



NOTES FROM THE CLOUD DETECTIVES

How FinOps can help uncover cloud waste and optimize spending

🔍 IT'S TIME TO GET A CLUE.

We all know that the cloud unlocks greater agility and speed. But without centralization, transparency, or accountability, the cloud can also lead to costs spiraling out of control.

It doesn't take a magnifying glass to find the benefits of the cloud. But to tame suspicious spending, enable collaboration, and provide accountability, it often takes the curiosity and determination of a cloud detective to **solve the mystery of cloud spend.**

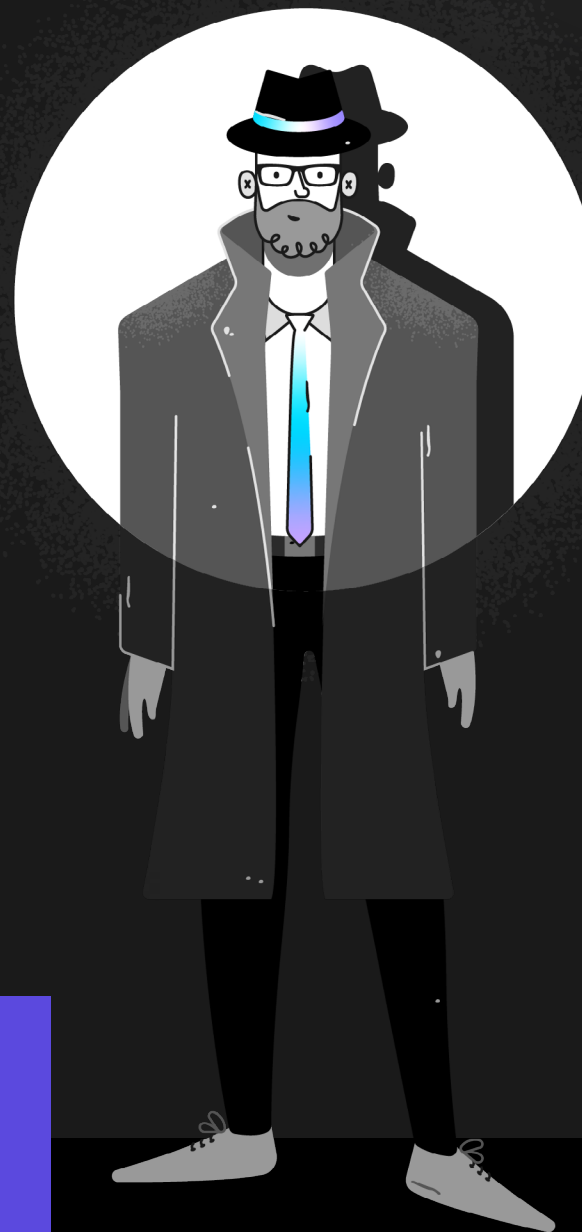
Like any good detective story, understanding cloud spend starts with unraveling conflict. In many cases, that conflict is traditional IT frameworks. Legacy frameworks don't translate well to the cloud because the cloud introduces myriad complexities. But FinOps can help account for these complexities.

What is FinOps — and how can it help organizations control cloud costs, minimize risks, and drive efficiencies?

FinOps is a financial management framework for the cloud that unites systems, best practices, and culture to help organizations better understand cloud costs. It also introduces financial accountability to cloud spending, enabling teams to improve decision-making and interdepartmental collaboration.

A good, savvy detective can piece together seemingly unrelated details and track down inconsistencies when things aren't adding up. Similarly, FinOps uses a detective's cunning and toolset to run diagnostics that identify problem areas of your cloud deployment so you can minimize waste and optimize budgets.

What can SoftwareOne's expert cloud detectives uncover with FinOps? Here are four ways we can help your organization unlock the transparency, predictability, and governance needed for effective cloud financial management within platforms like Microsoft Azure.



4 ways FinOps can solve the mysteries of cloud spend



Ensure stakeholder alignment

A FinOps diagnostic is a golden opportunity to bring together cloud stakeholders — e.g., finance, IT, engineering, procurement, security, and business leads — and determine if they're all on the same page about cloud spend. **(Plot twist: They're not.)**

With all relevant parties gathered, cloud detectives can begin to gather evidence and data through interviews and digital forensics. The detective work helps determine who owns cloud strategy, where misalignment is occurring, and other important details. After the interviews, FinOps helps power collaboration across departments and unlock the cloud's maximum value for the business.



Develop recommendations and best practices

Do you know if there are gaps in your current cloud management strategy? Our cloud detectives can pinpoint any disconnects and anomalies to optimize budget, forecasts, and governance.

It takes a trained eye to bridge these gaps. Cloud detectives turn over every stone to find holes in a cloud spend story. We also assess and benchmark your current technology maturity to determine strengths and weaknesses. Our team then provides expert recommendations, best practices, and detailed assignments of who should do what and when. With these insights and findings, you can improve your maturity level and enable real-time, data-driven decision-making.



Create a culture of accountability

At its core, FinOps is a cultural practice. Organizations risk overspending, missed KPIs, and lost budgets without accountability for the cloud. Our cloud detectives investigate your cloud culture — and turn it into a culture of accountability.

FinOps retraces steps to reveal problem areas and find solutions. And once the gig is up, you can allocate cloud costs to departments or businesses (i.e., your cloud spend offenders) with showbacks or chargebacks. You can also create and maintain tagging of resources. A culture of accountability brings financial and operational control back to your organization.



Unlock cloud spend visibility

Our cloud detectives bring your cloud spending to light. Once wasteful cloud spend areas are illuminated, you can work to tame them and gain confidence that you aren't paying more than you need to.

A FinOps cloud model also benchmarks your current cloud cost optimization practices to reveal how you stack up against the competition. With complete spending knowledge, you can leverage your cloud investments more effectively, avoid unplanned license and service costs, enable faster product delivery, and gain a competitive edge.

Put SoftwareOne's cloud detectives on the case

Ready to root out your cloud spend suspects and unlock the full value of the cloud?

[Sign up for a FinOps Starter Pack](#)

