Most companies don't plan cloud exits too late.

They architect them away early.

THE HIDDEN TRUTH

The exit window closes before the exit decision.

Cloud exit becomes non-computable before it becomes operationally impossible.

The data is still there. The workloads are still running.

But the structural conditions that made exit legible are gone.

THE REAL ANTAGONIST

It's not the vendor.

It's the design philosophy.

DESIGNED FOR

Onboarding Velocity

Faster provisioning. Less ops burden.

Managed everything.

WHAT YOU NEED

Exit Survivability

Portable data. Owned control plane.

Mappable dependencies.

FRAMEWORK #104 — EXIT READINESS WINDOW

Exit readiness is the absence of irreversible coupling across 4 constraint domains.

01

Data Gravity Constraint

Storage & schema coupling to provider-native semantics

02

Dependency Graph Entanglement

Integration surface creating unmappable blast radius

03

Control Plane Sovereignty

Operational independence from provider-managed ops

04

Commercial Lock Structure

Contract & data terms that survive provider removal

HOW THE WINDOW CLOSES

The window doesn't close in one decision.

It closes in four stages.

01

Acceleration Phase

Managed services introduced for speed

02

Integration Phase

Services become dependency anchors

03

Coupling Phase

Systems assume provider semantics

04

Irreversibility Phase

Detachment requires redesign, not migration

The mechanism of lock-in is not the managed service. It's the irreversibility threshold.

IRREVERSIBILITY THRESHOLD

The point at which reversing a design decision requires rewriting adjacent systems — not replacing the original component.

IAM integrated into application auth flows	Managed DB triggers embedded in business logic	Observability tied to provider telemetry schemas	Eventing dependent on proprietary message semantics

Exit readiness is not a migration plan.

It's a set of explicit architectural rejections.

- ☒ Provider-native database behavioral semantics
- ☒ IAM delegation to provider identity plane as root auth authority
- ☒ Managed Kubernetes as operational authority for cluster governance
- ☒ Provider telemetry schema as observability and runbook backbone
- ☒ Egress pricing treated as a procurement variable, not an architecture constraint

FRAMEWORK #104 — EXIT READINESS WINDOW

The Exit Readiness Window Closes Before You Know It's Open.

Exit readiness is the absence of irreversible coupling across four constraint domains.

Optionality is not a feature.

It is an architectural constraint.