



3 EASY STEPS TO *SWITCH TO AMD* FROM INTEL

You've tested your new servers and run trials with key applications. Now it's time to start moving production workloads from those old inefficient Intel Xeon CPUs to the latest AMD EPYC™ Server CPUs.

What do you move first? What do you leave for last? How do you manage risks while you're running a mixed fleet? Break your migration into these three basic steps to help minimize effects on users, control operational and business risk, and prove system reliability as you go.

STEP 1 **MIGRATE WORKLOADS THAT WON'T CAUSE DISRUPTIONS IF YOU HAVE ISSUES**

Start with hardware-agnostic workloads – cloud-native apps, Kubernetes clusters, and stateless web apps – that aren't likely to have issues. Next, shift workloads that won't stop business operations if they encounter problems. Test/QA environments, internal wikis, issue trackers, and recurring batch jobs are solid candidates for low-risk moves.

➤ PRO TIP

Put monitoring systems in place then move one workload at a time. Look for issues, determine their causes, and resolve as you go. Using low-risk workloads to expose and eliminate problems now helps reduce the likelihood of failures as you move on to more critical workloads.

STEP 2 **GRADUALLY MOVE VIRTUAL MACHINES AND PRODUCTION APPS**

Now it's time to move applications and services that downstream systems and business users depend on. These medium-risk workloads include virtual machines (VMs), shared storage arrays, hosted apps, and web services that need to move with minimal, preferably zero, downtime.

Continue the process you started in step one: lowest risk first, one workload at a time, check for and correct issues as you go.

➤ PRO TIP

Keep your old servers running while you spin up your new servers behind a load balancer. For VMs that require a cold restart, keep them running on the old servers until you verify them on the new hardware. For hypervisors that support live migration – like Nutanix – the switch is even easier. Shift traffic gradually so users don't perceive any downtime.

STEP 3**MOVE MISSION-CRITICAL WORKLOADS**

By step three, your processes should be airtight, and your new servers should be production proven. Now you're ready to move database applications, enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, and mission-critical datasets.

To minimize risk, use vendor migration tools like Oracle GoldenGate, Microsoft's Database Migration Guides, and SAP Software Provisioning Manager (SWPM) and R3load.

➤ PRO TIP

Build a sandbox that mirrors your production environment. Do at least one full trial run and create a go/no-go checklist. Multiple trial runs can be a good idea.

Congratulations! You have successfully switched.

REAP THE BENEFITS OF UP TO 8X DENSER DATA CENTERS¹

Now all your workloads are running on high-density, high-performance AMD EPYC Server CPUs.

Want to understand everything that goes into a successful migration? We've collected all the details for you.

READ THE WHITEPAPER

[A Switch Your CFO Will Love: Pivot to Modernize Your Data Center](#)

1. **9xx5TCO-018:** This scenario contains many assumptions and estimates and, while based on AMD internal research and best approximations, should be considered an example for information purposes only, and not used as a basis for decision making over actual testing. The AMD Server & Greenhouse Gas Emissions TCO (total cost of ownership) Estimator Tool - version 1.53, compares the selected AMD EPYC™ and Intel® Xeon® CPU based server solutions required to deliver a TOTAL_PERFORMANCE of 391,000 units of SPECrates2017_int_base performance as of December 3, 2025. This analysis compares a 2P AMD 192 core EPYC_9965 powered server with a SPECrates2017_int_base score of 3230, <https://spec.org/cpu2017/results/res2025q2/cpu2017-20250324-47086.pdf> compared to a 2P Intel Xeon 128 core Xeon_6980P based server with a SPECrates2017_int_base score of 2510, <https://spec.org/cpu2017/results/res2025q2/cpu2017-20250324-47099.pdf> versus legacy 2P Intel Xeon 28 core Platinum_8280 based server with a SPECrates2017_int_base score of 391, <https://spec.org/cpu2017/results/res2020q3/cpu2017-20200915-23984.pdf>.

Environmental impact estimates made leveraging data from the 2025 International Country Specific Electricity Factors and can be found at <https://www.carbondi.com/#electricity-factors/> and the US EPA Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator used in this analysis was sourced on 09/04/2024 and can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>. For additional details, see <https://www.amd.com/en/legal/claims/epyc.html#q=9xx5TCO-018>.

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