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## Highlights

- Provides a thorough software-defined network readiness assessment
  - Helps identify and close gaps between current and desired future state, and delivers a prioritized roadmap to help balance cost and benefits
  - Offers full lifecycle services and unbiased knowledge of various network technologies, and relationships with leading technology providers
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# Software-defined network strategy and assessment

*Strategize and assess your environment for hybrid cloud and IT-as-a-Service*

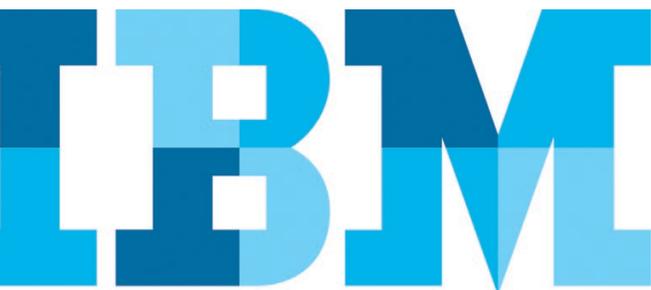
If you're considering a software-defined network (SDN) environment, you already know the benefits it can provide—increased agility, faster application innovation, rapid app migration and modernization, successful cloud and IT-as-a-service deployments and improved security to name a few. But while a SDN solution can help deliver the innovation your business needs, designing and deploying it can be a daunting challenge. And you may not have the time to explore all SDN technology options and choose one that meets business needs and is right for your business.

IBM Network Consulting Services – SDN strategy and assessment helps you create and plan for implementing a SDN. We provide an in-depth readiness assessment and detailed strategy roadmap, customized to your business and IT environment. And you can rely on our seasoned professionals to advise you at every stage on best-fit solutions designed to harmonize costs with benefits and help you realize the full potential a SDN can offer.

## Providing a time-tested methodology for assessing your SDN readiness

IBM Network Consulting Services – SDN strategy and assessment uses a consultative approach that begins with a series of interviews, surveys and a workshop to develop a thorough understanding of your requirements and current environment. We use a time-tested scorecard methodology that measures your objectives against your SDN readiness, with a focus on identifying and defining specific data elements unique to your environment.

We deliver a readiness dashboard that addresses technology, business, process and skills alignment based on your technology attributes, network architecture, network segmentation and infrastructure. We also integrate and consider your business requirements, current-state process attributes, level of automation and operations, and depth of skill and resource availability.



## Providing a prioritized roadmap

In order to identify and close the gaps between your current state and desired future state and create a roadmap that harmonizes costs with benefits, we:

- Develop the solution requirements and strategy
- Align business with IT, focusing on high-level transformation to help ensure that your former environment will co-exist and harmonize with your new one
- Identify connectivity performance and capacity issues, features and functionality
- Provide a client-centric unbiased view of multiple SDN technologies to help leverage your best-fit components
- Include specific recommendations based on our analysis of data during the assessment phase—as well as industry insight, experience and lessons learned from previous SDN engagements—and guiding principles upon which your business is focused and wants to achieve through a SDN
- Develop a detailed roadmap to help you achieve your goals

## Offering an end-to-end SDN solution, from assessment through management

We can provide lifecycle services, from strategy and assessment, to design and deployment, to ongoing monitoring and management of your SDN environment. Our holistic approach across IT helps ensure that your teams—including networking, systems, storage, cloud, operations, security and application development—work together synergistically, and can take full advantage of your SDN environment.

## Why IBM?

Our expertise, experience and proven reference architecture coupled with our unbiased point of view on multiple SDN technologies helps us find the best solution for you. With cloud-based leadership, relationships with leading technology providers and a robust enterprise IT framework, we help you transform to hybrid cloud-based networks. And our Client Innovation Centers help reduce risk of deployment by testing multiple SDN technologies in a near-real environment to help integrate best-fit technology.

## For more information

To learn more about the IBM Network Consulting Services – SDN strategy and assessment, please contact your IBM representative, or visit the following website: [ibm.com/services/us/en/it-services/networking-services/software-defined-network/](http://ibm.com/services/us/en/it-services/networking-services/software-defined-network/)

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