Data Modernization

Tame Your Agency’s Data Chaos

There is no shortage of data available. It’s what you’re able to do with it that counts.

Today, data arrives rapidly—in nearly any form, from almost anywhere—and requires multiple validation points before it becomes trusted and actionable. Increasingly dynamic, unstructured and social in nature, the flood of data across channels has created a muddy chaos for many federal agencies.

In response, agencies are fusing together a wide variety of data sources and leveraging new technology capabilities in order to gain the trusted insights they need. Unfortunately, many federal legacy data infrastructures don’t support data fusion and calibration in an efficient, secure manner. Speed and precision become tradeoffs against each other. National security requirements force a level of data protection and encryption that hasn’t previously been available in earlier data workflow technology.

A faster, easier integration and interrogation of data is required, one that reduces the number of points where human error or security risk can be introduced.

Your Path Toward Modernization

The first step is ensuring that you are on a platform that supports modern approaches to data management. But for many agencies, platform modernization is synonymous with expense and burden.

SAP National Security Services, Inc. (SAP NS2®) knows that modernization is not a one-size-fits-all solution. We can help your agency select the right option to meet your mission needs and your budget.

There are 4 initial steps we recommend our customers take to begin the modernization process:

- Migrating from legacy operating systems to future-proof operating systems
- Shifting from perpetual licensing to more flexible and affordable terms
- Migrating to an on-premises cloud or virtualized environment
- Migrating to a secure, managed cloud

Move from Legacy Operating System

Legacy operating systems, such as Oracle Solaris, have capably served the federal government for years. While they won’t disappear overnight, it’s time to start exploring alternatives for the software that runs on legacy systems. Migrating the SAP® Adaptive Server Enterprise® (SAP ASE) to Linux offers a straightforward approach to modernization and requires a minor lift. This migration can occur in a number of efficient, and cost-effective ways. SAP® offers tools such as SAP® Replication Server® that ensure minimal downtime and continuity of operations when replicating and syncing between your legacy system and Linux. Additionally, opting for a license that migrates you from a legacy system doesn’t limit you to a single operating system. SAP users can leverage innovative licensing that supports their movement of their SAP investment from one operating system to another, at any time. With these small investments, your agency can future-proof its software and realize benefits including portability across devices, excellent APIs, and improved performance speed.
Secure SAP HANA Cloud

Shifting from Perpetual Licensing to More Affordable Term

For many agencies, perpetual licensing was a way for paying for all of your software usage up front, with a fixed fee for maintenance. This model worked well when software releases were every year or longer, or when the software was delivered by fixed mediums, like CDs. With the fast-paced release of technology, the perpetual model no longer makes sense for government agencies. For a single, monthly term fee for their SAP ASE deployment, agencies can combine both costs into a single, monthly fee that delivers access to the latest technology, as well as bug fixes, patches, upgrades, and more. Customers are not locked into a specific maintenance tail, nor are they at risk of creating “shelfware.” With term licensing, they can ensure that their license spend can match the actual user count as their requirements fluctuate. Finally, term software can often be paid for with a different budget stream for most agencies, avoiding the lengthy procurement cycles associated with fixed asset procurement.

Move to an On-Premises Cloud

The cloud offers security and scalability that can’t be mirrored on other architectures, which is why agencies continue to adopt it as a way to step up their infrastructure modernization. Innovative licensing and solution offerings from SAP NS2 make it possible to migrate from older data systems to a cloud-based system that sits behind your agency’s firewall, leveraging all of the security that your agency has in place today. SAP NS2 can ensure that an on-premises migration happens quickly and effectively with minimal disruption to data operations and analysis. Agencies that opt for this modernization path experience greater agility in resource deployment and enhanced security through attribute-based controls and multifactor authentication.

Move to a Secure, Managed Cloud

If your agency is prepared to realize advanced data capabilities, it’s time to migrate to the Secure SAP HANA® Cloud, or the Secure SAP NS2 Cloud. The cloud offerings from SAP NS2 deliver unparalleled speed, data management, and data control. Agencies who engage the SAP NS2 Clouds have access to secure solutions that foster true multi-INT queries and analysis, including the SAP® Data Hub. Able to scale limitlessly and perform in a truly platform agnostic manner, the secure SAP NS2 Cloud deployments meet any number of hardware, storage, networks, security, operating system, and database needs. Additionally, the SAP NS2 Cloud has the security and compliance requirements that your agency mandates, all backed by 100% U.S. citizens on U.S. soil. It means that your agency can spend less time worrying about IT, and more time on the mission.

Summary

Data platform modernization is a necessity for agencies. But not all modernization is painful, or expensive. By equipping your agency with current infrastructure and solutions that deliver a single source of truth, your agency can continue to deliver the full range of insight needed for mission success. Regardless of which path you choose, SAP NS2 can support your agency throughout the modernization process.