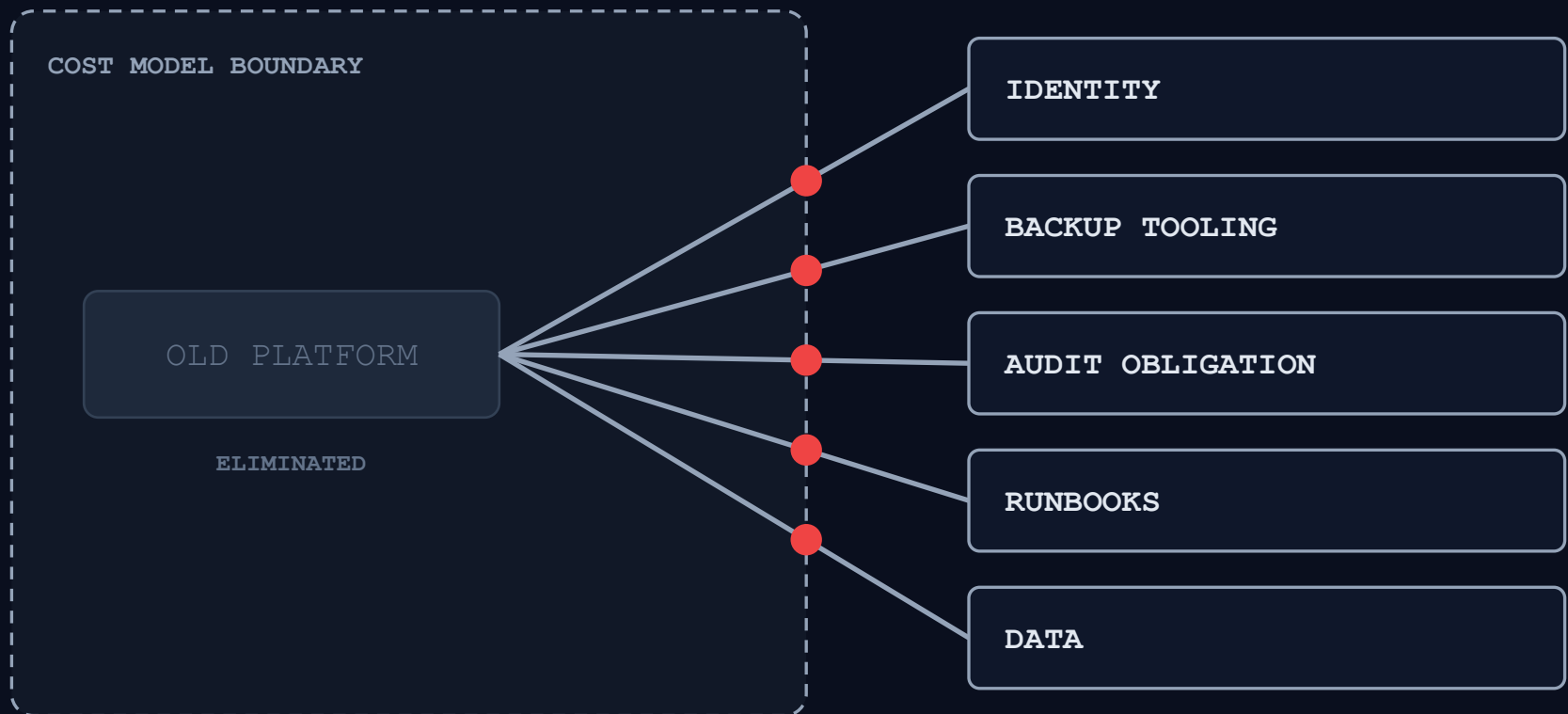


The dependency you eliminated is still billing.

Dependency residue: what the cost model stops counting.



The cost-model boundary is not the dependency boundary.

DEPENDENCY BOUNDARY

Follows calls, credentials, obligations, and data.

COST MODEL BOUNDARY

Follows owner, invoice, and contract.

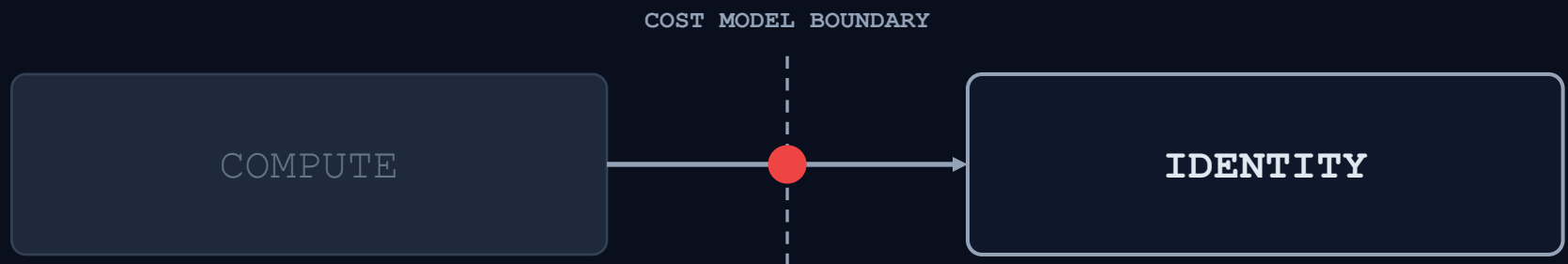
Counted as eliminated

● RESIDUE

Still depended on.
No longer counted.

The program closes against the inner line. The cost lives in the gap.

Compute moved. Identity didn't.



COST MODEL SCOPED

Instances, storage, runtime

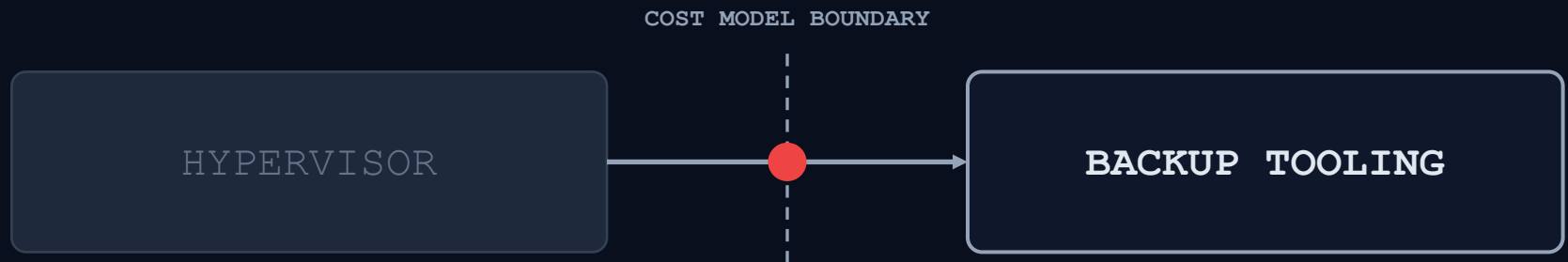
DEPENDENCY FOLLOWED

Service accounts, federation trusts, access policy

RESIDUE

An identity tenant nobody can retire

Hypervisor changed. Backup tooling didn't.



COST MODEL SCOPED

The hypervisor subscription

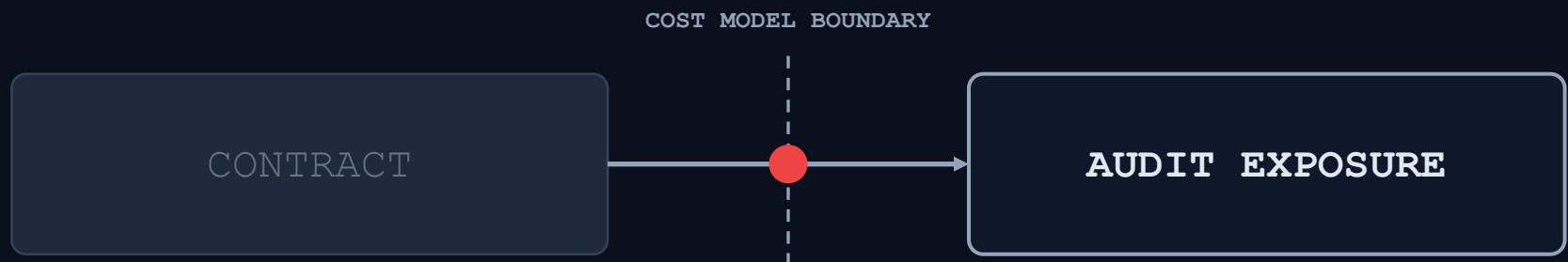
DEPENDENCY FOLLOWED

Tooling that reads VMware disks through VDDK

RESIDUE

Access to a library the exited vendor distributes

Contract terminated. Audit exposure didn't.



COST MODEL SCOPED

The subscription, until termination

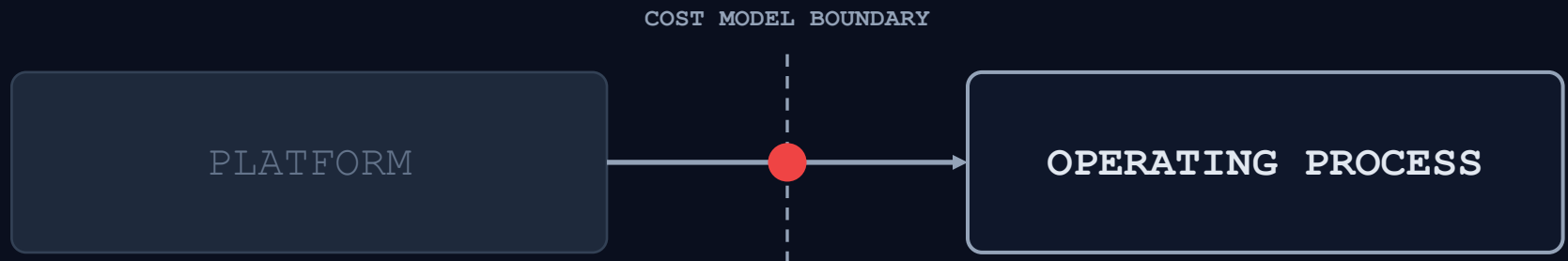
DEPENDENCY FOLLOWED

The contract's survival clauses

RESIDUE

Evidence, records, and people to answer an audit

Platform replaced. Operating process didn't.



COST MODEL SCOPED

The platform

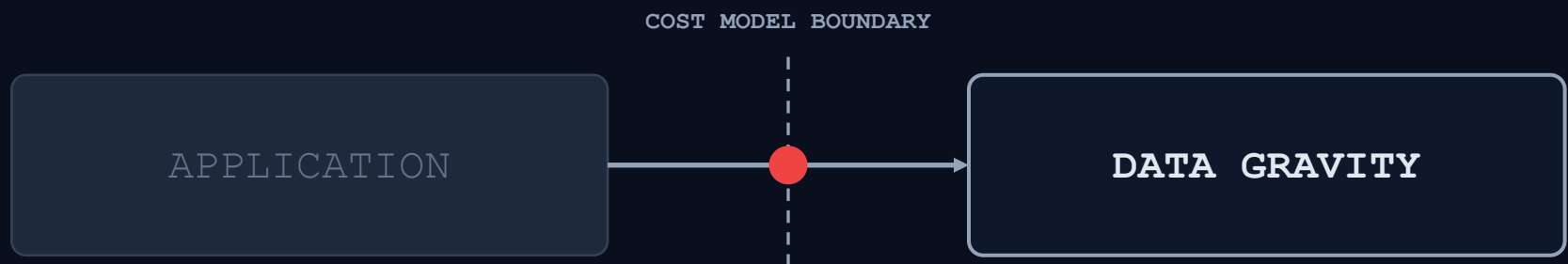
DEPENDENCY FOLLOWED

Runbooks, change, monitoring, escalation

RESIDUE

Parallel tooling and retained specialists

Application migrated. Data gravity didn't.



COST MODEL SCOPED

The application tier

DEPENDENCY FOLLOWED

Source-of-truth datasets

RESIDUE

Egress, replication, a storage estate still running

A dependency isn't gone when the cost model stops counting it.

It's gone when nothing still:

☐ CALLS IT

runtime

☐ BILLS FOR IT

economic

☐ CAN BE HELD TO IT

contractual

rack2cloud.com/dependency-residue | Follow The Architect for more