5 Steps to Achieve the Flexibility of Public Cloud and the Control of Private Cloud

Get the Best of Both Worlds With Integrated Microsoft® and VMware Clouds on Hitachi Unified Compute Platform

Faced with skyrocketing data storage requirements, increasing user demand and risks associated with shadow IT, enterprises are looking for ways to achieve the flexibility of public clouds and the control of private clouds. To run your business effectively in a rapidly changing marketplace, you need the advantages of public and private cloud computing without the downsides of either one. You need flexibility: predictable monthly operating costs, pricing that coincides with consumption, the right compute resources available at the right time, and less equipment to buy and manage. And you need control over security, access, performance and service levels. Use this checklist to help you achieve the best of both worlds.

- **STEP 1. SHIFT RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY TO A TRUSTED SUPPLIER**

  Consider the freedom of handing over the design, installation and management of a private cloud to a trusted supplier. The supplier installs its own equipment on your premises and enters into a contract based on outcomes. This means your monthly charges are based on how much you consume, how fast your applications run, the quality of services you require, and the security measures you need.

  Your supplier should respond to changing business needs with exactly the right compute resources and deliver the highest levels of security and control. You can pass technological and financial risk on to your supplier. Ideally, this supplier brings in trained personnel to manage the IT environment for you and take on labor-intensive tasks associated with architectural design and technical refresh. The supplier also shoulders the responsibility of staffing numbers and training levels.

- **STEP 2. ALIGN COSTS WITH BUSINESS USE**

  The ideal managed cloud solution should free you from buying equipment and incurring a capital expense. Rather than paying an upfront charge for the solution or subsequent upgrades, you should pay only for the resources you consume. It should be possible to align resources quickly to meet unpredictable demands. Costs should be transparent, with hardware, software, support, administration and management all included in the per-unit pricing.

  In fact, you should be able to calculate an overall reduction in total cost of ownership based on a number of cost efficiencies. These efficiencies include paying only for what you use, reduced maintenance and support costs, no hardware expense, and no software licensing expense. By linking fluctuating consumption with billing, you can also encourage usage-based behavior from lines of business.

- **STEP 3. Choose the Cloud That Is Right for You**

  Your environment should allow you to easily move workloads across cloud choices as a way to temporarily increase capacity or experience the best pricing options.

  The most efficient way to accomplish this level of agility is through a converged infrastructure that tightly integrates popular clouds with the prevailing environment. For example, by integrating Microsoft Azure™ with a converged Microsoft environment or VMware vCloud Hybrid Service (vCHS) with a converged VMware environment, companies can use hybrid cloud efficiency to leverage the benefits Microsoft and VMware are providing in the public cloud space.
STEP 4. MANAGE CONVERGED INFRASTRUCTURE FROM A FAMILIAR SINGLE PANE OF GLASS

It is common for a company to use a single dominant management interface. In a predominantly Microsoft environment, Microsoft System Center would be a logical choice, while a VMware environment would be well served by VMware vCenter.

By converging all Microsoft Hyper-V® or VMware vSphere applications and managing them through a single pane of glass, enterprises and the cloud providers who serve them can streamline operations to provide maximum efficiency with minimum staffing.

STEP 5. CHOOSE THE CLOUD VENDOR THAT ADAPTS TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS

The best solution is the one that closely matches your current business requirements and adapts to meet future needs. Cloud technology will continue to move forward, further breaking down the silos between public and private clouds.

To best prepare for the future, select a supplier who is at the leading edge of cloud technology with solutions that can flex to take advantage of cutting-edge breakthroughs. Your supplier should be able to advise you on your options and implement a custom-designed solution that precisely meets your current requirements. When your business needs change, your supplier should be able to make the necessary changes.

GET THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS WITH HITACHI UNIFIED COMPUTE PLATFORM

The public cloud plays an important role in containing costs and increasing business agility. However, most businesses would not consider the public cloud a logical deployment model for mission-critical workloads, where privacy, data sovereignty, security and compliance are at stake. To accommodate these workloads, many enterprises are looking at private clouds. These ventures usually require large capital outlay, lengthy transition periods, and considerable risk that the investment will pay off before business needs change.

With a consumption-based, managed private cloud from Hitachi Data Systems, enterprises gain the best of both worlds: flexible pricing and elastic capacity of a public cloud and a private cloud’s control over security, quality of service and privacy. We’ll run a state-of-the-art, converged infrastructure for you and work with you to meet business-driven goals and eliminate the need for shadow IT. And we’ll provide the added flexibility of integrating with popular public clouds, thanks to joint solutions created with long-standing cloud provider partners.

“Total worldwide spending on converged infrastructure will hit $14.3 billion in 2017”¹

Download the full white paper:
“Extend the Reach of Business-Defined IT With the Most Flexibility and Control for Your Cloud.”
One Platform. Zero Worry. Want to simply management and support, enable continuous availability and scale to meet mission-critical business needs? Find out how HDS converged solutions can help simplify your processes by providing single-pane visibility of physical, virtual and cloud infrastructures today.