Switching to WindSim - A Practical Guide to Smooth and Confident Transition

Best practices for a successful transition, and how WindSim will support you.

Executive Summary

Migrating to a new wind-resource assessment platform is both a technical and organizational change. This guide shows how to transition from linear, CFD, or LES tools to WindSim—Desktop or Accelerator (Cloud)—with minimal risk, clear ownership, and measurable results. It highlights key actions for customers and WindSim, addressing migration, training, communication, and adoption.

Why Teams Switch

Organizations rarely change engineering software lightly. It is done to achieve concrete business outcomes. Your objectives can mirror some of these examples;

- Better accuracy and bankability in complex terrain.
- Higher productivity through faster modelling and reporting.
- Collaboration and scalability across sites and teams.
- Lower cost per project through efficiency and automation.
- Standardization and resilience beyond individual experts or legacy tools.

Migration Challenges — Myths and Reality

Common Concern	Actual Experience with WindSim
"Data will be lost"	The same terrain, roughness, and measurement data are re-imported; only the modelling environment changes.
"Migration takes months."	Most teams reach their first operational project within two weeks of kick-off.
"Results won't match."	Accuracy and reproducibility checked prior to migration.
"Our workflow will change or "We'll have delivery interruptions."	Legacy and WindSim environments can run in parallel until full adoption. WindSim workflows fits into normal structure, but with efficiences
"Cloud use means loss of control."	Accelerator operates on Azure infrastructure; Desktop remains fully on-premise. Security protocol available.
"Support ends after installation."	Structured onboarding, follow-up meetings, and continuous support ensure stability.

Real challenges involve coordination, communication, and adoption. Without clear roles and training, progress slows and ROI drops. Early ownership and structured follow-up are key.

Transition and Onboarding Framework

The goal is sustainable adoption, not just setup. Clear roles and structure make change predictable and manageable.

5.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Key Responsibilities
Customer Product Owner	Leads migration internally, coordinates teams, ensures data readiness, manages communication, and tracks progress.
Customer Engineering Team	Re-creates projects, documents outcomes, participates in training, and embeds new practices in daily work.
Customer IT / Data Owner	Manages infrastructure, security, and storage policies.
WindSim Contact	Guides the process, provides technical support, and monitors progress against milestones.
WindSim Support Team	Provides long-term assistance after onboarding completion.

The Product Owner plays a decisive role: they translate project milestones into internal adoption and communication activities.

5.2 Overview of the Five Transition Phases

Phase 1 — Kick-off and Scoping
Define scope, metrics, risk areas and pilot projects. Appoint Product Owner and align stakeholders.

Phase 2 — Data and Project Migration
Rebuild existing projects using verified data (if relevant), all within the your secure environment. Maintain coordinate and version consistency.

Phase 3 — Confirmation and Internal Communication
Keep internal stakeholders informed. Create and use A communication toolkit to explain purpose, milestones, and benefits. Transparency builds confidence.

Phase 4 — Training and Knowledge Transfer
Train all users. Start with core training, then advanced or refresher modules. Apply learning in live projects. Super-users help coach others.

Phase 5 — Follow-up Meetings and Continuous Support
After first projects, review results, capture lessons, and plan next steps. Continue quarterly check-ins with WindSim as needed.

5.3 Change Management and Adoption

Adoption determines whether migration delivers ROI. A technically successful setup that fails to become the team's default tool represents unrealized investment. Effective adoption requires:

- **Visible sponsorship:** management and Product Owner reinforce expectations and celebrate progress.
- **Structured training:** all users complete the training modules relevant to their roles.
- **Active communication:** regular progress updates and internal success stories.
- **Peer mentoring:** early adopters help others replicate success.
- **Measurement:** adoption and other metrics tracked as management KPIs.

5.4 Typical Adoption Metrics

Metric	Target / Frequency
Share of projects executed fully in WindSim	100% after 3–6 months
Number of trained and certified users	All active analysts within 1–2 months or next training course
Average project turnaround time	≥30% faster than baseline
Support requests per project	Gradual decline over first 3 months
User satisfaction / confidence score	≥80% after 6 months

Tracking these metrics links adoption to measurable business performance.

What Success Looks Like

A successful migration is not defined by installation, but by full organizational adoption and measurable improvement. Success means:

- All analysts are trained and operate projects independently
- 100 % of relevant new projects are executed in WindSim
- Average project turnaround time improves by at least 30%
- Results are trusted and integrated into standard reporting
- Management recognizes WindSim as the default workflow and measures performance accordingly

When these conditions are met, migration is not just technically complete—it is operationally embedded, delivering sustainable ROI and organizational resilience. Examples of outcomes include;

- Up to 90% reduction in simulation time (Accelerator vs. desktop)
- Up to 30% AEP gain in real projects (eg. Statkraft Fosen, Torrild)
- Mean wind-speed error below 6 % (Bolund)
- Pre-processing time reduced from half a day to 30 minutes (Statkraft)

"Training courses provided and support services have been of high quality and very helpful." - Tony Rovers, Contact Energy

"Previously we were using different third-party programs to prepare roughness and height data. With WindSim Accelerator, that takes as little as 30 minutes instead of half a day." — Ove Undheim, Statkraft

"WindSim has improved workflow efficiency and reduced room for error—and it's easier to train new analysts." — Eivind Støvne, Norconsult

Other resources

📩 Book a Transition Consultation
🔗 Learn more: Onboarding Portal
🔗 Consult our Discovery Hub for validation studies, white papers, customer success stories and other information about our solutions.

WindSim Migration & Adoption Checklist

This check list is based on best practices for maximizing ROI of the investment.

1. Preparation and Governance
Goal: establish clear ownership and alignment before migration.

☐ Nominate a Product Owner to lead the transition.
☐ Identify key stakeholders (engineering, IT, management).
☐ Define business goals (accuracy, speed, ROI, consistency).
☐ Select 1–2 pilot projects for migration.
☐ Review available input data and confirm internal data-handling rules.
☐ Set timeline and schedule the kick-off meeting.
☐ Approve an internal communication plan.

2. Data and Project Migration
Goal: rebuild projects within your own secure environment using verified data.

☐ Check input data quality and coordinate consistency.
☐ Import terrain, roughness, measurement, and layouts directly into WindSim.
☐ Store projects under your own access control (on-prem or Accelerator workspace).
☐ Keep a version log for all imported data and project iterations.
☐ Validate first project configuration internally.

3. Communication and Alignment
Goal: maintain visibility and stakeholder confidence.

☐ Use the communication toolkit to explain why the change is happening and expected benefits.
☐ Send internal updates at milestones (kick-off, first run, go-live).
☐ Share early results to reinforce engagement.
☐ Gather and address internal feedback promptly.

4. Training and Knowledge Transfer
Goal: ensure all users gain competence and confidence.

☐ Register all relevant team members for core training.
☐ Complete training before or during the first live project.
☐ Nominate one super-user for internal mentoring.
☐ Apply new methods immediately in projects.
☐ Schedule a follow-up Q&A or refresher session.

5. Adoption Monitoring
Goal: confirm WindSim becomes the standard workflow.

☐ Track progress monthly:
– % of projects completed in WindSim
– Number of active, trained users
– Average project time vs. baseline
– User confidence or satisfaction score
☐ Present adoption metrics in quarterly reviews.
☐ Capture improvement examples for internal sharing.

6. Risk and Continuity
Goal: protect data integrity and workflow stability.

☐ Keep all data and project files within your organization's systems.
☐ Maintain version control and secure backups.
☐ Verify coordinate systems and ensure consistent project setup.
☐ Record lessons learned for future migrations.

7. Success Confirmation
Goal: confirm that technical and business outcomes are achieved.

☐ 100 % of new projects created in WindSim.
☐ All analysts trained and operating independently.
☐ Project turnaround time improved by at least 30 %.
☐ Results trusted and included in formal reporting.
☐ Management recognizes WindSim as the standard platform.
☐ Discontinue previously used platforms and subscriptions.

Sign-off

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Customer Product Owner: _____Date: _____
WindSim Contact: _____ Date: _____