THE AGE OF OPTIMIZING MICROSOFT 365 INVESTMENTS
As more businesses embrace digital and cloud solutions, software expenses become a large portion of IT budgets. However, often many software purchases, especially for SaaS applications like Office 365, are underutilized. These applications have a high Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), require frequent license adjustments, and pose security risks if not managed properly.

Microsoft 365 is a very useful platform popular in enterprises around the world. But to leverage its full potential it is important to optimize the license usage. During the migration to Microsoft 365, licenses are bought according to the organization’s requirements at that moment. However, these requirements may change over time, resulting in over-licensing or under-licensing.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Security Vulnerabilities</th>
<th>Reduced Productivity</th>
<th>Increased Costs</th>
<th>Feature Underutilization</th>
<th>Compliance Risks</th>
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<tr>
<td>Over-provisioning licenses creates security gaps, potentially exposing sensitive data to unauthorized access.</td>
<td>Inefficient license management leads to under-utilized features, hampering productivity.</td>
<td>Paying for more licenses than needed, drains IT budgets and diverts resources from other critical areas.</td>
<td>Valuable features remain unused due to poor license management and user education, limiting Microsoft 365’s impact.</td>
<td>Non-compliance with licensing agreements can result in costly penalties and legal repercussions.</td>
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**EVOLUTION**

M365 license optimization services have undergone significant evolution since their inception, adapting to the ever-changing landscape of Microsoft’s cloud subscription offerings and user needs.

Here’s a glimpse into the key milestones of this evolution:

- **2013 to 2015**
  - Early Days
  - Basic License Management

- **2016 to 2018**
  - Growth and Automation
  - Optimization & Compliance takes center stage

- **2019 to 2021**
  - Advanced Intelligence & Customization
  - AI-powered insights and tailored solutions

- **2022 - Present**
  - Future Focused Innovation
  - Continuous adaptation and proactive management

Overall, M365 license optimization services have come a long way from simple license counting to AI-powered, strategic solutions. Continued innovation and adaptation are crucial to keeping pace with the evolving M365 ecosystem and user needs. As organizations strive for efficient cloud spending and secure compliance, these services will play an increasingly vital role in maximizing the value of their M365 investment.
The Age of License Optimization - Why Your Company Needs License Optimization in 2024

In today’s competitive business world, every penny counts. With M365 subscriptions accounting for a major amount of many IT budgets, license optimization is no longer an option, but a need. A thorough assessment phase is required to investigate and understand the current M365 landscape and its consumption.

Cost optimization and enhanced utilization, automated ITSM tickets for continuous improvement, strengthened security and better compliance

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<tr>
<th>Cost Optimization and enhanced utilization</th>
<th>Improved Security</th>
<th>Feature Utilizations</th>
<th>Service Request Management</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Licence Optimization</strong></td>
<td><strong>Security &amp; Compliance Improvement</strong></td>
<td><strong>Features/Products Optimizations</strong></td>
<td><strong>Incident/Service Request Optimization</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Licences consumption summary</td>
<td>• Data: Detailed report of classifications, retention policies and labels</td>
<td>• Procured licenses that are not actively utilizing all features</td>
<td>• AI led incident/service request classification and automation</td>
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<td>• Budget optimization recommendations</td>
<td>• Identity: Measures taken to overcome spoofing, unauthorized access</td>
<td>• App redesign and modernization by leveraging existing investments and NextGen solutions</td>
<td>• AI-driven suggestions for unclassified tickets</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Subscription reports</td>
<td>• Security: Evaluate current state of organization’s security posture &amp; settings, improvement areas etc.</td>
<td>• Enhance workplace productivity with AI and employee experience capabilities</td>
<td>• AI-led continues improvement suggestions and data insights</td>
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<td>• User level licence all locations</td>
<td>• Infra: Report on MDM/MAM Policies, BYOD/CYOD, and other modern device management policies</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Infra optimization suggestions</td>
<td>• Application: Report on external sharing enabled sites, SPAM, MALWARE policies, IP ranges configuration</td>
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Business Impact

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted how businesses operate. Here’s why Microsoft investment optimization became even more crucial in this era:

- Remote work shift
- Budget constraints
- Increased security risks
- Evolving business needs

Sector-Specific Solutions:

Finance:

- Enhanced compliance: Optimize security and avoid hefty fines with license usage audit trails and granular access controls.
- Data protection: Ensure stringent data governance through optimized data protection solutions and privacy compliance.
- Improved analytics: Leverage AI-powered insights from optimized M365 tools to boost financial forecasting and risk management.

Healthcare:

- Patient data security: Optimize patient data management tools and ensure compliance with HIPAA regulations.
- Telehealth efficiency: Optimize collaboration tools for seamless virtual consultations and patient engagement.
- Streamlined operations: Improve operational efficiency and resource allocation through optimized workflow management solutions.

Education:

- Personalized learning: Utilize optimized educational tools to adapt to individual student needs and learning styles.
- Secure collaboration: Foster safe and secure online learning environments with optimized access controls and communication platforms.
- Cost-effective solutions: Optimize license allocation and utilize free or discounted educational licenses to maximize budget efficiency.

Retail:

- Customer engagement: Optimize marketing and communication tools to personalize customer journeys and boost sales.
- Supply chain management: Improve inventory management and logistics with optimized data analytics and collaboration tools.
- Employee productivity: Empower staff with optimized devices and access to relevant tools to enhance customer service and operational efficiency.

These are just a few examples, and the possibilities are endless. Regardless of your sector, Microsoft investment optimization offers tailored solutions to your unique challenges, providing ongoing value and a competitive edge.
M365 + Copilot: Taking Optimization to the Next Level with AI

When it comes to optimizing your Microsoft 365 (M365) investment, Copilot emerges as a game-changer – an AI-powered assistant ready to take your efficiency and cost-savings to the next level. This dynamic pairing not only addresses present challenges but also opens doors to exciting possibilities for the future of investment optimization.

Impact of Copilot and AI on Optimization:

1. Automated Insights and Recommendations: While not yet fully operational, Copilot's future ability to analyze usage data in real-time holds immense potential for insights and recommendations.


3. Enhanced Security and Compliance: Copilot continuously monitors license usage for potential compliance issues and security risks. It helps you configure access controls, identify suspicious activity, and stay ahead of cyber threats, ensuring your data and infrastructure are protected.

4. Boosted Employee Productivity: Copilot understands individual workflows and suggests relevant tools, automation opportunities, and personalized learning paths to empower your employees to work smarter and faster.

5. Predictive Future-proofing: Copilot leverages AI to anticipate your future needs based on usage patterns and industry trends. This allows you to proactively adjust your M365 subscriptions and infrastructure, ensuring you are always prepared for growth and change.

The M365 and Copilot combination is not just about present benefits; it’s about embracing the future of AI-powered investment optimization. By partnering with this intelligent assistant, you can unlock continuous value, stay ahead of the curve, and ensure your M365 investment fuels your business success for years to come.

Remember, embracing AI and taking advantage of innovative tools like Copilot is not just an option – it’s a strategic move that can differentiate your business in the rapidly evolving digital landscape. So, start your AI-powered optimization journey today and witness the transformative potential of M365 and Copilot!
Unlocking M365's Potential: Why Choosing US Empowers Your Growth

As seasoned professionals in the Microsoft 365 optimization arena, we understand the immense potential buried within this powerful platform. Yet, we also recognize the challenges businesses face in maximizing their value. Underutilized licenses, security vulnerabilities, and feature underutilization can all hamper your M365 journey.

In today's hyper-competitive landscape, every penny counts. Businesses are laser-focused on optimizing their operations and maximizing return on investment (ROI) – and for many, Microsoft 365 represents a goldmine waiting to be tapped.

This is where Microsoft investment optimization comes in. It's the strategic process of analyzing, streamlining, and optimizing your M365 environment to unlock its full potential and achieve maximum ROI. Think of it as polishing your digital diamond to reveal its true brilliance.

We believe addressing the full spectrum of challenges is of utmost importance. Optimization framework should focus on four key pillars: Four Pillars of Optimization, not One-Size-Fits-All Solutions:

- License Cost Optimization
- Security & Compliance
- Features Optimization
- Incident Optimization

But here's the catch, optimizing M365 isn't a DIY project. It requires specialized expertise, sophisticated tools, and a deep understanding of the platform's intricacies. That's where choosing the right partner for your Microsoft investment optimization journey becomes critical.

Investing in the right partner is an investment in your future success. Look for a partner with a proven track record, deep Microsoft expertise, and a commitment to ongoing support and guidance. Remember, your M365 optimization journey is a marathon, not a sprint. Choose a partner who will be there with you every step of the way.

By prioritizing Microsoft investment optimization and choosing the right partner, you unlock a world of possibilities. Imagine a future where your M365 environment is a well-oiled machine, driving productivity, security, and cost savings. That's the power of doing it right.
Hariprasad Rajagopalapillai  
18+ years of experience working with clients across the globe in delivery excellence, technical advisory and consulting. Hari possesses substantial expertise in solution architecture, strategy development, account growth and pre-sales activities.

Ashutosh Agrawal  
Presales consultant with around 2 years of experience in the microsoft practice, specializing in bid management, solution strategy, deal pricing, and client presentations. Proven ability at managing RFPs, RFIs, and proactive opportunities across Asia-Pacific.