

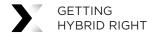
GETTING **HYBRID RIGHT**

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BY GENE KNAUER OCTOBER 2019





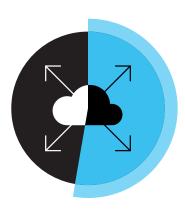


Hybrid cloud is winning praise as the way to go for enterprises. But you'll need the right management platform to make multiple cloud environments work seamlessly.

Flexibility, compelling features, and freedom of choice are all reasons why IT decision makers are gravitating to hybrid cloud environments — a mix of on-premise, private cloud, and public cloud services with orchestration between them. Hybrid clouds allow companies to achieve infinite scaling and give them the flexibility to move between private and public cloud environments for different features and to maintain firm control over their different workloads.

Hybrid cloud adoption is growing, but it could be growing faster. Why isn't it? Because companies are unsure how to manage these complex, multi-vendor environments, and are wary of recoding, retraining, and adding complexity within their IT departments.

But there's a better way beyond DIY. Read on.



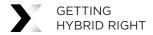
A 2018 study by IDC cited in Network World found that 56% of organizations surveyed use both private and public clouds for the same workload

Hybrid is Hot

Companies have learned that not all workloads are suitable for public cloud services. Public cloud can be expensive and inflexible. Security mandates, for example, may require data locality and that may rule out the use of public cloud if the vendor has no datacenters in required areas. The other problem with putting all of your eggs in the public cloud basket is a lack of granular control of workloads. The Enterprise Cloud Index 2019 found that 73% of respondents have repatriated their workloads back to their own premises from public clouds due to other issues, like the need to retrain their IT resources and the challenge of hiring new ones from a limited pool of cloud talent.

A 2018 study by IDC cited in Network World found that 56% of organizations surveyed use both private and public clouds for the same workload. Another 8% of companies use one type of cloud service for production and another for testing, development, backup, or analytics.

The flexibility of being able to choose the right cloud for different apps, use cases, and cost models is very attractive, so are features like data locality for compliance mandates and burstable services in different geographies to support periods of high demand. Security is actually perceived to be superior in the hybrid cloud model over other clouds and even better than on-premise, non-cloud-enabled datacenters, according to a study featured in CIO Magazine.



What's Slowing Hybrid Cloud Adoption

In the Enterprise Cloud Index 2019 study of 2,650 IT decision makers on five continents, 85% said that hybrid cloud was their ideal IT operating model. It allows them to choose the best IT infrastructure for each of their business applications and then move workloads around as their needs change. But 61% of all respondents cited strict requirements for hybrid cloud, which could impact faster adoption for many companies.

What requirements? The ability to costeffectively and easily move applications between cloud environments and to do so while maintaining performance, compliance with security mandates, and with ease of management.



Simplified Hybrid Cloud and Multicloud Management

Now imagine a management platform for hybrid cloud environments (as well as multicloud environments of interoperable public clouds). Using a single OS, the platform allows your IT department to manage all of your company's traditional and modern apps. Apps and virtual machines (VMs) can be moved from private to hybrid cloud deployments easily. Customers can choose their preferred hypervisors and hardware. No expensive rip and replace is necessary. With full compatibility of workloads, no recording or refactoring of existing apps is necessary. There's no need for new IT skillsets, practices, or tools. There's full license portability, giving you the freedom to choose the best type of cloud from your hybrid palette for each application. Additional burst capacity for seasonal or regional needs is enabled without re-platforming.

Basically, this type of hybrid cloud management platform is a new best practice. What's not to like? It brings hybrid cloud architectures under your control by giving IT a holistic view of what you're using, what it costs, and whether it complies with performance, security, and privacy mandates. With that knowledge, you can seamlessly move workloads elsewhere as desired.

The roadblocks to hybrid cloud and multicloud are coming down. It's a great time to investigate the new generation of cloud native management platforms designed to extend monitoring and management across premise and cloud deployments of all kinds.

It's a simpler, faster, and more costeffective alternative to herding clouds on your own.





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