## Step 8: Set priorities for data asset migration

Organizations must prioritize how they're moving to the cloud and in what stages. Sprints must be determined by business, subject area or folder and business priorities. Especially for centralized ICC implementations, aligning with the business units is critical to ensure the availability of business resources so they can provide the necessary material for the Migration Factory on time.

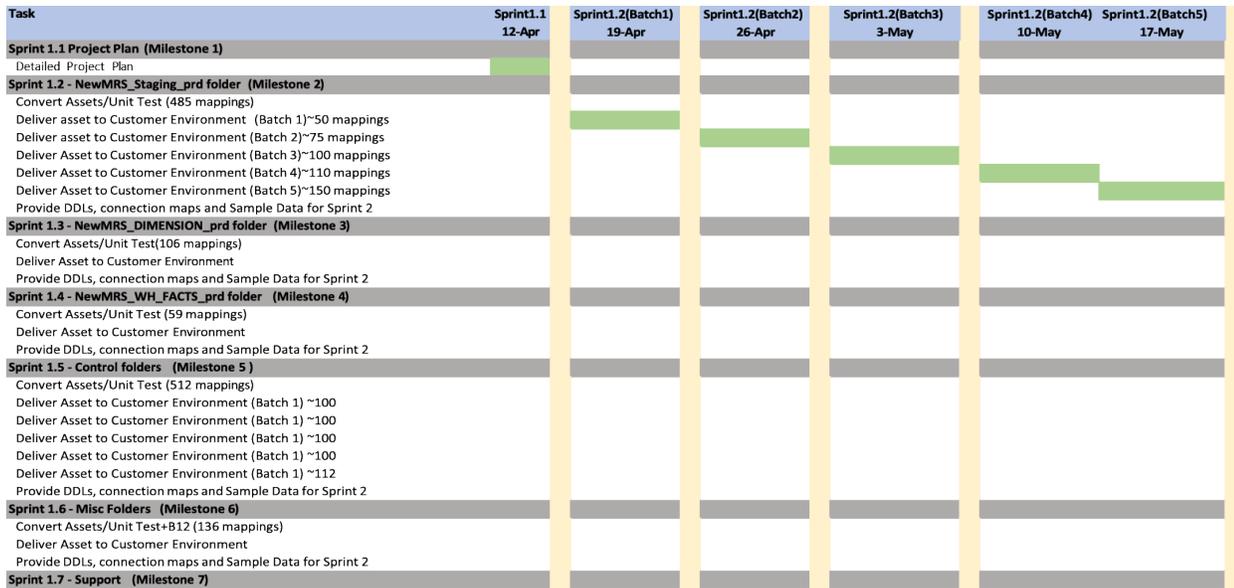| Task | Sprint1.1 12-Apr | Sprint1.2(Batch1) 19-Apr | Sprint1.2(Batch2) 26-Apr | Sprint1.2(Batch3) 3-May | Sprint1.2(Batch4) 10-May | Sprint1.2(Batch5) 17-May |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Sprint 1.1 Project Plan (Milestone 1)** | | | | | | |
| Detailed Project Plan | | | | | | |
| **Sprint 1.2 - NewMRS_Staging_prd folder (Milestone 2)** | | | | | | |
| Convert Assets/Unit Test (485 mappings) | | | | | | |
| Deliver asset to Customer Environment (Batch 1)~50 mappings | | | | | | |
| Deliver asset to Customer Environment (Batch 2)~75 mappings | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 3)~100 mappings | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 4)~110 mappings | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 5)~150 mappings | | | | | | |
| Provide DDLs, connection maps and Sample Data for Sprint 2 | | | | | | |
| **Sprint 1.3 - NewMRS_DIMENSION_prd folder (Milestone 3)** | | | | | | |
| Convert Assets/Unit Test(106 mappings) | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment | | | | | | |
| Provide DDLs, connection maps and Sample Data for Sprint 2 | | | | | | |
| **Sprint 1.4 - NewMRS_WH_FACTS_prd folder (Milestone 4)** | | | | | | |
| Convert Assets/Unit Test (59 mappings) | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment | | | | | | |
| Provide DDLs, connection maps and Sample Data for Sprint 2 | | | | | | |
| **Sprint 1.5 - Control folders (Milestone 5 )** | | | | | | |
| Convert Assets/Unit Test (512 mappings) | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 1) ~100 | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 1) ~100 | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 1) ~100 | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 1) ~100 | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment (Batch 1) ~112 | | | | | | |
| Provide DDLs, connection maps and Sample Data for Sprint 2 | | | | | | |
| **Sprint 1.6 - Misc Folders (Milestone 6)** | | | | | | |
| Convert Assets/Unit Test+B12 (136 mappings) | | | | | | |
| Deliver Asset to Customer Environment | | | | | | |
| Provide DDLs, connection maps and Sample Data for Sprint 2 | | | | | | |
| **Sprint 1.7 - Support (Milestone 7)** | | | | | | |

Figure 17: This shows a sample of a sprint prioritization plan.

Another critical point to note when establishing priorities is ensuring that prerequisites are completed two weeks before a sprint starts. Keep in mind that:

- 90% of all delays are due to missing database structures (views, tables, store procedures)

- Nested tables and views are generally missed since they are not referenced directly in Informatica

- Typically, data conversion lags from on-premises enterprise data warehouses to cloud data warehouses

- Scripts, .ini and parameter files are generally not available and cause delays.

We recommend aligning your sprints with database conversions, data population for streamlined unit tests and follow-on user acceptance testing to expedite the production readiness of assets converted.

### Step 9: Understand dependencies

There will always be dependencies with related technologies, components and utilities — like scheduling — that will determine how you proceed with your migration plan. For example, before migration, it's important that you finish training your ICC team, divide work into sprint packages and provide prerequisites to the conversion team. After migration, you must perform functional validation, user acceptance testing (UAT) and performance testing and tuning. Here is the list of dependencies for your reference during the pre-and post-conversion phases while working with the Informatica team:

**Pre-Conversion**

• Provision/architect the IDMC org

• Undergo training

• Provide prerequisites to the conversion team

• Divide work scope into sprint packages

• Provide access to all endpoint connections and Secure Agent via IDMC dev/sandbox org

**Post-Conversion**

• Functional validation

• UAT testing

• Performance testing and tuning

### Step 10: Leverage Informatica training resources to establish proficiencies with IDMC

Training is an essential part of modernization.

Plan to train your ICC professionals and business users to help with the modernization and migration. Informatica has many educational resources to help your team, from beginners to advanced PowerCenter users. Our **Primer Learning Path** takes you through everything from getting onboarded to getting started with the cloud, to best practices and certifications for those professionally motivated to learn as much as possible about IDMC.

Additionally, our **Informatica Success Portal** is for anyone who wants to understand the fundamental use cases and benefits of Informatica products (see Figure 18). The Informatica Sucess Portal hosts interactive **PowerCenter Modernization demos** that demonstrate technical aspects of the modernization offering and provide a glimpse of an intuitive, user-centered experience. To develop true Informatica subject matter experts within your organization, we recommend **Informatica University** as a resource.

| **Cloud Data Integration for PowerCenter Developers** | **Training & Certification** | **Plan Your Migration** | **Velocity Best Practices** |
|---|---|---|---|
| The all-new Cloud Data Warehouse Management Learning Path is designed for PowerCenter developers to help them navigate IDMC, understand its architecture, see how to perform common day-to-day integration tasks and get an introduction to new capabilities that IDMC provides compared to PowerCenter. | Learn the fundamentals of IDMC, including the architecture, data integration features, synchronization tasks, cloud mapping design, masking tasks and replication tasks through on-demand courses from Informatica University. | This document is intended for PowerCenter developers. It will take you through the prerequisites of your planned migration from PowerCenter to IDMC and will help you get started. | Get certified in a variety of foundational courses for free. These courses will surely give you an edge in your understanding of IDMC. |

Figure 18: A breakdown of the Informatica Success Portal.

## Chapter 3: Set Yourself Up for Success in the Cloud with Informatica

You are moving your analytics environment to the cloud to lower costs and achieve greater agility, scalability and flexibility. A foundational component of any analytics environment is data integration and management. Choosing the right platform is essential to meet those goals.

**Informatica PowerCenter Modernization program** is designed to jumpstart your cloud-first strategies by leveraging the workloads you've already built in PowerCenter. However, migrating the existing footprint to the cloud is only the beginning.

By adopting cloud-native data management, you will have access to various data management service on the IDMC platform to achieve your ongoing and evolving business objectives.

For example, within the **Informatica Success Portal** is our new **Cloud Data Integration for PowerCenter Developers learning path**, with resources designed for PowerCenter developers to help them understand how to navigate IDMC, understand its architecture and see how to perform everyday day-to-day integration tasks. They are also introduced to net-new capabilities that IDMC provides compared to PowerCenter. Visit the **IDMC Primer** for training and certification opportunities, including an Informatica Badge for Cloud Data Integration for PowerCenter Developers.

Even more importantly, you'll be able to take advantage of the new technologies and paradigms constantly emerging in the cloud world, including serverless computing, elastic computing and advanced pushdown optimization. And tools to ensure data quality, data governance and data cataloging, along with AI, can provide tremendous value in design and run-time. You need to be flexible enough to deploy these emerging innovations in data integration and management services when new projects arise or business requirements change.

Our pricing model lets you consume services based on the amount of capacity you need at any time for any service and from any source as your requirements change. We call this capacity the **Informatica Processing Unit (IPU)**. With IPU pricing, you're free to use a range of cloud services, across IDMC.

## Chapter 4: Next Steps for Modernizing from PowerCenter to IDMC

### Pre-engagement checklist

You need to finalize the engagement letter and sign the statement of work. The following also needs to be completed.

1. Start on-demand IDMC training

2. Gather Migration Factory prerequisites

3. Finalize the sprint priority list (Sprints determined by business/subject area/folder and business priorities)

4. Identify the project team, including the tech lead and project manager

### Architect and design phase checklist

1. Complete on-demand IDMC training

2. Set up org environments (users, secure agents, connections, etc.)

3. Attend best practices sessions for org and secure agents set up and configuration

4. Divide Migration Factory work scope into sprint packages

## Best practices checklist

To help you in your modernization journey, here are ten best practices, listed in sequential order, that you can use as a checklist to ensure your travels to the cloud go smoothly. Set up org environments (users, secure agents, connections, etc.)

- ☑ Understand your organization

- ☑ Assess your environment

- ☑ Determine what's in scope for the cloudification and migration

- ☑ Understand what is covered by Migration Factory — and what is not

- ☑ Plan to do the required amount of testing with relevant data

- ☑ Understand key roles and responsibilities

- ☑ Define the timeline for the complete migration

- ☑ Set priorities for data asset migration

- ☑ Understand dependencies

- ☑ Establish proficiencies with IDMC

## Next Steps

Contact us to get started with the Migration Factory. You can also explore resources about the Informatica PowerCenter Modernization program here.

## Appendix A: Considerations for Centralized vs. Decentralized Organizations

### Centralized organizations

In a centralized organization, business units provide their requirements to a centrally managed data integration team that owns the entire software development lifecycle (SDLC) for the business. Responsibility for applications, connections and Informatica code lies within this team (typically called the Integration Competency Center or ICC).

When modernizing an analytics environment in a centralized organization, the challenge is ensuring that business units are aligned and ready to sign off after user acceptance testing (UAT) so applications can be put into production. There is little reliance on business units other than application reporting and validation.

### Decentralized organizations

In a decentralized organization, each business unit is responsible for its own PowerCenter environment. The ICC still governs business units to ensure that best security practices and other critical deployment aspects are followed.

To modernize a decentralized setup, your ICC team must align the business units early and often to ensure their involvement during migration, validation and application and database readiness. Communication about the modernization effort must be a two-way street between business-unit modernization teams and the ICC to ensure the enterprise is on the right path to gain the efficiencies, agility and ROI promised by the new cloud data integration platform.

Decentralized business-unit teams must ensure that all prerequisites are sent to the ICC on time for the migration. In addition to migration efforts, teams must plan for IDMC enablement — since training is a crucial ingredient of success — and plan their future greenfield integration projects and new software adoption.

## Appendix B: IDMC Product Learning & Training

The Informatica Cloud Data Integration service (CDI) supports high-performance, scalable analytics with advanced transformations, enterprise-grade asset management and sophisticated data integration capabilities such as mass ingestion, pushdown optimization and workload orchestrations. You can improve and simplify your data integration processes with comprehensive and easy-to-use capabilities and designers.

The three levels of Informatica IDMC product learning include:

- **Beginner.** At the Beginner level, you get videos, webinars and other documentation introducing you to CDI, its architecture, secure agent requirements and installation, log files, tasks, connections and more.

- **Intermediate.** The Intermediate level explores many how-to's, whitepapers and videos along with product assets, components, architecture, mapping, administration, connectors and more.

- **Advanced.** The advanced level will help you develop expertise in Informatica Cloud Data Integration. It constitutes many videos, documents and articles that will take you through pushdown optimization with cloud ecosystems, mapping parameters, advanced transformation and advanced connectors.

# About Us

Informatica (NYSE: INFA) brings data and AI to life by empowering businesses to realize the transformative power of their most critical assets. When properly unlocked, data becomes a living and trusted resource that is democratized across your organization, turning chaos into clarity. Through the Informatica Intelligent Data Management Cloud™, companies are breathing life into their data to drive bigger ideas, create improved processes, and reduce costs. Powered by CLAIRE®, our AI engine, it's the only cloud dedicated to managing data of any type, pattern, complexity, or workload across any location — all on a single platform.

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