

Looking for a VMware Alternative?

Modernize Your Infrastructure with Rancher Government

The acquisition of VMware by Broadcom has introduced significant price and product uncertainty into the Federal IT market. Government agencies are facing growing IT infrastructure costs, with traditional virtual machines (VMs) becoming increasingly costly to maintain. As your budget tightens and technology changes, relying on outdated systems strains funds and shackles mission agility. While we recognize that some legacy workloads are mission-critical and can't be easily moved, traditional systems lock agencies into unsustainable cycles of high costs and limited functionality.

The Rancher Government Solutions (RGS) approach is different. Instead of upgrading or overhauling your systems, we use a phased infrastructure modernization approach. This approach allows the gradual migration of legacy workloads using Kubernetes for efficient orchestration and lifecycle management to minimize disruptions and maximize efficiency.

Legacy Workload Migration: A Phased Modernization Approach

Powered by the full Rancher stack, our modernization strategy integrates a robust suite of Kubernetes products with traditional VM workloads. At the core is Harvester, a hyper-converged infrastructure (HCI) solution that is built to run containers and VMs simultaneously. This

mixed environment is flexible and scalable delivering cloud-like elasticity in your data-center or at the tactical edge.

Key features of Harvester include:

- **Infrastructure Agnostic.** As an open-source HCI product, Harvester is decoupled from specific hardware dependencies, allowing for installation on many hardware platforms—from modern servers to legacy systems—making it ideal for variable hardware environments.
- **Open-Source Flexibility.** Harvester adheres to open standards, improving compatibility with many open-source and standards-based tools within the Kubernetes ecosystem. This avoids vendor lock-in and broadens the ecosystem of tools available.
- **Enhanced Management with Rancher.** Paired with Rancher Multi-cluster Manager, Harvester benefits from advanced management features such as robust RBAC and powerful GitOps tools via Fleet. This combination simplifies management and enhances overall infrastructure functionality and scalability.
- **Unified API for All Workloads.** With Kubernetes under the hood, Harvester uses a single API to manage containers, storage volumes, VMs, and networks to reduce complexity and speed up deployment cycles.

Use Cases

Public Sector

Federal agencies managing a range of legacy virtual machines across its data centers faces increasing pressure to modernize its IT infrastructure. With Harvester, they seamlessly migrate their traditional VM work-loads to a cloud-native environment while retaining the ability to run Kubernetes within VMs. This allows them to manage both VMs and containerized workloads from a single interface, improving operational efficiency and reducing management overhead. As a result, the agency achieves greater flexibility and scalability in adapting to evolving mission requirements while ensuring seamless continuity of critical services.

Department of Defense




In a remote operational theater, the Department of Defense deploys forward operating bases with limited connectivity for critical missions. Leveraging Harvester, they establish a resilient infrastructure capable of running containerized workloads on bare metal servers at the tactical edge. By deploying Rancher Manager in the cloud and managing the full application stack on intermittently connected edge compute devices, they ensure those devices are able to be managed centrally with minimal operator engagement. This enables frontline personnel to execute operational tasks with enhanced agility and efficiency, ultimately bolstering mission success and ensuring operational superiority.

VMware Migration Assessment

Rancher Government's phased approach to infrastructure modernization offers federal customers an initial migration assessment to understand customer objectives and challenges and evaluate their IT systems and level of readiness for a migration. Even if an environment is not entirely ready, we can still devise a strategic plan to initially aim to reduce the footprint of the current infrastructure software stack. Our goal is to provide a comprehensive approach that encompasses the technical analysis of hardware and software infrastructures and

the understanding of business processes, governance, and organizational culture. This multifaceted evaluation is essential to determine the feasibility and strategic fit of a migration project.

At Rancher Government we believe in a service-led approach, emphasizing a personalized step-by-step strategy for each customer. The first step includes our Migration Assessment. This new service offering is spread across 4 days with 2 Rancher Government Engineers. 2 days on-site and 2 days remote, totaling 64 hours.

 <p>Kickoff & Discovery</p>	 <p>Infrastructure Modernization Assessment</p>	 <p>After-Action Report</p>
<p>On-site or remote engagement by our engineers to gather essential information to align the modernization plan with your strategic goals.</p>	<p>On-site or remote analysis of your current environment pinpoints areas for improvement and alignment with industry best practices.</p>	<p>Detailed report outlining the current infrastructure state, proposed changes, and a phased transition plan, serving as a roadmap for modernization.</p>

It is crucial to recognize that our objective goes beyond direct substitution. Modernization means replacing existing functionalities with their counterparts, a fundamental shift in organizational culture and mindset, and a net gain in functionality. This pivot represents not just a technological shift but a strategic evolution towards more agile, scalable, and efficient IT operations.

Time For A Change?

At Rancher Government we understand the different levels of readiness our customers face for migrations. With rising costs and the challenges of lock-in dependencies, it may be an opportune time to rethink your IT strategy. It's also a time to stay ahead of industry trends to modernize by moving towards containerization and move away from using VMs where possible to reduce consumption even further, reaping the benefits of efficiency that the Rancher stack provides. When you're ready to make the change, our Kubernetes experts are here to help. Take the first step, with our architectural review and readiness assessment.

operational needs of the U.S. Government and military as it relates to application modernization, containers, and Kubernetes. Rancher is a complete open-source software stack for teams adopting containers. It addresses the operational and security challenges of managing multiple Kubernetes clusters at scale while providing DevOps teams with integrated tools for running containerized workloads. RGS supports all Rancher products with cleared U.S. citizens who are currently supporting programs across the Department of Defense, Intelligence Community, and civilian agencies.

About Rancher Government Solutions

Rancher Government Solutions is specifically designed to address the unique security and

Interested in learning more about our phased infrastructure modernization approach? Contact us at info@ranchergovernment.com.