

# Top 5 Crucial Azure Platform Tools and Services

**Uros Pavlovic (Technical Writer):** Okay, let us talk about one key factor here, which is public cloud implementation and what it means for business.

**Jean-Luc Barrett (Cloud Solutions Architect):** There are several ways to describe what public cloud means for today's investment world. Predominately, we are talking about having a system set up for clients that can adapt to any kind of environment or business. Furthermore, with cloud-native services and tooling, it is easy to give your business the necessary modern push without increasing management overhead as PaaS tooling shifts some of the responsibility to Microsoft.

**UP:** Let us dive into automation tools, which would give clients that necessary modern push which you mentioned.

**JLB:** Definitely. The primary goal is to rely on automation as much as possible. Before going into any serious commitments with public cloud providers, we make maximum effort to go through the cloud adoption process step by step (as we have explained via our recent infographic). For instance, cloud readiness assessment is the first step, building is the second step. That is where we provide our own Terraform solution library, so clients get pre-configured Azure modules, automating the setup in minutes.



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*- Jean-Luc Barrett, Cloud Solutions Architect at Hentsū*

**UP: This makes perfect sense. Also, Hentsu has seen many hedge funds and financial services firms embracing cloud technology mostly for enterprise-grade tools. What are some of these tools our clients have asked for and what did they seek to resolve with these tools?**

**JLB:** From Hentsu's perspective, there were so many established UK-based and US-based companies that were looking for the easiest and quickest roads towards successful cloud migration. However, we are often asked about how best to carry out cloud optimization and cloud management. There are various tools and various services available within the Azure suite, most of which we mention in our latest blog post, like Azure Automation and Azure DevOps and the like. In addition to that, companies want to establish a business in an environment that is fast, modern, and secure.

**UP: You say 'secure' and we always see that as an important factor for clients. Can you elaborate more about the security aspect and specifically how tools can help with that?**

**JLB:** Yes, of course. There are many tools that cover security, and they do sound brilliant and easy on paper. But managing these cloud tools can be very challenging and usually companies turn to us for professional guidance. With Azure Active Directory, Microsoft's identity, and management service, we can enhance security for clients. In addition, you have everything that is necessary for IT admins, and app developers, for example, Azure AD offers identity protection. The tool efficiently exposes potential suspicious activity such as a known malicious/malware linked IP Addresses of login. Also, you can configure policies based on suspicious actions, thus taking the right course of action to handle them. We also use Privileged Identify Management to ensure a higher level of security by allowing time based administrative privileges, which are revoked after a pre-defined period. IaaS virtual machines can use Qualys vulnerability scanners, which are built into the Azure platform. So, there are endless options on that front for a company to stay secure.

**UP: In your experience, are there any other tools on Azure that can be beneficial for businesses.**

**JLB:** Hm, let me think. Well, I think we have pretty much made a quick and clear cover of what is essential in terms of tooling. On a final general note, I would like to focus on how the power of public cloud coupled with Hentsu solutions and services benefits a variety of business. So, if you have a multi-national corporation that needs to spin up resources fast, we have the means to carry it out for them. The platform, infrastructure and resources are scalable to meet IT demands, and that all falls under the Azure umbrella as well. Best of all, it all operates on a pay-as-you-go pricing model, so it fits any budget.