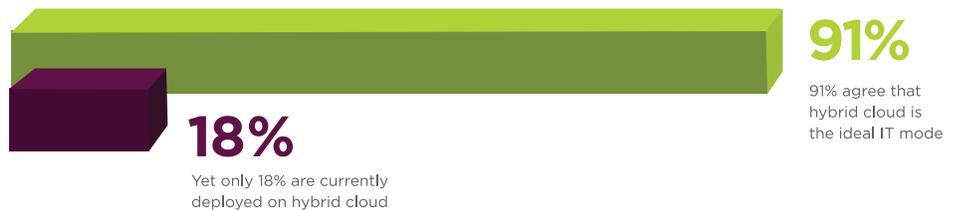# Are Your Apps Ready to Cross the Multicloud Chasm in the Next 2 Years?

Hybrid cloud is now seen overwhelmingly as the ideal IT model.

With digital transformation now a critical priority in multiple business sectors, and the viability of IoT business models coming into focus, enterprises are increasingly demanding the freedom to dynamically deploy and move application workloads based on business needs. Not surprising then that hybrid cloud capabilities are seen by 91% of respondents as the ideal IT model for today's digital business climate, yet only 18% are currently deployed on hybrid cloud.

91%

91% agree that hybrid cloud is the ideal IT mode

18%

Yet only 18% are currently deployed on hybrid cloud

The Value of Hybrid Cloud is Real

Widespread increases in team efficiency.

Enterprises have started taking an "application-first" approach to their cloud deployments and plans. Nearly 3/4's of respondents reported that the advent of cloud computing has increased the efficiency of their IT teams.

Hybrid cloud delivers more value than alternate approaches.

Just over a third – 37% – of companies using one public cloud reported having all their organizations' needs met. The number was higher – 43% – for those using multiple clouds, but the largest number of users that reported having all their needs met were in the group using hybrid clouds – 49%.

Hybrid cloud adoption expected to more than double in 24 months.

Adoption of fully interoperable hybrid cloud deployments currently lags behind private and public deployments, but it's on a steeper growth curve. While 18% of respondent organizations today use a hybrid cloud model, that number is set to increase to 26% in 12 months and to 41% in 12 to 24 months' time.

The use of both private and public clouds will rise sharply.

Today, **slightly over a third** of respondents' have IT workloads running in both private and public cloud. That number is expected to surge to more than half – 56% – in two years.

Yet There Are Roadblocks...

Bridging the Gap: Escaping from the traditional data center will take time.

The greatest number of respondents – 41% – were reliant on traditional data centers, with only 18% using hybrid cloud. Expectations are that transitioning to hybrid cloud will necessarily entail a process of increasing reliance on private cloud and then public multicloud environments.

Shadow IT hampers forecasting and controlling public cloud spend.

More than half of respondents – 57% – reported one or more incidents of shadow IT within their organizations. Where teams or departments use cloud services that aren't well-suited for their applications, these services can end up underutilized or abandoned while the company continues to be charged for them.

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The IT skills shortage

While 87% of respondents expect that hybrid cloud will positively impact their business, hybrid cloud skills are scarce in today's IT organizations. Yet specialized skills focused on hybrid cloud are required – 74% of respondents said – because IT vendors currently do not provide the right hybrid cloud solutions, forcing IT experts to architect hybrid clouds using legacy technologies.

Public Cloud / Multicloud: Avoids vendor lock-in, but at what cost?

A common hypothesis of how enterprises might avoid vendor lock-in – a key priority for most CIOs – is to use multiple public cloud offerings. And, the study found that 12% of companies are doing just that. Unfortunately, however, budgeting for multicloud is difficult. Only 6% of organizations that used public cloud services said they stayed under budget, while 35% overspent.

Bright Future – Bridging the Gap

The "reality gap" between the 91% who believe hybrid cloud is the wave of the future, and the 18% who are actually embracing it is real. We've outlined the roadblocks to hybrid cloud, but there are plenty of reasons to believe change is right around the corner. Especially because today's hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI) offerings, used to manage hybrid cloud implementations, provide the tools needed to overcome these hurdles.

Do more with less

With over half – 54% – of respondents agreeing that their organization has difficulty retaining IT talent, embracing hybrid allows IT to eliminate mundane tasks and devote more time to learning new cloud skills.

Easily deployed & managed

HCI tools feature state-of-the-art user interfaces and management capabilities, making it easy for IT staff to administer complex multi-vendor hybrid cloud deployments.

Grows with you – OpEx not CapEx

The hybrid cloud approach also eliminates the need for major capital expenditures on IT infrastructure. Rather than attempting to gauge IT investments based on 3-to-5-year forecasts, you can take a pay-as-you-go approach as operations expand.

Vendor agnosticism at a lower price

With more than a third of organizations using public cloud exceeding their budgets, the hybrid cloud provides a promising way to rein in costs by moving applications to the private or public runtime environment offering the best value.

Focus on Innovation

Because the hybrid approach streamlines traditional tasks and processes, your IT team gets freed up to proactively work toward innovations rather than administration.

The Value of Hybrid Cloud is Real

Interoperability

Interoperability between cloud types is the top benefit that respondents reported as drawing them to hybrid cloud computing. App mobility, consolidated cloud management, and burstability to support periods of high demand figure prominently in enterprise cloud decisions as well.

Flexible deployment options.

Respondents reported using private clouds most often for more predictable applications like data backup (54%) and internal databases (51%) and used public infrastructure most often for less predictable mobile/ digital (46%) and IoT (41%) applications.

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