PETAGREP
SYSTEMS

>_ CHECKLIST

VMware migration readiness checklist

34 checks across eight areas. Work through them before you commit to a target platform or a migration date.

01 Inventory and dependencies

- [ ] Export a full inventory: VMs, hosts, clusters, datastores, networks and templates
- [ ] Record each VM's OS, vCPU, memory, disks, firmware (BIOS or UEFI) and hardware version
- [ ] Map application dependencies and the traffic between VMs
- [ ] Flag VMs that use VMware-specific features: vGPU, RDMs, Fault Tolerance, vSAN policies, NSX
- [ ] Note VMs with snapshots, encrypted disks or independent disks

02 Licensing and contracts

- [ ] Current VMware licence and support end dates
- [ ] Renewal quote under the subscription model, for comparison
- [ ] Third-party software licensed per host, socket or VM that may be affected
- [ ] Migration budget and decision deadline agreed

03 Target platform

- [ ] Capacity requirements: CPU, memory, storage capacity and performance, with growth
- [ ] High availability and maintenance requirements
- [ ] Storage design chosen: Ceph, ZFS or external SAN/NAS
- [ ] Container plans for the next two to three years (Proxmox VE or OpenShift Virtualization)
- [ ] Team skills reviewed and a training plan in place

04 Networking

- [ ] VLANs, port groups and distributed switch settings documented
- [ ] IP addressing, firewall rules and load balancers captured
- [ ] Replacement planned for any NSX features in use, such as micro-segmentation

05 Backup, DR and ransomware protection

- [ ] Backup software supports the target platform
- [ ] Immutable, air-gapped backup copy designed
- [ ] Restores tested on the target platform before migration
- [ ] DR runbooks updated, with RPO and RTO confirmed

06 Security and compliance

- [ ] Hardening baseline defined for hosts and the management plane
- [ ] Role-based access and MFA for administrators
- [ ] Audit logs forwarded to your SIEM
- [ ] Compliance evidence your auditors will ask for identified

07 Migration plan

- [ ] Pilot workloads chosen
- [ ] Waves grouped by dependency and business owner
- [ ] Maintenance windows agreed with application owners
- [ ] Rollback plan written for every wave
- [ ] Validation tests defined for each application

08 After go-live

- [ ] Monitoring and alerting in place on the new platform
- [ ] Runbooks handed over and knowledge transfer completed
- [ ] Go-live support and contacts agreed
- [ ] VMware hosts and licences decommissioned on schedule