

# How a Growing Software Company Upgraded from Microsoft 365 E3 to Microsoft 365 E5 to Strengthen Security

A fast-growing software company wanted to strengthen how it protected users, data, devices, and access across its environment.

While Microsoft 365 E3 provided a strong foundation, the organization saw an opportunity to advance security further and extend their existing Microsoft investment by unlocking Microsoft 365 E5 for advanced security capabilities.

To make the upgrade decision practical, the company partnered with ProArch to establish a clear path that aligned licensing value, financial support, and post-transaction deployment planning.

## Solution

ProArch partnered with the organization to design and execute a structured transition from Microsoft 365 E3 to E5—aligning licensing, security priorities, and deployment planning into a single engagement.

### The approach included:



Upgrading approximately 1,000 users to Microsoft 365 E5 upgrade to strengthen protection across identity, data, devices, and security operations



Structuring the investment to improve affordability and accelerate decision-making—without requiring a large upfront services commitment.

**Industry:** Software Development

### Services:

- Microsoft 365 Licensing (Microsoft 365 E3 to Microsoft 365 E5 Upgrade)
- Microsoft 365 E5 Deployment Support

**Business Situation:** The organization wanted to think ahead about securing its data, identities, devices, and security operations while optimizing its Microsoft investment.

**Solution:** A 1,000-seat Microsoft 365 E5 upgrade with CSP Deployment Accelerator funding and with deployment support for key security workloads.

**Results:** Utilized E5 capabilities to strengthen protection across identity, data, devices, and operations.





Delivering a phased deployment plan to help the organization activate key security capabilities quickly and effectively.

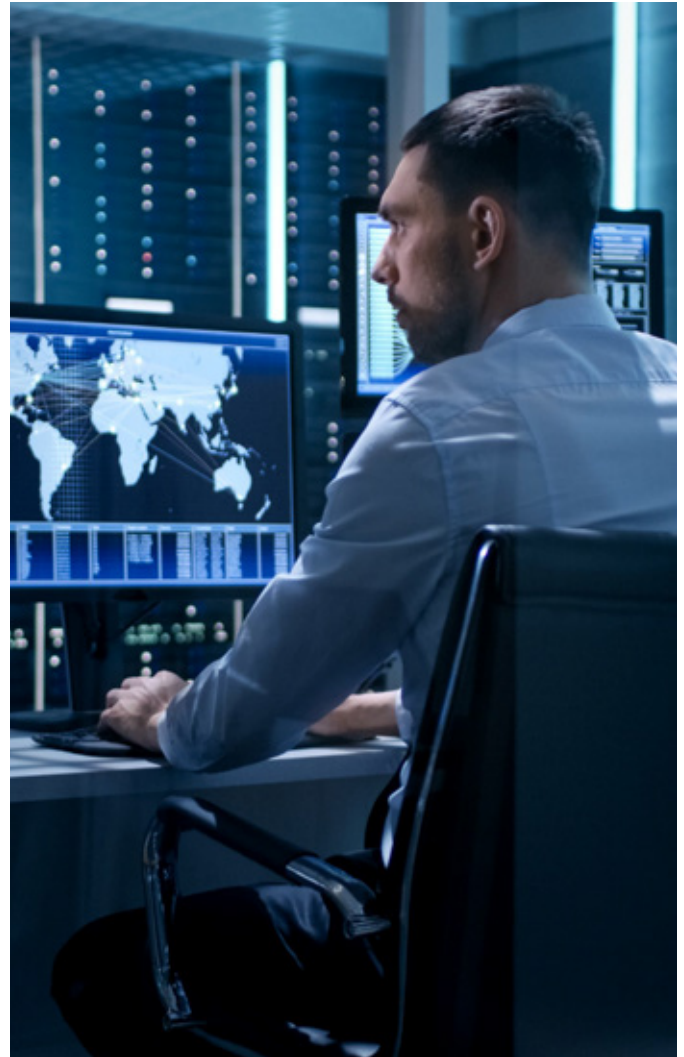


Providing hands-on guidance to ensure the organization could operationalize E5 and realize value beyond licensing.

## The Results

The engagement gave the organization a stronger security foundation and a practical path to turning Microsoft 365 E5 capabilities into advanced security.

- **Expanded security coverage across the environment:** The organization gained more advanced, integrated protection across identity, devices, data, and applications, reducing reliance on fragmented point solutions.
- **Faster detection and response to threats:** With enhanced visibility and centralized security tooling, security teams improved their ability to identify, investigate, and respond to threats earlier.
- **Stronger identity and access controls:** Advanced identity protection capabilities help reduce risk tied to compromised credentials and unauthorized access.
- **Improved ROI on Microsoft investment:** By activating built-in E5 security capabilities, the organization increased the value of its existing Microsoft footprint instead of adding standalone tools.
- **Clear path from purchase to adoption:** A structured deployment plan ensured the organization could move from licensing decision to real-world security outcomes, avoiding shelfware and delayed value.



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