



# Simplifying and standardising complex global IT estates

Optimising Azure at scale for DCC

## The Challenge

DCC, a diverse international group, faced a significant challenge: managing and optimising a rapidly expanding Azure environment across more than 50 separate environments. With varying levels of cloud maturity and decentralised operations, DCC needed a scalable, secure, and cost-effective solution to align its cloud strategy with group-wide IT principles.

DCC's businesses operate with a high degree of autonomy, a deliberate strategy to foster agility and innovation in local markets. However, this decentralisation led to fragmented cloud adoption, with 50–60% of businesses using Azure in varying capacities. How could DCC support its businesses effectively while some were beginning their cloud journey, while others had fully migrated?

The rapid growth in Azure usage exposed gaps in governance, cost optimisation, and security. DCC recognised the need for a robust framework that could:

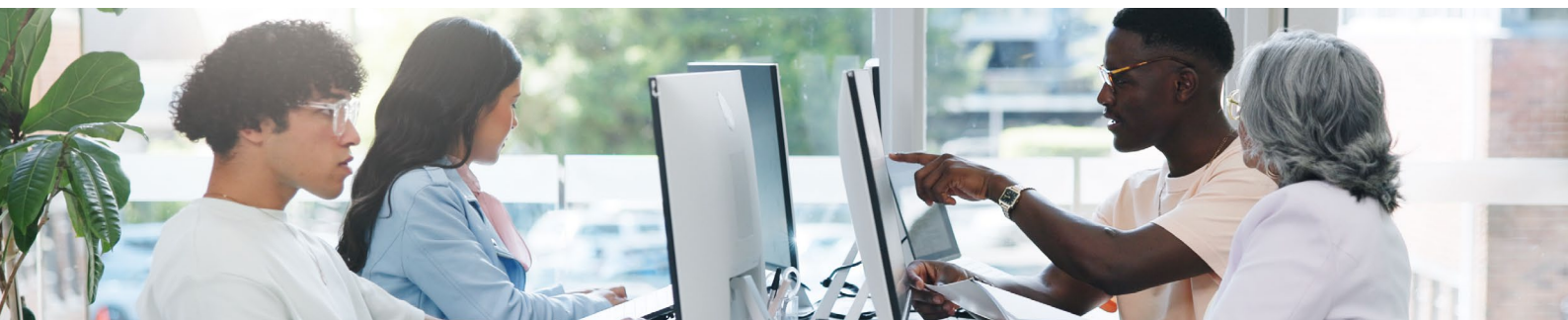
- ▶ **Standardise cloud adoption across businesses**
- ▶ **Ensure cost-effective deployment**
- ▶ **Embed security from the outset**
- ▶ **Support long-term scalability and sustainability**

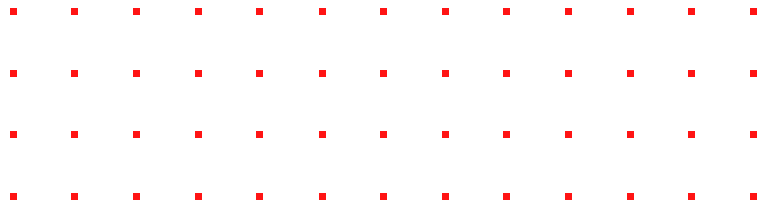
## The Solution

DCC partnered with Logicalis and Microsoft to launch a strategic optimisation initiative, starting with its top 15 Azure accounts. The project involved:

### **Cloud Adoption Framework Workshops**

Tailored sessions to assess infrastructure, identify challenges, and design well-architected solutions for seamless cloud deployment.





### **Cost Optimisation**

Detailed analysis of Azure environments led to immediate savings across multiple businesses.

### **Security by Design**

Logicalis embedded security into the Azure blueprint from the start, ensuring environments were secure before migration.

### **Repeatable Framework**

A scalable model was developed to guide each business through consistent cloud adoption, aligned with DCC's strategic goals.

## **The Result**

Rolling out the standardised approach delivered benefits for DCC almost immediately:

### **Significant Cost Savings**

Immediate financial benefits across the initial 15 accounts.

### **Improved Governance**

A unified framework for cloud adoption and security.

### **Enhanced Security Posture**

Azure environments built with security embedded from the design phase.

### **Scalability & Repeatability**

A blueprint that supports consistent deployment across all businesses.

### **Strategic Enablement**

Azure now serves as a foundation for accelerating digital and AI initiatives across the group.

### **Sustainability Gains**

Improved visibility into carbon emissions and reporting, supporting DCC's public company obligations.

*There was quite a lot of cost savings we could make quite quickly with each of the businesses, as well as recommendations for modernisation. From a DCC best practice perspective, we also wanted to ensure our Azure environments were secure by design.*

**Karl McDermott**

Group Technology & Infrastructure Manager  
DCC Plc