NCI with External Storage Readiness

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At-a-Glance

Stage: Plan

The Nutanix Cloud Infrastructure (NCI) with External Storage Readiness provides a thorough assessment of your existing or planned external storage environment and workloads to ensure seamless integration with Nutanix Compute clusters.

Designed as a strategic step in your unified hybrid cloud journey, especially during the Assessment phase, the engagement focuses on:

- Evaluating compatibility between your external storage and NCI
- Validating integration prerequisites
- Exploring workload migration strategies
- Outlining operational and maintenance considerations for NCI with External Storage

This engagement is particularly valuable when migrating critical workloads to a new virtualization option for the most demanding workloads running on external storage.

Related Services

- Infrastructure Design
- Infrastructure Deployment
- NCI with External Storage Integration
- Virtual Machine Migration Planning
- Virtual Machine Migration

Service Scope

The NCI with External Storage Readiness begins with a discovery session led by certified Nutanix consultants who bring deep technical expertise and real-world experience. This session is designed to deliver immediate value to your infrastructure and storage teams by:

- Gaining a clear strategic view of your current or planned external storage environment through a structured review of architecture, workloads, and service-level agreements (SLAs)
- Identifying potential integration challenges early, helping you avoid costly delays and disruptions
- Aligning your workloads with Nutanix-recommended practices to enhance performance, resiliency, and operational efficiency
- Providing tailored guidance for optimizing an existing deployment or planning a greenfield implementation

Using insights from a pre-engagement questionnaire, consultants guide your teams through a detailed evaluation of your external storage environment. For greenfield scenarios, they also assess the proposed architecture to ensure it's ready for NCI integration.

Next, the engagement focuses on target workloads being considered for migration to external storage. Through close collaboration with customer architecture, virtualization, and storage stakeholders, consultants uncover pain points and assess integration readiness.

By the end of the assessment, customer infrastructure teams will:

- Gain actionable recommended practices for integrating external storage with NCI, tailored to your operational requirements
- Receive expert recommendations on how to migrate workloads efficiently while maintaining performance and business continuity

The service includes the following activities:

- Present an overview of NCI with External Storage, including recommended practices for successful integration
- Review operational procedures for NCI with External Storage, including patching and maintenance
- Assess compatibility requirements between the existing External Storage Array and Nutanix Compute cluster
- Evaluate the existing network topology and connectivity requirements for External Storage and NCI integration
- Develop a plan for recommended migration paths and workload transition methodologies for existing workloads
- Review data protection and business continuity considerations for NCI with External Storage
- Validate sizing based on workload details provided by the customer
- Develop an Implementation Plan aligned with technical requirements

Project Management

Nutanix Project Management (PM) oversees Nutanix resources and aligns execution with your goals, scope, and timelines.

Core project management activities may include the following:

- Serve as a single point of contact for all project communication
- End-to-end Nutanix resource management
- Coordinate change window(s) and implementation schedules with customer
- Track and facilitate readiness and prerequisite completion
- Conduct project kickoff/technical readiness meeting(s)
- Integrate customer resources into the high-level project timeline
- Send status update(s)
- Manage timeline(s)
- Deliver created artifacts to the customer
- Facilitate project closeout activities

Limitations

- For each quantity purchased, assessment is limited to a single production environment at a single physical site
- Excludes detailed migration planning
- Excludes deployment and migration

Supported Hypervisors

- Nutanix AHV

Supported External Storage Arrays

- Dell PowerFlex
- Dell PowerStore
- Everpure FlashArray

Project Management

- Excludes scheduling customer resources and activities
- Excludes detailed project plan (schedule) development and management
- Excludes responsibility for creating, managing, or delivering change management communications

Prerequisites

- Completed NCI with External Storage Questionnaire

Required Product Licenses

- None

Delivered Artifacts

Delivered Artifacts will be provided in English only. Delivery in additional languages must be mutually agreed upon in writing by both parties in advance and may be subject to additional fees.

Delivered Artifact	Description
Readiness Report	Documents the outcomes of the session, capturing current-state assessments, requirements, constraints, risks, dependencies, and identified gaps. The report provides clear findings and recommendations to determine readiness and guide next steps for successful implementation.
Implementation Plan	Defines the recommended approach for implementing the infrastructure with external storage, detailing scope, sequencing, roles and responsibilities, dependencies, risks, and key milestones to support a controlled and predictable implementation.

Level of Effort

Typically up to 2 days

Delivery Type

Delivery Type	Delivery Activities
Virtual	• Virtual planning session • Virtual documentation • Virtual project management Note: Any in-person project management activities provided solely at Nutanix's discretion
In-person	• In-person planning session • Virtual documentation • Virtual project management Note: Any in-person project management activities provided solely at Nutanix's discretion

Related Products

- Nutanix Cloud Infrastructure (NCI)

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