

# EMC Assessment Service for Microsoft BizTalk Server

## Business Challenge

As part of an SOA strategy, many companies are implementing Microsoft BizTalk Server<sup>®</sup> and leveraging its benefits of standardization and out-of-the-box integration. As the business and technology evolves, it frequently becomes necessary to make changes or reassess existing strategies. Identifying the business impact and the risks involved in upgrades, new projects, or architectural changes involving Microsoft BizTalk Server can be challenging. With limited resources and increasing demands, oftentimes the best way to get the full return from your Microsoft BizTalk Server investment is to engage unbiased expert support.

EMC<sup>®</sup> Consulting can help you maximize your investment in Microsoft BizTalk Server. Our Assessment Service for Microsoft BizTalk Server can help when:

- You have plans to upgrade to a newer version
- You are considering new projects that will use different Microsoft BizTalk features
- You want to identify causes of poor performance, scalability, or support issues in an existing implementation
- You want to determine why past projects didn't generate the expected payback or results and want to know how to remedy that
- You want to avoid common pitfalls related to integration projects

## Service Description

The EMC Assessment Service for Microsoft BizTalk Server is executed over three to four calendar weeks by a seasoned architect who has hands-on experience implementing Microsoft BizTalk solutions. During the engagement, the EMC architect will observe and baseline the existing environment including the key business processes, the physical architecture, current development/deployment procedures, and any pain points or issues that need to be resolved. The architect will then analyze the information and provide direction-setting advice which will identify the activities needed to achieve the end goals. Once completed, the architect will review the findings in a presentation with the client. A detailed Assessment Report will be produced that includes candid observations about the current environment and practices. It will include a gap analysis, findings, recommendations, and roadmap which will be based on the type of issues that the architect has been asked to assess—Upgrade, Health Check, Architecture Review, or New Project Guidance.

## Upgrade

New features of Microsoft BizTalk Server bring clear benefits. However, upgrades and migrations of any type introduce risk. The need to avoid business disruption requires an understanding of your organization's current IT infrastructure as well as business objectives. The goal of an upgrade assessment is to determine dependencies, develop a methodology and resource plan, and provide costs for upgrading an existing solution to a new version of Microsoft BizTalk Server. The Assessment Report will include a test plan, feature review, and dependency analysis.

## Health Check

When an existing Microsoft BizTalk environment is not performing as expected, a Health Check can determine the root cause of the problem. Performance can be affected by many factors including architecture, load, hardware, virtualization, and network bandwidth, as well as Microsoft SQL Server performance. During a Health Check, the EMC architect will identify and isolate problems and determine what actions are required to resolve bottlenecks. The Assessment Report will include a root-cause analysis, a resolution plan, and monitoring guidance on how to gather performance characteristics and how to test under load conditions.

## Architecture Review

Oftentimes technology investments don't initially generate the expected return. The reason may involve fundamental design problems in a current deployment or may simply be developing an understanding of how to better utilize the technology in additional projects. An EMC Architecture Review of a Microsoft BizTalk implementation will provide best-practice guidance for extending or improving the solution. The Assessment Report will include design guidance and developer mentoring.

## New Project Guidance

As with any custom development project, a Microsoft BizTalk Server implementation requires proper planning in order to achieve success. An experienced EMC architect can help you avoid design and implementation errors. By recommending appropriate processes and introducing Microsoft BizTalk best practices, EMC's New Project Guidance Assessment will help you create an architecture, identify risks, and plan for a new project. The Assessment Report will include a feature gap analysis based on your requirements as well as advice for risk mitigation.

## Summary of Benefits

The EMC Assessment Service for Microsoft BizTalk Server provides comprehensive and candid advice based on the real-world experience and best-practice knowledge of our experienced and Microsoft-certified architects. Our custom recommendations can help you

- Minimize disruption to production environments when upgrading
- Meet performance and scalability goals
- Streamline design, development, and test processes
- Ensure cost-effective disaster recovery strategies
- Better leverage your investment in Microsoft BizTalk Server

## EMC Consulting

As part of the world's leading developer and provider of information infrastructure technology and solutions, EMC Consulting transforms information into business results. Our consultants bring a unique mix of industry, business, and technology expertise to solve today's toughest challenges. We use field-tested tools, proven methodologies, best practices, and industry standards to minimize risk and optimize time-to-value in our engagements. We provide a full range of consulting, design, implementation, and support services.



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