



DATA CENTRE OPERATIONS · ISO-ALIGNED PROCEDURE

Data Centre Virtualization Go-Live Checklist

& Sign-off Form

Pre-checks and post-checks aligned to ISO/IEC 27001 · 22301 · 20000-1 · TIA-942.

The disciplined go-live procedure Skyline Cloud runs on every virtualization and private-cloud platform across Saudi Arabia and the GCC.

80+ ISO-mapped checks

Pass / Fail / N-A form

Acceptance & sign-off

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SKY-DC-VGL-001

Version 1.0 · ISO-aligned



About this checklist

A disciplined set of pre-checks (before go-live) and post-checks (after the hypervisor cluster is live) protects availability, security and service quality, and keeps the rollout aligned with the standards auditors expect. Mark every line, record who verified it and the date, then sign off — the completed form is your audit evidence. This is the checklist Skyline Cloud applies on every virtualization go-live across Saudi Arabia and the GCC.

Document control

Document ref.	SKY-DC-VGL-001	Version	1.0
Site / Facility		Classification	Internal
System / Cluster		Change ref. (CAB)	
Prepared by		Date	
Maintenance window		Approved by	

How to mark P = Pass · F = Fail · N-A = Not applicable. Record the engineer who verified each item and the date; attach evidence references where required. Any F must be resolved or formally risk-accepted before production release.

1 Reference Standards

ISO/IEC 27001 · 27017 · 27018	Information & cloud security, physical access, logging, data protection
ISO 22301 · ISO/IEC 27031	Business continuity, high availability, backup & DR (RPO / RTO)
ISO/IEC 20000-1	IT service management — change, configuration, monitoring, acceptance
ANSI/TIA-942 · ISO/IEC 22237	Data centre facility — power, cooling, redundancy and tiering
ISO 50001 · ASHRAE TC 9.9	Energy management and the thermal envelope
ISO 9001	Documented procedure, records and sign-off

Control identifiers (A.5–A.8) follow ISO/IEC 27001:2022 Annex A. This checklist is a go-live procedure aid based on recognised standards and does not by itself confer certification; align it with your organisation's ISMS / SMS scope statements and Statement of Applicability.

PART 1 — PRE-VIRTUALIZATION CHECKS · before go-live

A Facility, Power & Environmental

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
A1	Dual A/B power feeds from independent paths; both energised and load-tested.	TIA-942 (Tier III/IV)	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
A2	UPS autonomy ≥ design hold-up; battery health and runtime test passed.	ISO 22237-4	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
A3	Generator fuel ≥ policy; auto-start and load-transfer test within SLA.	TIA-942	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
A4	Cooling N+1; CRAC/CRAH redundancy; inlet 18–27 °C, humidity in band.	ASHRAE TC 9.9	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
A5	VESDA/smoke and under-floor leak detection active; alarms routed to NOC.	ISO 27001 A.7.5	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
A6	PDU/rack load balanced ≤ 80%; earthing and bonding verified.	TIA-942	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
A7	Energy / PUE baseline recorded for the new load.	ISO 50001	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		



B Physical & Personnel Security

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
B1	Badge + biometric access; platform staff authorised on the ACL.	ISO 27001 A.7.2	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
B2	CCTV covers racks and aisles; recording with retention ≥ 90 days.	ISO 27001 A.7.4	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
B3	Visitor / contractor log current; escort rules enforced.	ISO 27001 A.7.2	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
B4	Racks / cages locked; key and seal register updated.	ISO 27001 A.7.4	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
B5	Secure media handling; disposal / decommission records kept.	ISO 27001 A.7.10	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
B6	Door alarms and mantrap operative; clear-desk in control rooms.	ISO 27001 A.7.6	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

C Network & Connectivity

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
C1	Redundant core / ToR uplinks; LACP / MLAG failover tested.	ISO 27001 A.8.20	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
C2	Switch / router firmware at approved baseline; configs backed up.	ISO 27001 A.8.9	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
C3	Out-of-band management network segmented from production.	ISO 27001 A.8.22	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
C4	Firewall default-deny; only required ports; rule-base reviewed.	ISO 27001 A.8.20	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
C5	VLAN / IP plan implemented; no overlaps; documented.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
C6	DNS, NTP, DHCP and syslog reachable and authenticated.	ISO 27001 A.8.16	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
C7	Micro-segmentation / east-west policy for tenant isolation.	ISO 27001 A.8.22	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		



D Storage & Data Services

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
D1	SAN / NAS controllers healthy; no degraded or failed members.	TIA-942	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
D2	Multipathing active/active; path-failover tested.	ISO 27001 A.8.14	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
D3	≥ 20% usable headroom; thin-provision oversubscription within policy.	ISO 27001 A.8.6	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
D4	IOPS / throughput / latency baseline captured.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
D5	Storage encryption at rest; key management in place.	ISO 27001 A.8.24	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
D6	Snapshot and replication schedules configured per tier.	ISO 27001 A.8.13	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

E Compute & Hypervisor Hosts

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
E1	BIOS / BMC firmware at baseline; secure-boot / TPM enabled.	ISO 27001 A.8.9	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
E2	VT-x / AMD-V and IOMMU enabled; power profile set.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
E3	Hardware health green (PSU, fans, DIMM, disks).	TIA-942	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
E4	NTP synced; identical golden host build / image.	ISO 27001 A.8.9	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
E5	Hypervisor patched to approved level; lockdown ready.	ISO 27001 A.8.8	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
E6	Host redundancy (N+1) so a host loss leaves spare capacity.	ISO 22301	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

F Security Hardening & Compliance

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
F1	CIS / vendor hardening baseline applied to hosts and management.	ISO 27001 A.8.9	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
F2	Least-privilege admin; named accounts; no shared root.	ISO 27001 A.8.2	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
F3	MFA enforced on all management and console access.	ISO 27001 A.8.5	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
F4	Centralised logging to SIEM; clocks synced; tamper-protected.	ISO 27001 A.8.15	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
F5	Vulnerability scan clean or risk-accepted before go-live.	ISO 27001 A.8.8	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
F6	Data residency and cloud controls confirmed (KSA).	ISO 27017 / 27018	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		



G Backup, DR & Continuity

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
G1	Backup target reachable; jobs scheduled for all tiers.	ISO 27001 A.8.13	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
G2	RPO and RTO documented and agreed with the business.	ISO 22301	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
G3	DR replication configured; link bandwidth sufficient.	ISO/IEC 27031	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
G4	Restore procedure and runbook ready; ownership assigned.	ISO 27001 A.8.13	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
G5	Immutable / offsite copy (3-2-1) for ransomware resilience.	ISO 22301	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

H Change, CMDB & Documentation

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
H1	Change approved at CAB with risk and impact assessment.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
H2	Rollback / back-out plan and decision point defined.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
H3	CMDB / asset register updated for the new CIs.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
H4	Runbooks, diagrams and contacts published.	ISO 9001	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
H5	Maintenance window and stakeholders communicated.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

PART 2 — POST-VIRTUALIZATION CHECKS · platform live

I Hypervisor Cluster & High Availability

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
I1	All hosts joined; no cluster alarms; versions consistent.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
I2	Shared datastores mounted on every host; EVC / compatibility set.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
I3	HA enabled; host-failure simulation recovered the VMs.	ISO 22301	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
I4	Admission control reserves N+1 capacity.	ISO 22301	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
I5	DRS / load-balancing and anti-affinity rules applied.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
I6	Quorum / witness healthy (clustered or HCI storage).	TIA-942	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		



J Virtual Machines & Guests

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
J1	VMs clean-boot; guest tools current; time in sync.	ISO 27001 A.8.9	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
J2	No orphaned / stale VMs or templates; inventory matches CMDB.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
J3	Right-sized vCPU / RAM reservations per service tier.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
J4	Guest OS hardened, patched; AV / EDR reporting.	ISO 27001 A.8.7	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
J5	No resource contention (CPU-ready, ballooning, swap).	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

K Virtual Networking

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
K1	vSwitch / dvSwitch uplinks redundant; NIC teaming active.	ISO 27001 A.8.20	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
K2	VLANs reachable end-to-end; no packet loss / MTU mismatch.	ISO 27001 A.8.20	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
K3	Management, live-migration and storage traffic separated.	ISO 27001 A.8.22	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
K4	Distributed firewall / security groups enforce isolation.	ISO 27001 A.8.22	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
K5	East-west and tenant isolation verified by test.	ISO 27001 A.8.22	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

L Storage (Runtime)

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
L1	Datastores healthy; no all-paths-down events.	ISO 27001 A.8.14	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
L2	Multipath optimal; latency < 20 ms under load.	TIA-942	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
L3	Capacity and latency alerts configured with thresholds.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
L4	Replication / sync healthy; lag within RPO.	ISO/IEC 27031	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		



M Monitoring, Logging & Operations

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
M1	Monitoring agents report for all hosts and VMs.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
M2	Thresholds, alerting and escalation paths tested.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
M3	NOC dashboards live; on-call schedule published.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
M4	Audit and security logs shipping to SIEM; retention set.	ISO 27001 A.8.15	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
M5	Performance baseline captured for steady state.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

N Backup / DR Verification & Restore

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
N1	First full backup completed successfully.	ISO 27001 A.8.13	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
N2	Test restore of a VM / file validated and signed.	ISO 22301	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
N3	Replication healthy; RPO met in practice.	ISO/IEC 27031	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
N4	Snapshot / retention policy applied; no snapshot sprawl.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

O Performance, Re-test & Acceptance

#	Check item	ISO / Standard	Result	Verified by	Date
O1	Benchmarks meet or exceed the agreed baseline.	ISO 9001	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
O2	Service smoke tests / synthetic transactions pass.	ISO 20000-1	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
O3	Post-change vulnerability re-scan clean or accepted.	ISO 27001 A.8.8	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
O4	Business / user acceptance obtained.	ISO 9001	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		
O5	Go-live sign-off recorded; documents archived.	ISO 9001	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> N-A		

2 Open Actions & Exceptions

#	Item / finding	Owner	Due	Status
1				
2				
3				
4				



3 Acceptance & Sign-off

By signing below, the named parties confirm the applicable pre-checks and post-checks are complete, open actions are resolved or risk-accepted, and the platform is fit for production service.

Overall result	<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted for production	<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted with open actions	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
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Role	Name	Signature	Date
Prepared by — DC / Virtualization Engineer			
Reviewed by — Infrastructure Lead			
Approved by — Head of Infrastructure / CISO			

Plan a resilient, audit-ready virtualization platform with Skyline Cloud.

Design, build & operate — across Saudi Arabia & the GCC, to ISO standards, with 24/7 support.

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