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### Highlights:

- Enables most Power Systems workloads to be deployed to a hosted or cloud environment
  - Provides a full-service, comprehensive migration and maintenance experience
  - Includes dedicated support from certified experts in IBM solutions, SAP and hosting
  - Allows organizations to eliminate worry over the provision and management of IT talent
  - Runs on world-class IBM Power Systems server and IBM Storwize V7000 storage infrastructure
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# Symmetry and IBM: Delivering data center hosting and cloud services

*Fully managed migration of SAP workloads that run on IBM Power Systems to a flexible, highly secure and cost-efficient hosted or cloud environment*

In a complex business world with ever-advancing technologies, keeping pace with the latest enterprise resource planning (ERP) solutions and other workloads can become overwhelming and expensive for IT departments. The moment an organization procures the necessary software, hardware and technical expertise, it often finds itself scrambling to make upgrades and hire new talent to stay current. These challenges are what make partner-provided data center services so appealing.

By allowing a partner to provide their data centers for them, organizations can use the latest technology, expertly hosted and managed offsite, eliminating the need to support the technology internally. All licensing and updates are handled by a service provider/partner without delay, enabling quick and ongoing access to the most advanced IT solutions and support available. This deployment model offers a proven way to enhance agility, reduce expenses and improve operational efficiency.

In fact, it is now possible for enterprises of all sizes to migrate a world-class ERP solution or other workload to a hosted or cloud environment, without making a sizable investment or limiting solution functionality. Together, Symmetry and IBM provide the tools, technology and expertise necessary to help organizations in numerous industries realize new support opportunities.

### Solution overview

Data center migration to a hosted or cloud environment is becoming a widely accepted method for businesses to manage their rapidly evolving ERP software and hardware needs. This approach eliminates the expenses of constant technology upgrades, licensing renewals and hiring new IT staff with different skills. It enhances program performance through ongoing access to the best tools available while improving stability through multiple layers of redundancy and 24/7 on-site monitoring.



Despite these clear benefits, many large organizations have chosen to keep their ERP and non-ERP infrastructure in-house. Some businesses believe that service-provider data centers support smaller businesses only, which is no longer the case. Others are simply not aware that with the right technology partner, it is now entirely possible to run best-in-class enterprise solutions from the cloud.

Through a longstanding collaborative partnership with IBM, Symmetry specializes in helping enterprises of virtually any size easily, securely and affordably migrate SAP solutions and other workloads that run on the IBM Power Systems™ family of servers (including IBM AS/400, IBM OS/400®, IBM iSeries®, IBM System i®, IBM pSeries and IBM System p®) to a fully managed hosted or cloud environment. Symmetry has extensive experience deploying and supporting hosted SAP solutions and various workloads on IBM Power® technology and has helped organizations achieve new levels of IT independence and efficiency for years.

As a premier SAP channel partner and certified hosting partner, Symmetry has built a loyal and growing client base through its demonstrated leadership in technical managed services. The company's key focus is SAP, with extensive expertise in hosting, cloud hosting, SAP HANA and SAP Sybase Adaptive Server Enterprise (ASE), along with many other workloads on Power Systems servers.

Together, Symmetry and IBM give clients access to the world's best technology, surrounded by expert comprehensive support. This includes hosting and cloud services, technical administration, implementation, upgrades and migrations, as well as project-based services and multiple layers of security to uphold data integrity. Solutions can include data recovery services to keep businesses fully operational in the event of fire, extreme weather, human error or other potentially catastrophic incidents.

Unlike other providers, Symmetry offers SAP-centric hosting solutions that are specifically developed to meet the unique hosting requirements of SAP customers, with services and infrastructure backed by a hosting partnership and SSAE 16 certification. The company adheres to strict internal controls and safeguards to maintain this certification and undergoes regular audits by SAP AG that assess both the quality of the infrastructure and the Symmetry methodology for managed services.

The advantages of Symmetry technical managed services powered by IBM are many. In addition to having constant access to best-in-class functionality, organizations can tap into a high-quality talent pool of SAP-, ERP- and IBM-certified consultants, all of whom understand the nuances of hosting architectures, cloud architectures and application management. This frees businesses from procuring software, equipment, maintenance, management and specialized IT resources, helping them realize a rapid return on investment (ROI) and low total cost of ownership. In addition, businesses can reduce capital expenditures by paying for only the resources needed to meet current workload and performance requirements.

With a fully supported environment created and managed by Symmetry, organizations are not locked into a specific hardware footprint. Every solution can be rapidly scaled up or down to accommodate changes in performance, budget or demand. Organizations also free up internal resources that can be redirected to other core activities.

In addition, organizations can rely on Symmetry as a single source of expertise for any technology challenge that may arise. Symmetry is the only SAP channel partner that staffs both certified SAP and IBM experts, with additional deep technical expertise to support other workloads. For instance, Symmetry has strong collaborative ties with the IBM Global SAP Alliance team, and IBM and SAP have a longstanding alliance to support their mutual clients. All of this means that Symmetry clients have the full technical might of IBM, SAP and Symmetry supporting their ERP solutions. Symmetry can offer the same fully managed hosted or cloud solution for many other, non-SAP applications running on Power Systems servers.

To help organizations feel confident about teaming with a managed service provider, Symmetry offers a proof of concept (POC) program that provides the opportunity to "test drive" a hosted or cloud-based deployment running on a Power Systems server and IBM Storwize® V7000 disk system. Participating in this program allows organizations to experience firsthand the potential benefits and rapid ROI potential of this solution while getting a head start on migration preparation.

## Solution benefits

Symmetry and IBM help organizations across industries achieve new levels of performance, agility and cost efficiency through hosted or cloud-based ERP and non-ERP environments.

- **Robust performance** — World-class technology, certified SAP and IBM support resources and multiple layers of redundancy and security help to uphold superior levels of system speed and dependability. Because Symmetry and IBM are long-time collaborators, enterprises can expect a smooth implementation that aligns with specific business needs.
- **Improved agility** — Symmetry's fully managed environment running on a dependable IBM Power Systems and IBM Storwize V7000 platform frees enterprises from committing to a specific hardware footprint for a long period of time. Organizations have the ability to rapidly and affordably scale the system as needed to meet changing business conditions, without having to make expensive and disruptive technology changes or hire new resources.
- **Lower total cost of ownership** — Organizations can capitalize on world-class IT infrastructure without investing in software, equipment, maintenance, management or specialized resources. They can reduce capital expenditures by paying for only the resources needed to meet current workload and performance requirements. When the time for change arises, capabilities can be scaled up or down quickly, easily and affordably. Additionally, you can move your capital expenses to operational expenses, if this is a goal within your business.

## Symmetry and IBM: A closer look

By bringing together extensive IT expertise, premier technical managed services and industry-leading IBM server and storage technology, Symmetry and IBM are helping organizations reduce costs, improve performance and adapt more nimbly to ever-changing business requirements. Components of the solution may include the following:

- **Symmetry Migration Services** — The company's certified experts have performed smooth migrations involving a broad range of operating systems and platforms, including SAP software running on an IBM Power Systems server and IBM Storwize V7000 storage system infrastructure. From project roadmapping and preparation through full solution deployment, Symmetry will handle every project milestone, resulting in a virtually seamless, turnkey transition to a hosted or cloud environment.
- **Symmetry Technical Managed Services** — Once the managed solution is up and running, organizations gain confidence and peace of mind from Symmetry's ongoing proactive monitoring, system maintenance, customized reporting, troubleshooting and 24/7 support for applications, IBM Power Systems servers and IBM Storwize V7000 storage systems.
- **Symmetry Premier Technical Managed Services** — Every Symmetry solution is managed by experts in accordance with best practices, including risk mitigation, user and role change management, troubleshooting and detailed customized reporting.
- **Symmetry Disaster Recovery Solutions** — Floods, fires, extreme weather, equipment failures and power outages are rare, but they pose serious risks to every IT environment. Symmetry can help to ensure that if such an event occurs, the business will remain fully operational through redundancy built directly into the hosted solution.
- **Symmetry Proof of Concept Lab** — Organizations can test drive their hosted solution by leveraging IBM technology in Symmetry's highly secure, rapid-deployment POC environment. Clients will be set up in a Symmetry-hosted test environment to establish comprehensive solution performance metrics.
- **IBM Power Systems servers** — IBM Power Systems servers enable application choice, enterprise integration, IT efficiency and data availability in a highly secure platform, so organizations can achieve outstanding performance. They enable intelligent, dynamic resource allocation and rapid response to changes in application and workload requirements and are specifically designed for big data and compute-intensive applications.
- **IBM Storwize V7000 disk systems** — These virtualized, enterprise-class SAN disk storage systems provide the foundation for implementing an effective storage infrastructure and transforming the economics of data storage. With industry-first, hardware-accelerated, real-time compression, they can reduce the cost of storage by up to half while maintaining application performance.

## Symmetry and IBM: Efficiency enabled

### Symmetry

Symmetry, an SAP Service Partner certified in Hosting, Cloud and SAP HANA Operations Services, provides technical managed services, data center/co-location services, security administration and project support for SAP customers in the US and around the world. Founded in 1996, Symmetry has been a pioneer in defining best practices for SAP technical administration. Symmetry is an IBM Advanced Business partner and a member of the IBM Cloud Computing Specialty.

### IBM

With a unique combination of expertise, experience and proven methodologies, IBM can help strengthen and optimize information infrastructure to support a variety of applications. IBM and SAP have worked together for more than 40 years. Together, they deliver solutions that move business forward and anticipate organizational change by strengthening business analytics information infrastructure for greater operational efficiency and faster decision making.

### For more information

To learn more about IBM Power Systems servers and IBM Storwize V7000 disk systems, please contact your IBM sales representative or visit: [ibm.com/power](http://ibm.com/power)

To learn more about Symmetry, please visit or call:  
[www.symmetrycorp.com](http://www.symmetrycorp.com)



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