Optimizing Oracle Costs in the Cloud
Comparing VMware Cloud on AWS to the Oracle Cloud

VMware Cloud offers a whole solution for organizations looking for a simple path to the cloud without the need to re-architect their applications.

The cloud industry is entering a dynamic phase in its growth and rate of adoption. For Oracle workloads, public cloud adoption has clearly lagged behind cloud adoption leaders such as SaaS applications, and new software development. The opportunity for Oracle in the cloud, however, is changing. With the introduction of the VMware Cloud on AWS, and the aggressive promotion by Oracle of their own IaaS cloud, we now have at least two viable public clouds that we can compare.

Deciding on a Provider and Designing a Solution
The factors leading to a decision on a cloud provider for Oracle workloads are several and varied. By their very nature, business-critical systems are costly. Optimizing cost is important, but not by sacrificing other critical aspects of these applications. While cost is a relatively low decision factor compared to other more critical issues, total cost of ownership is one of the factors included in this comparison of the Oracle Cloud and VMware Cloud on AWS.

Designing a cost-effective public cloud solution for Oracle software workloads is a tricky challenge for any organization attempting to juggle both compute costs and the high cost of Oracle licenses. Trying to choose the right platform and architecture to minimize costs requires exploring not just costs for cloud resources, but also related costs such as Oracle licensing and one-time costs such as refactoring and migration.

Modeling Oracle Licensing and Compute Costs
During our analysis, we modeled Oracle licensing costs and compute costs for hypothetical Oracle workloads based on House of Brick's experience with common customer workloads. This modeling allowed an exploration of the interaction of:
- licensing costs
- licensing rules
- cloud architectures

The workloads consisted of equal amounts of Oracle Database Enterprise Edition VMs and Oracle WebLogic Enterprise VMs. The workloads, while identical in product mix, differed considerably in size with the smallest containing just a few VMs, and the largest enterprise workloads containing dozens of VMs.

Based on our comprehensive comparison of the costs of running various types of Oracle-based applications in the VMware Cloud on AWS, and the Oracle Cloud. Overall, as shown in the chart below, the trend is clear that for larger workloads, the VMware Cloud on AWS has a lower total cost of ownership (TCO), even with Oracle's attempt to "double the price" for running their software in non-Oracle public clouds.

Oracle in IaaS Cloud Cost Comparison
VMware Cloud on AWS vs. Oracle IaaS/BYOL
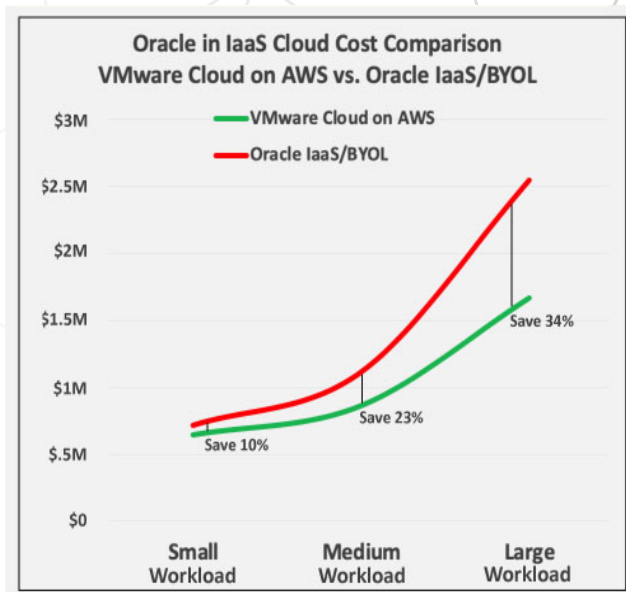
Understanding All the Costs Involved
For organizations considering migration to a public or hybrid cloud architecture, it is important to understand **all** of the costs associated with Oracle workloads, and in particular the options available for architecting a solution to minimize those costs. Looking beyond price, Oracle's Cloud largely lacks the features and interoperability offered by other providers, including VMware Cloud on AWS. As a result, VMware Cloud on AWS is a more attractive whole solution for organizations looking for a simple path to the cloud without the need to re-architect applications or convert workloads to a different format in order to import them into a public or hybrid cloud.

Read our full analysis in the white paper,
Optimizing Oracle Costs in the Cloud - VMware Cloud on AWS versus the Oracle Cloud.