

Why moving to the cloud is critical for your business

MRS Insights

Key points

- **Cloud makes you agile**
- **Cloud makes you secure**
- **Cloud helps reduce costs**
- **Cloud drives mobility**

Who is MRS?

- Microsoft Gold Certified IT consultants specializing in modern Microsoft solutions
- Professional custom software development firm with over 35 years of experience
- IT managed services provider
- Cloud solution specialists
- Experts in Office 365 and Microsoft Azure

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Cloud is fundamentally changing how organizations run their business. Entire industries and business processes are being reshaped as cloud computing technology disrupts traditional methods of operation and breaks boundaries in productivity, efficiency, and connectivity. In the "digital-first, mobile-first" era, the cloud is a critical source of innovation and now, more than ever, businesses are taking to the cloud to empower their employees and drive competitive advantage.

As an introduction: a quick excerpt from "Why Microsoft IT moved to the cloud"

"Like any IT department, Microsoft IT has a core mission of creating solutions that support its customers. **Maintaining and upgrading servers, server applications, databases, and the hardware that these all required was such a huge undertaking that it was interfering with that core mission.**"

The cost of hardware, data centers, and people—all the assets that were required to maintain the operating systems—was tremendous. Plus, there were ongoing software updates and security patches. This required a considerable budget of millions of dollars a year just to keep the hardware running.

Microsoft IT management recognized that **moving applications and data to the cloud would improve collaboration and enable access anywhere, anytime—from a desktop or laptop PC, a tablet, or a smartphone—any device.**"

Why moving to the cloud is critical

In recent articles we've talked a lot about the cloud and the growing significance it's having in workplaces. According to Angus Loten of the Wall Street Journal's *CIO Journal*, global revenues in the enterprise collaboration market in 2017 reached \$10 billion USD. This figure was driven significantly by the growth in revenue of cloud services and applications: while revenue from on-premise collaboration tools during the period declined 4%, *revenues from cloud-based solutions rose 26%* to drive the overall market to record highs. Let's take a look at why the cloud is playing an increased and central role in today's modern enterprises.

The cloud makes you agile

With cloud infrastructure you can scale your IT environment as your business needs evolve and meet challenges in a flexible and agile manner – without the headaches that go in to managing and upgrading existing servers and other hardware. This is critical in the fast-evolving, highly innovative digital world of today where organizations must react quickly to changing customer demands and take advantage of greater technological possibilities.

The cloud makes you secure

Information security is a top priority among chief-information-officers (CIO's) and other digital transformation leaders today as heightened data regulation and increasing consumer awareness on data privacy forces organizations to ensure they're managing data securely and effectively. Furthermore, the criticality of data and information in the today's heavily driven information age means businesses are taking extra measures to ensure their content is safe and secure and optimized to best use. The cloud provides a secure, stable infrastructure for organizations to house their data and other information without the added costs and headaches of local servers and the potential for infrastructure damage and disasters.

The cloud helps reduce costs

The economics of cloud allows for greater flexibility and cost control. This flexibility means no wasted costs in infrastructure or large capital investments on servers that often end up not used to their fullest capacity. With "pay-as-you-go" models, the cloud ensures your business will get value out of what you pay for by being more agile to evolving needs.

The cloud drives mobility

The most direct area of influence the cloud can have on the average worker is that it drives mobility and redefines how businesses view collaboration and teamwork. The "anywhere, anytime, any device" access to information and applications empowers employees to get the job done wherever they are and breaks the boundaries of the physical office.

Moving to the cloud creates unprecedented opportunities for businesses to reshape their operations and to unlock greater creativity, productivity and collaboration from employees. We are in a truly "cloud-first" world of enterprise IT where organizations must be more agile, secure, efficient, and mobile empowered by the cloud.

More information

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