

Legal & General: Phased Mainframe Modernization with AWS and a Hybrid Cloud Strategy



Customer Snapshot

Established in 1836, Legal & General is a leading financial services group and major global investor. As part of its long-term modernization strategy, the company is shifting from monolithic, mainframe-centric applications to a cloud-first, hybrid architecture on AWS, while maintaining the resilience and reliability of its core systems



Modernization Challenge

- **Safely separate and migrate** “softcore” apps (claims, document management, surrounding services) from “hardcore” mission critical mainframe workloads.
- Scale claims processing elastically in the cloud **without a risky “big-bang” migration** of core systems
- **Ensure continuous operations** during transformation
- **Decouple legacy systems** with structured approach



AWS + OpenLegacy Solution

- **Pattern-based decoupling:** Applied external decoupling to bypass the CICS Transaction Gateway and expose core COBOL functions as modernization-ready APIs.
- **Hybrid target on AWS:**
 - Steady, predictable workloads on OpenShift.
 - Elastic, event-driven claims workloads on AWS Lambda
- **AWS Transform-aligned approach:** phased coexistence of legacy and modern services—no downtime, no legacy changes, no middleware lock-in.



Realizing Modernization Benefits

- **De-risked, phased migration** – Moving targeted workloads to AWS, avoiding disruptive “big-bang” replacement and protecting business continuity.
- **Faster, repeatable modernization waves** – Use proven decoupling patterns and auto-generated APIs to modernize one domain at a time, reducing project risk, speeding delivery, and creating reusable assets for future waves.
- **Cloud-driven cost and performance gains** – Shift elastic, high-volume workloads to AWS, scale on demand, and reduce the cost of running peak loads on the mainframe.
- **Future-ready hybrid architecture** – Combine mainframe stability with cloud agility, making it easier to add new digital services, SaaS solutions, analytics, and AI over time—without re-engineering core systems.

Legal & General: Architecture for Phased Modernization with AWS

