

APPLICATIONS IN THE CLOUD – NEW WAY OF MANAGING DATA

Cloud Computing represents a significant paradigm shift to the way IT has been delivered in organisations in the past few decades. No longer do firms need to invest in hardware, software, licensing and support for desktop based applications. In cloud computing model, applications are hosted in the cloud and assessed through web-based services.

Cloud offerings offer a number of benefits over typical IT infrastructure model:

Lower Costs: Only paying for what you need/use.

Agility: Increased speed to innovate.

Flexibility: Select and combine best-of-breed.

Big Data: Flex capacity to crunch vast volumes of data.

Solution Delivery: Deploy development and test environments rapidly.

Upgradability: Let the provider do the work.

Green: Exploit cloud economies of scale.

Resiliency: Increase infrastructure resiliency.

The Business Will Use Cloud Services Whether You Like it Or Not

Cloud Services empower business leaders and developers in a self-service manner that raises their productivity and agility. Delivering private cloud to them does not fully replace this value proposition. CIOs should prepare their IT organisations to support and manager public cloud services

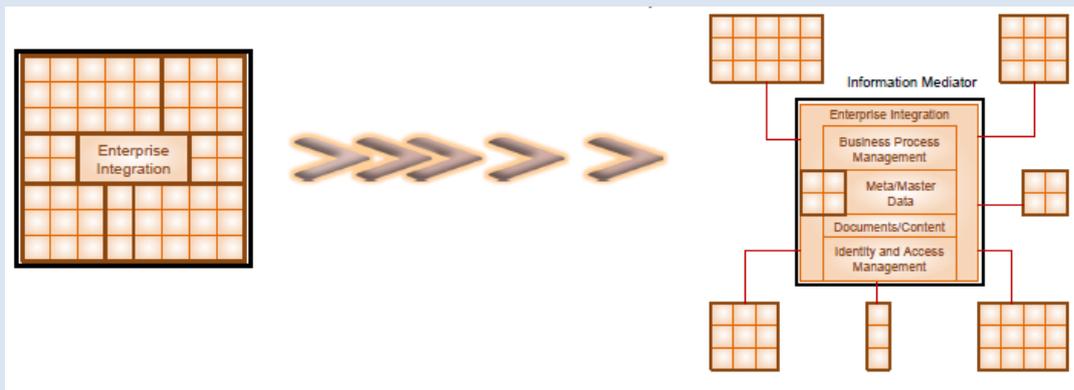
Security: In reality, cloud providers tend to have superior security capabilities than enterprises.

GET READY AND LOOK UP

IT departments should define their strategies, operating models and positioning to support the organization gain from the cloud computing revolution. Here are some of things they can do

- They can help the business undertake proof of concepts with cloud offerings at a fairly low risk, since the infrastructure is outside the enterprise network
- They can align themselves with business outcomes and concerns of business stakeholders and reduce the traditional concerns about data centres, servers, storage, and licensing
- They can assist the business introduce cloud capabilities in an organised way by suggesting the right approach and scoping.

InforMeta's recommended approach is to manage the move to the cloud in a systematic manner. If your current state IT landscape is organised into capabilities that are well-integrated, then you should look at migrating applications in a systematic manner, such that the capability organisation is still intact and cloud hosted applications still map neatly to those capabilities.



ADVANTAGES

There are significant advantages of the cloud approach for the organisation

- IT focus more on solving business problems rather than managing infrastructure and technical issues
- Systematic approach to data management becomes much easier
- Reduction of costs in managing data centres, licensing, and IT support
- Enhanced ability to scale organisational capabilities using leading edge applications
- Much lower turnaround time to deliver IT projects