![SYNTAX]

Escaping VMware Uncertainty

Your guide to turning Broadcom turbulence into a strategy for modernization and cloud choice

- Understand how Broadcom's VMware changes impact cost predictability, risk, and support certainty.

- See a clear path from VMware uncertainty to modern, cloud-ready infrastructure—without a forced "big bang" move.

- Learn how Syntax assessments, roadmaps, and funded programs can help deliver up to 66% savings.

- Discover why AWS, OCI, Azure, and GCP are options within one strategy—not separate, competing bets.

Executive Summary

For years, VMware has been the backbone of enterprise infrastructure. Following Broadcom's acquisition of VMware, many organizations are experiencing a new and confusing mix of licensing complexity, pricing changes, and uncertainty around VMware support continuity, entitlements, and future support terms. What used to be a routine renewal conversation can now carry real financial and operational risk.

Leaders want clarity and choice. They need more predictable economics, less exposure to licensing surprises, and an infrastructure strategy that enables modernization—without forcing a rushed "big bang" migration or a passive "wait and see" approach.

Syntax provides that structure and expertise, as shown by our partner designations:

- Managed services partner across AWS, Azure, Google Cloud Platform (GCP), and Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI)

- AWS Premier Tier and Managed Service Provider

- OCI Cloud Service Provider (CSP) and Strategic Managed Service Provider (SMSP)

Syntax helps organizations assess risk, evaluate funded programs, choose the right cloud destination, and execute a structured assessment-to-roadmap journey with minimal disruption.

Syntax has helped organizations achieve up to 66% savings through funded migration and modernization programs.

Why VMware Strategy Has Reached a Tipping Point

So what do you do now? Delaying may be risky, but moving forward seems risky, too.

The Broadcom Reality

Broadcom's acquisition of VMware has reshaped the economic and operational landscape for customers. Many organizations are seeing:

- Significant cost increases and more complex commercial terms
- Reduced flexibility to license and consume VMware in ways that match actual usage
- Uncertainty around VMware support continuity and future support terms
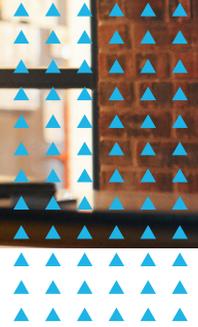
The Hidden Risk of "Doing Nothing"

Renewing for another year can feel safer than change, but it can create exposure due to:

- Budget shocks as renewal structures shift
- Audit and compliance risk when usage and licensing rules are difficult to interpret
- Growing technical debt as modernization gets postponed
- Widening skills gaps as teams are stretched between legacy operations and cloud-native initiatives

Why a Structured Exit Strategy Matters

The VMware decision is no longer just "renew or not." It's about shaping an exit strategy from uncertainty—whether that means exiting VMware entirely, reducing exposure, or moving VMware-based workloads into a more predictable, license-free cloud model. The strongest strategies start with data, balance short-term risk mitigation with long-term modernization, and include hyperscaler funding options to reduce the pain of migration.

That's the foundation of Syntax's VMware Modernization Services.

What Good Looks Like: Your Future-Ready Infrastructure

A future-ready environment doesn't just relocate VMware. It improves cost control, resilience, and modernization readiness.

Cloud-Ready, Not Just Cloud-Hosted

A future-ready infrastructure is rightsized for real workload needs (not outdated assumptions) and creates a path to cloud-native services when you're ready. In practical terms, it means evaluating VMware workloads and placing each application where it fits best based on performance requirements, data gravity, and the cloud services that support the workload.

Built for Resilience and Cyber Security

Future-ready environments use cloud patterns for availability, recovery, and security. This can include:

- High Availability (HA)/Disaster Recovery (DR) across regions and availability zones or domains

- Modern backup and recovery architectures

- Security controls integrated with cloud-native identity, monitoring, and threat detection

Designed for Flexibility, Not Lock-In

The goal going forward should be choice: the ability to place workloads on the right cloud, modernize over time at a business-supported pace, and mix VMware-based workloads, cloud-native services, and SaaS within a single, well-governed architecture.

Checklist: Are You at Risk from Broadcom Licensing Changes?

- Renewal date within the next 12–18 months

- Significant growth in VMware usage over the last 3–5 years

- Limited visibility into actual license consumption

- Heavy reliance on legacy contracts or special discounting

- Pressure from finance to reduce infrastructure costs

- Upcoming CAPEX-intensive hardware refreshes

- Recent security events or increased cyber-risk concerns

- A data center exit roadmap on the horizon

- Staffing impacts and skills gaps affecting platform operations

The Syntax VMware Modernization Approach

Defining and executing a realistic plan is the go-forward path to success. Syntax's VMware Modernization Services translate Broadcom era uncertainty into a clear, business-aligned plan using a repeatable three-step approach.

Step 1: Rapid Impact Assessment

For organizations that need answers quickly, Syntax offers a funded, non-intrusive VMware Rapid Impact Assessment delivered in a short time frame. It inventories VMware workloads and dependencies, establishes visibility into performance and usage, surfaces licensing exposure and risk, and identifies high-value candidates for migration or modernization.

The output is a stakeholder-ready snapshot of the current state and the most actionable opportunities—especially in the context of Broadcom licensing and support changes—paired with a modernization roadmap to guide next steps.

Initial discovery requires minimal time from your IT team, so they stay focused on core operations while Syntax does the heavy lifting.

Step 2: Comprehensive Modernization Assessment

When you're ready to define a full exit strategy, Syntax provides a comprehensive Modernization Assessment that analyzes your environment from a full-stack, 360-degree view. It covers network, compute, and storage; databases, operating systems, and application dependencies; and licensing and contractual obligations. .
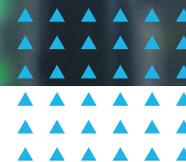
To identify paths to cloud-native services for greater agility, the analysis includes:

- Optimization and licensing assessments to improve performance and maximize resource efficiency

- Best-fit hyperscaler program analysis (securing funding for assessments, architectural reviews, migrations, and modernization)

- Performance profiling and contractual dependency reviews to support workload planning

- Rightsizing recommendations

- Modernization assessments for operating systems, databases, storage, and applications

Step 3: Curated Wave Plans and a Migration Roadmap

Assessment insights only matter when they become an executable plan. Syntax builds curated wave plans that sequence workloads into migration waves designed around business criticality, risk, dependencies, and your change calendar—then delivers a high-level migration roadmap with indicative timelines, platform decisions, and modernization opportunities such as database or OS upgrades and moves to managed services.

Rapid Impact Assessment
↓
Modernization Assessment
↓
Wave Plans & Roadmap

Your Cloud Options Within One Strategy

With the approach clear, the next question is destination. The goal isn't to force multi-cloud—it's to keep cloud choice so workloads land where they best support the business. Syntax helps customers compare options inside one unified strategy rather than pushing a single cloud or solution.

How Syntax Helps You Choose the Right Landing Zone

Syntax evaluates existing cloud investments and enterprise agreements, workload and application affinity (for example, SAP or Oracle), performance and regional requirements, and the funding and commercial programs available from each provider. That analysis aligns VMware exits to the right destination—whether that's one cloud, hybrid, or multi-cloud.

When AWS Might Be the Right Fit

As an AWS Premier Tier and Managed Service Provider partner with 15+ years' VMware experience, Syntax supports customers who want to lean into AWS for their VMware exit. AWS funded migration and modernization programs can contribute to the up to 66% savings achievable through funded initiatives. Syntax brings experience migrating mission-critical VMware workloads to AWS with optimization and rightsizing built in, plus integration with AWS native services for databases, containers, analytics, and security.

When OCI Might Be the Right Fit

For organizations with a deep Oracle footprint or latency-sensitive database workloads, OCI can be a compelling option. Syntax is a premier managed services partner for OCI and an OCI Cloud Service Provider (CSP) and Strategic Managed Service Provider (SMSP), enabling both technical execution and access to program and commercial advantages. OCI program analysis can accelerate migration while saving money, including securing funding for assessments, architectural reviews, migrations, and modernization. OCI also supports designs that place VMware workloads close to Oracle applications and databases for performance and licensing optimization, with commercial benefits leveraging OCI CSP/SMSP programs.

Where Azure and GCP Fit Into the Picture

Beyond AWS and OCI, Syntax supports modernization across Azure and GCP. These platforms may be the right fit when workloads or data services are already embedded there, when regional or compliance requirements influence the decision, when specific capabilities (including AI/ML) matter, or when enterprise agreements and strategic alignment are already in place.

One VMware strategy. Multiple cloud options. Syntax helps you choose, not guess.

Planning for a Successful Execution

Cloud strategy only becomes real when stakeholders can see the outputs and outcomes. Syntax's VMware Modernization Services move from analysis to action—delivering outputs designed to drive decisions, unlock funding, and guide execution.

Tangible Deliverables You Can Act On

With our services, customers receive:

- An optimization and licensing assessment (resource consumption, licensing exposure, and efficiency recommendations)

- Best-fit program and funding analysis (hyperscaler-funded programs and incentives to improve ROI)

- Workload and dependency mapping (application/infrastructure relationships, performance profiles, and contractual constraints)

Syntax also delivers:

- Rightsizing guidance for compute, storage, and networking

- High-level migration roadmap and wave plan aligned to maintenance windows, business events, and risk tolerance

- Modernization paths for operating systems, middleware, databases, storage, and applications

Organizations may choose to adopt managed databases, containers, or SaaS as their business is ready.

Business-Ready Outputs and Outcomes

Our reports are targeted to IT teams and executive leadership. Syntax provides executive-level summaries of cost, risk, and options; clear "what-if" scenarios across AWS, OCI, Azure, and GCP; and an action plan for the next 30–60 days to maintain momentum.

Outcomes are aligned to what leaders care about: improved cost predictability, reduced exposure to licensing and support uncertainty, reduced vendor lock-in risk through cloud choice, and a future-ready foundation that supports modernization on the organization's timeline. Where funded programs apply, organizations can realize meaningful savings—up to 66% in some cases—while reducing risk and improving agility.

VMware exit isn't just about leaving—it's about building a foundation for cost control, resilience, and modernization.

Start Your VMware Exit Strategy with Syntax

If Broadcom era changes are impacting cost predictability and support certainty, acting early helps you regain control and avoid unnecessary disruption. Syntax combines VMware expertise, multi-cloud depth, and decades of enterprise experience into a partner relationship built for long-term outcomes, from assessment through steady-state managed services.

With Syntax services, a practical first 30–60 days often looks like this:

Weeks 1–2

Deliver the VMware Rapid Impact Assessment to establish a data-driven baseline of your environment, risks, and options.

Weeks 3–4

Translate findings into modernization and platform recommendations, including funding opportunities and clear scenarios across AWS, OCI, Azure, and GCP.

Weeks 5–8

Finalize wave plans and the roadmap, align on the business case, and kick off execution with an operating model built for momentum.

To get started, request a VMware Rapid Impact Assessment and talk with a Syntax advisor about funded VMware migration and modernization programs across AWS, OCI, Azure, and GCP.

Why Syntax

Syntax helps VMware customers cut through the Broadcom era uncertainty with a practical modernization journey—guiding workloads to the right destination (cloud, hybrid, or multi-cloud) to reduce financial exposure and vendor lock-in, and deliver future-ready infrastructure.

- **50 years of experience delivering technology solutions**

- **900+ customers worldwide**

- **300+ successful migration projects, including complex VMware and ERP workloads**

- **Hundreds of certifications: 400+ AWS, 950+ Oracle, 250+ Microsoft, and 30+ GCP**

- **Boutique @ Scale methodology: Personalized service combined with enterprise grade capabilities**

- **End-to-End Partnership: Strategic advisory through managed services, delivering measurable results and long-term success.**

About Syntax

Syntax is a leading global technology solutions provider driving enterprise transformation in the cloud. We help organizations modernize mission-critical applications through AI-enabled innovation, industry-tailored outcomes, and end-to-end solutions across strategic advisory, implementation, and managed services. Through our Boutique @ Scale approach, we blend boutique-level agility and care with the reach and resilience of a global enterprise. Supported by strategic partnerships with Oracle and other technology leaders, we empower customers to scale faster, work smarter, and build for what's next. Learn more at syntax.com.