

ViON Mainframe-as-a-Service (MFaaS) Offering

Today's Mainframe Environment – Answering Legacy Challenges

Managing a complex mainframe infrastructure to support growth is a significant burden in terms of staff time, costs and capacity. Moreover, while legacy applications are sometimes decades old, mainframe platforms are often at the forefront of technology. Numerous IT initiatives call for consolidation of widespread scale-out compute resources to increase efficiency and reduce costs. And now, Cloud First directives challenge government agencies and private enterprises who find it difficult to obtain capital funds to upgrade or replace these systems. Ironically, the mainframe is the original consolidated platform, arriving before the advent of distributed architecture. The pendulum has swung, causing IT executives to wonder what the best course of action is for their mainframes.

ViON's Mainframe-as-a-Service (MFaaS) is a subscription service that offers IT organizations an alternative to re-orient existing mainframe infrastructure – compute, storage and networking – allowing scaling of a mainframe's capacity to align with an organization's unique requirements.

Achieving Mainframe Modernization

Mainframes are called upon to perform daily, critical and data intensive functions in banking, commerce, insurance, government and society in general.

As upgrading or replacing this workhorse technology can be expensive, many organizations delay upgrades and don't take advantage of technological advancements or lower software costs. This results in higher maintenance costs and potentially frequent failures caused by the prolonged service time of electronics.

Meanwhile, workload demands outpace resources, and many organizations face challenges finding a qualified work force with relevant skill sets – particularly as large numbers of experienced programmers approach retirement. Some organizations "freeze" their mainframes and stop adding new applications. Given the critical functions of the mainframe, this can lead to unnecessary operational risks.

Top of mind for many IT departments today is how they can meet the needs for services fulfilled by mainframes while staying within budget and maintaining efficiency. ViON MFaaS helps enterprises keep pace with the IT modernization of mainframes by utilizing an as-a-Service financial model and support program.

Mainframe as-a-Service Benefits: Financial Benefits

ViON's MFaaS enables an enterprise to transform its financial structure from a capital budget expense model (CapEx) to an operational budget expense model (OpEx). ViON owns and operates the mainframe infrastructure while the client subscribes to mainframe services on a monthly basis – paying only for the capacity installed and activated.

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Mainframe systems utilization typically are very cyclical. MFaaS allows an organization to accurately forecast operational expenses and effectively manage its mainframe budget as a predictable and manageable operating expense.

ViON provides the mainframe infrastructure – which can include z System, DASD storage, tape subsystem, and networking equipment – while assuming all financial risks. This avoids the need to allocate precious capital resources to upgrade mainframe infrastructure. Additionally, ViON relieves the challenges of hardware maintenance costs, support services and negotiating with OEM vendors for hardware maintenance.

Finally, ViON's MFaaS offers a unique year-in-service payment reduction program, which lowers the total cost of IT modernization in the out-years, thus decreasing customers' costs on an ongoing basis

Operational Benefits

MFaaS enables government agencies and private enterprises to be more flexible, agile and responsive to their internal user communities and external stakeholders – while avoiding technology obsolescence. System migration costs can be significantly reduced with ViON's MFaaS by scaling up the migration target system while scaling down the legacy system to diminish duplicative costs.

ViON's simplified procurement process reduces time to acquisition and enhances operational efficiency. It allows customers to avoid complicated bills of materials and the need to award a maintenance contract. Organizations can acquire infrastructure without buying excess capacity –with a simple, fast and easy acquisition process.

ViON customers enjoy a comprehensive SLA for performance accountability. ViON prides itself on a customer intimacy model which provides clients with a single point of contact for infrastructure services. Working with ViON minimizes the clients' time and effort and allows teams to attend to more innovative and strategic delivery of services.

Cloud Policy Benefits

Organizations can now meet Cloud First mandates while improving service delivery and enjoying a pay-as-you-go cloud model. ViON's MFaaS offering repositions the mainframe into a cloud services platform, and the infrastructure can remain on premises or go off premises.

ViON at a Glance

Designing and implementing innovative solutions that meet dramatically changing IT requirements is ViON's mission. Founded in 1980, we've grown from a small product reseller into a leading systems integrator delivering customized solutions and best of breed offerings from the world's premier OEMs to large public and private organizations. Known for our engineering expertise and exacting standards, ViON ensures that only those with the highest level of training, experience and industry certifications design, install, maintain and support our breadth of solutions.

Learn more about ViON MFaaS by visiting www.vion.com/cloud