NAK

Microsoft Well-Architected Framework Review

TripStax

TripStax is a ground-breaking digital platform for Travel Management Companies that minimises the cost and effort of accessing travel industry Global Distribution Systems (such as Sabre for airline ticketing).

Born in the Cloud as a company and a platform, TripStax extensively uses Microsoft Azure, leveraging a wide range of cloud-native capabilities and services.

TripStax hosts infrastructure in Azure subscriptions provided by NAK (a Cloud Solution Provider), with the partnership between the two companies growing and deepening over time.

Before accelerating the rapid build-out of new features, TripStax engaged NAK to perform an Azure Well-Architected Framework Review (Azure WAF Review). This assessment explores the alignment of Azure infrastructure and configuration against respected Microsoft standards, practices and patterns.

With the wider TripStax team (including vendors), NAK conducted the Azure WAF Review over two weeks, running workshops and examining infrastructure deployed into Azure separately.

Each Azure WAF Review undertaken by NAK considers the Five Pillars of the Azure Well-Architected Framework:

- Reliability
- Security
- Cost Optimisation
- Operational Excellence
- Performance Efficiency

and considers both high-level architecture and low-level technical implementations.

An NAK Azure WAF Review concludes with the production of a written report that highlights critical and high-priority issues for consideration and remediation. NAK walked TripStax through the report, answering questions to help classify each identified issue regarding priority and impact.

A key point of focus for TripStax was reducing Azure operating costs, and several opportunities for doing so were identified during the Azure WAF Review, cutting across both Infrastructure-as-a-Service and Platform-as-a-Service capabilities.

Above and beyond constraining costs, NAK's Azure WAF Review is also a key driver in:

- Minimising reputational and legal risks from potential security breaches.
- Increasing user productivity and satisfaction through improved performance and availability.

for Azure-hosted solutions.

The Azure WAF Review is quickly becoming one of NAK's most popular services as clients look to understand the issues and risks posed by their Azure infrastructure and services.

> *"NAK's Azure WAF Review was a quick and easy process that gave us actionable insight to help improve our Azure estate. As part of ongoing governance and audit, I'll be inviting NAK to conduct an annual WAF Review from 2025 onwards."*
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> **Scott Wylie, TripStax CTO**

More information about NAK's Azure WAF Review can be found at:
nak.co.uk/waf