You are not a robot. So don't work like one.

The how, what and why of simpler system management.

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Your top 20 enterprise cloud questions answered

shaping tomorrow with you

TOP 20
Enterprise Cloud Questions Answered

FUJITSU

NUTANIX™
Your Enterprise Cloud Platform

PUBLIC CLOUD, PRIVATE CLOUD, HYBRID CLOUD, MULTICLOUD

...cloud terminology is getting a bit, well, foggy! Which cloud among all of those available is the right one for your business needs?

THE ANSWER: PROBABLY SEVERAL.

According to a recent **IDC study**, 82% of enterprises expect to use three or more clouds by 2020, including private, on-premise, virtual private clouds, and shared public cloud services from a number of providers. Ideally, there's one cloud that serves as connecting sinew for all other clouds, and can easily run different work-loads in the cloud they're best suited for.

This brings us to Enterprise Cloud. Enterprise Cloud gives you a single point of control to manage IT infrastructure and applications at any scale. But it's also another cloud in an already crowded sky. Perhaps that's why we're not surprised at the questions we receive about Enterprise Cloud—specifically around why it matters, how it's different, and what it brings to the IT table.

This eBook is a compilation of the most-asked questions we've received about Enterprise Cloud—and maybe some you've been asking yourself as well.

LET'S DIVE IN.

1. WHAT IS AN ENTERPRISE CLOUD?

An enterprise cloud enables you to deploy the resource pooling, elasticity, and enhanced self service capabilities of the public cloud within your own datacenter. It's built with similar web scale technologies that enable the same durability, reliability and availability as the public cloud. All of this is available within a self-service portal that is category and policy driven. Using the Enterprise Cloud, you can extend to the public cloud seamlessly—"hybrid" is built in.

2. WHAT MAKES THIS CLOUD DIFFERENT FROM PUBLIC CLOUDS -- AWS, AZURE, ETC.?

AWS and Azure datacenters are controlled by Amazon and Microsoft respectively, and for the most part, your data sits outside your datacenter. Further, they force users to build and deploy applications that conform to their processes and architectures. An Enterprise Cloud enables you to get the best of both worlds: a public cloud experience in your datacenter that lets you choose best in breed technology that suit your business, and where you can seamlessly manage data and workloads in the public cloud when you need to.

3. WHAT APPLICATIONS RUN IN THE ENTERPRISE CLOUD?

Enterprise Cloud is well-suited to run the applications that businesses have come to rely on—from legacy apps to modern cloud-native apps that are served on mobile devices. Some prime examples of applications commonly run in the Enterprise Cloud are:

› **Business-critical applications:** Oracle databases and E-Business Suite, SAP Business Suite, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Dynamics, IBM DB2, and many others
› **Messaging and collaboration applications:** Microsoft Exchange and SharePoint, as well as unified communication solutions such as Cisco UC, Avaya Aura, and Microsoft Skype for Business
› **Server virtualization and private cloud:** Multi-hypervisor support for VMware ESXi, Microsoft Hyper-V, and Nutanix AHV virtualization
› **Big data and cloud-native apps:** Splunk, Hadoop, MongoDB, elastic, and more
› **Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI)** and application virtualization
› **Remote Office and Branch Office (ROBO)** deployments
› **Dev/Test Apps:** Puppet, Docker, Chef

Get more resources on the apps that run in the Enterprise Cloud here.

4. WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY BENEFITS OF USING THIS TYPE OF INFRASTRUCTURE?

There's one gigantic, overarching benefit to Enterprise Cloud infrastructure: choice. You get the best of both clouds: the ability to make use of the public cloud (including the pay-as-you-go structure that everyone wants) along with the control and security you can't let slip within your own datacenter's private cloud. In addition to all of this, Enterprise Cloud is designed to meet the needs for enterprise businesses, down to specific requirements for particular organizations.

Other key benefits include:
› The ability to deploy applications in minutes
› The ability to automate application management and give application owners and developers on-demand IT services
› Lower TCO -- to the tune of a 60% reduction in IT costs
› No rip and replace -- you have the freedom to use your choice of hardware and hypervisor
› "Invisible infrastructure" that enables you to focus on apps and services by providing tools to manage the entire app lifecycle

5. IS ENTERPRISE CLOUD JUST FOR ENTERPRISES?

An enterprise cloud is designed specifically for enterprise needs, and is tailored to meet the requirements of both existing enterprise applications and next-generation applications. The beauty of Enterprise Cloud is that it democratizes cloud technologies. Companies get the same cloud benefits, irrespective of the organization's size.

6. WHAT ARE PEOPLE LOOKING TO GAIN WITH CLOUD TECHNOLOGY, AND HOW DOES ENTERPRISE CLOUD FIT THE BILL?

Today's IT teams have specific expectations for cloud: faster time-to-market, pay-as-you-grow economics, and the ability to refocus on apps and services as opposed to underlying infrastructure. Enterprise Cloud delivers on all of these expectations with the highest level of performance, security, and better cost economics compared to public cloud.

7. WHO IS ADOPTING THE ENTERPRISE CLOUD?

Companies of all types in a wide variety of industries are adopting Enterprise Cloud —including those in healthcare, retail, financial services, manufacturing, federal agencies and many more. (See the stories of some of those companies here).

Within enterprises, adoption is being driven largely by IT departments looking to modernize datacenters. They're seeking the benefits of the cloud, its services, and SLAs, along with the security and control that they've grown accustomed to within the datacenter. The Enterprise Cloud provides the "best of both worlds" to meet these needs. On the other side of the coin, business owners or app owners are adopting the Enterprise Cloud with the goal of taking their products to market quickly without being delayed by IT.

And their feedback on Enterprise Cloud? Companies share myriad benefits they're experiencing, including the ability to simplify IT, grow, save on costs, manage environments successfully, and utilize innovative technology. Among their favorite things about Enterprise Cloud are its flexibility, security, availability ("it's always up," one says,) and reduction of datacenter operating expenses.
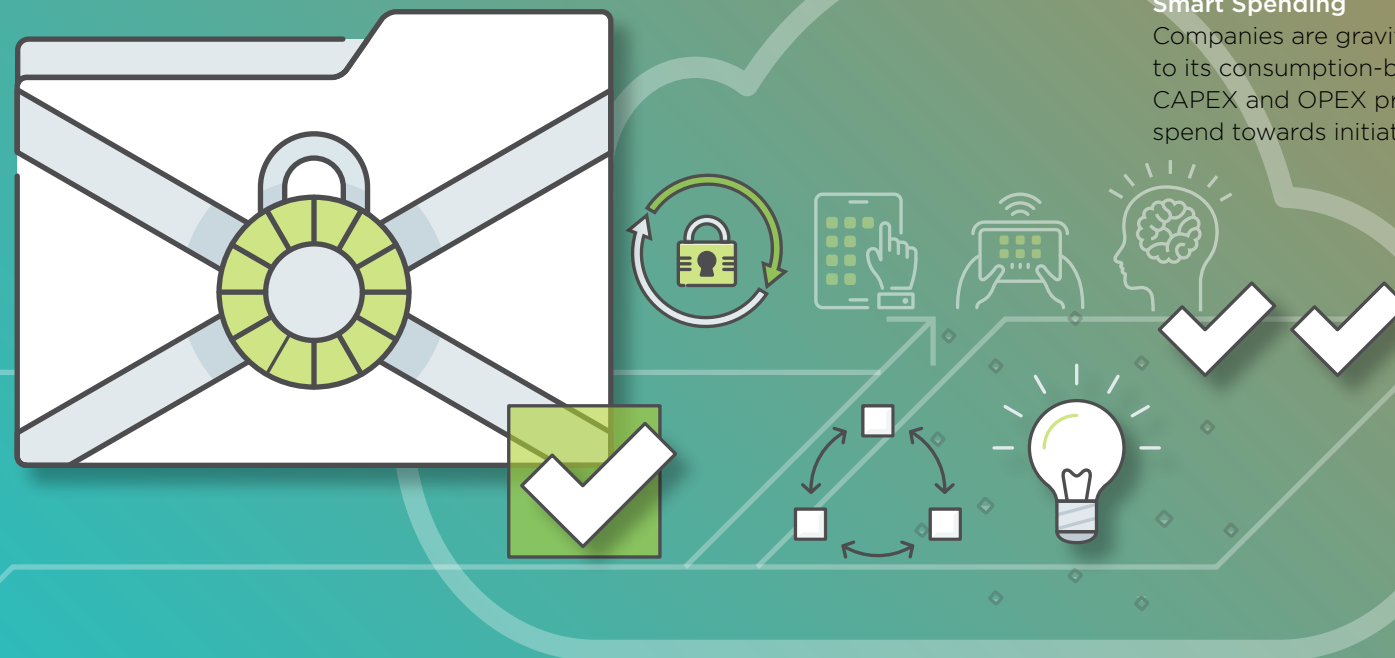
8. HOW DOES ENTERPRISE CLOUD MAKE BUSINESSES MORE INNOVATIVE?

Reliability
Much of the appeal of Enterprise Cloud is the fact that "it just works." There's no need for specialists to get involved, and employees don't spend time on making infrastructure. Instead, they're free to focus on building services, with the confidence of the five nines of availability.

Choice
IT teams have incredible levels of choice with Enterprise Cloud infrastructure. They select the hardware, cloud, and other infrastructure elements such as virtualization, networking and public cloud they already have or want and that suit the apps that will be running on them—no "rip and replace" required.

Smart Spending
Companies are gravitating towards Enterprise Cloud due to its consumption-based spending, ability to do both CAPEX and OPEX pricing, and the chance to reroute IT spend towards initiatives like building apps and services.

9. HOW DOES ENTERPRISE CLOUD MAKE IT TEAMS MORE INNOVATIVE?

Immediacy
Through one-click software upgrades, newly-introduced capabilities are deployed instantly without any disruption.

Specialists becoming architects
When the need to focus on maintaining infrastructure is removed, IT specialists can elevate their contribution to building the right architecture to support the apps that help businesses scale.

Automation
IT management is fully automated and —you'll see a theme developing here—is delivered with one click.

App management
With enterprise cloud, IT no longer needs to focus on infrastructure, and instead can concentrate on application lifecycle management. All application intelligence and processes are embedded in app blueprints. These blueprints are then made available to end users, based on their roles, via a marketplace.

10. IS THE ENTERPRISE CLOUD PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE I MANAGE, OR DOES A VENDOR HOST THE INFRASTRUCTURE?

The enterprise cloud makes infrastructure "invisible," and its management, simple. It can span your on-premises datacenters, datacenters hosted by service providers, and the public cloud. Therefore, the right answer to the question is this: It depends on where your infrastructure lies.

11. DOES THE ENTERPRISE CLOUD CONNECT TO MY OTHER IT ENVIRONMENTS, SUCH AS OTHER PUBLIC CLOUD SERVICES MY BUSINESS USES?

Freedom to choose is a key benefit of the Enterprise Cloud. IT teams select what hardware, hypervisor, software features, and public cloud services they'd like from their vendor of choice, and consider workloads and use cases in making their decisions.

12. IS THE ENTERPRISE CLOUD BASED IN HARDWARE OR SOFTWARE?

It's all about the software! Software is what enables multicloud operations. Enterprise Cloud software converges private, public, and distributed clouds, bringing greater simplicity to infrastructure and application management, irrespective of the hardware you pick— be it Nutanix, HP, Dell, Cisco, Lenovo, or IBM.

13. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HYBRID CLOUD AND ENTERPRISE CLOUD?

A hybrid cloud brings together elements of private and public cloud. The problem with traditional hybrid cloud is the dichotomy it presents: the latest and greatest public cloud solution on one side, and legacy hardware on the other. Enterprise Cloud brings cloud technology on-premises and ensures that it behaves and operates similarly within the datacenter and the public cloud. It delivers the benefits of not just public and private clouds, but also distributed and edge clouds. One final distinction is that Enterprise Cloud is optimized for application management and automation. Traditional hybrid cloud isn't suited to solve for application automation in a multi-cloud world.

14. HOW DOES AN ENTERPRISE CLOUD CHANGE THE DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT OF IT INFRASTRUCTURE?

In IT, you have to make your infrastructure work for you—not the other way around—and at this point, precious time spent managing infrastructure should be a thing of the past. Enterprise Cloud opens the door to time spent on other valuable activities like application management and automation. **How?**

1. Infrastructure that "just works"—no babysitting required.
2. Simplified, one-click management for performing operations
3. Ability to automate and integrate through extensible REST APIs and PowerShell crndlets
4. Ability to manage multiple sites centrally
5. Coverage for multiple independent management consoles
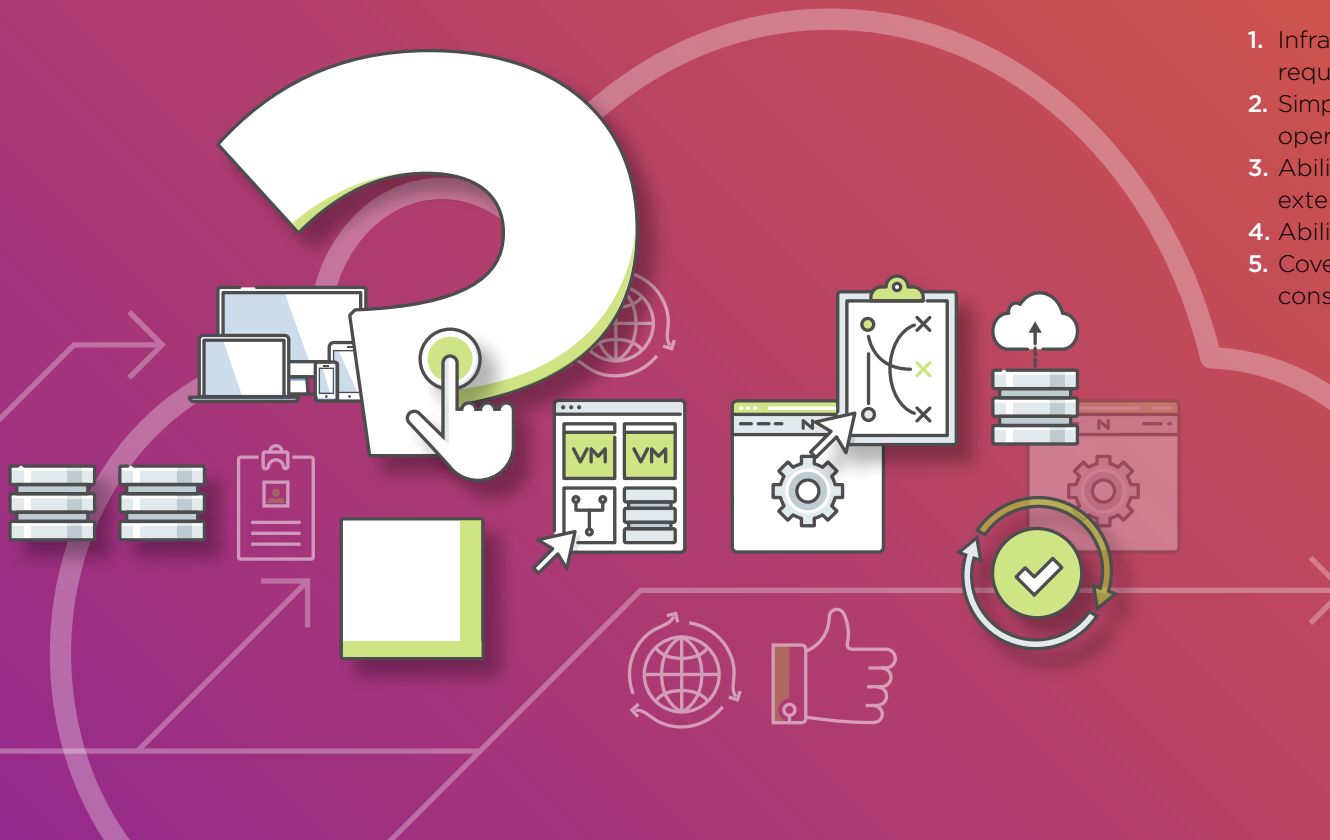
15. HOW DOES IT PLANNING FOR FUTURE APPLICATIONS AND GROWTH CHANGE WITH ENTERPRISE CLOUDS?

Enterprise Clouds provide just-in-time provisioning of infrastructure to meet application needs and growth. You have the ability to scale compute and storage independently, and can also deploy and manage workloads on any cloud—inside or outside the datacenter. Further, it relies on machine learning and artificial intelligence to forecast resource needs, enabling IT admins to prepare well in advance for new apps and increasing scale.

16. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CHANGES I SHOULD EXPECT ON THE MANAGEMENT FRONT WITH ENTERPRISE CLOUD?

Enterprise Cloud streamlines and simplifies management significantly, eliminating tasks like separate provisioning of storage, separate virtualization management, and overseeing systems for different hypervisors.

17. HOW DOES THE ENTERPRISE CLOUD HELP IT INCORPORATE AGILE PROCESSES INTO DAILY OPERATIONS?

Amidst the variety of ways Enterprise Cloud makes IT teams more agile on a daily basis, some top ways are:

1. Workloads are delivered through customizable app blueprints. All intelligence is baked in, and tribal knowledge is automated.
2. App deployments are standardized across clouds and different infrastructures making for greater continuity and efficiency.
3. Manual operations are replaced with everyone's favorite word: automation.
4. Dev to test to staging to production becomes significantly faster, making Enterprise Cloud ideal for DevOps; further, all these environments can be similar and thereby limit inconsistencies in environments and errors that show up in production.
5. Workloads can be deployed on the cloud of your choice with a single click.

18. HOW DOES ENTERPRISE CLOUD HELP ORGANIZATIONS ADOPT DevOps?

The key consideration in implementing DevOps is to improve agility and speed to market. Most organizations build their DevOps practice using the infrastructure they've already deployed. However, conventional infrastructure built upon separate servers, storage systems, and storage networks, create significant complications that can slow progress and introduce errors. With the Enterprise Cloud, the stack is fully converged, reducing complexity, increasing agility, and helping you eliminate common infrastructure problems such as fragmentation and slow provisioning. (Read more in the guide **DevOps and the Enterprise Cloud**). This helps DevOps-savvy teams automate infrastructure provisioning and release pipelines.

19. WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF THE ENTERPRISE CLOUD?

› A turnkey infrastructure delivered through on-premises datacenters and public cloud services
› 100% software-driven infrastructure stack converging server, compute, virtualization, storage, networking and security
› Machine intelligence for analytics and one-click operations for optimal simplicity
› Elastic consumption that allows businesses to buy and use only the resources they need, when they need them, removing overprovisioning and prediction risk
› Integrated security and control for the entire stack
› App mobility that lets business run applications anywhere without pesky infrastructure lock-in
› End-to-end app management and automation

20. WHAT IS THE NUTANIX ENTERPRISE CLOUD?

Nutanix Enterprise Cloud combines the agility and simplicity of the public cloud, with the security and control you enjoy within the datacenter. Built on the industry's leading hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI) technology, it integrates compute, storage, virtualization and networking in a full-stack solution that runs nearly any application.

HOW DO I

EASY AS A CLICK! Try it for free here:
www.nutanix.com/try

Have other questions we didn't cover?
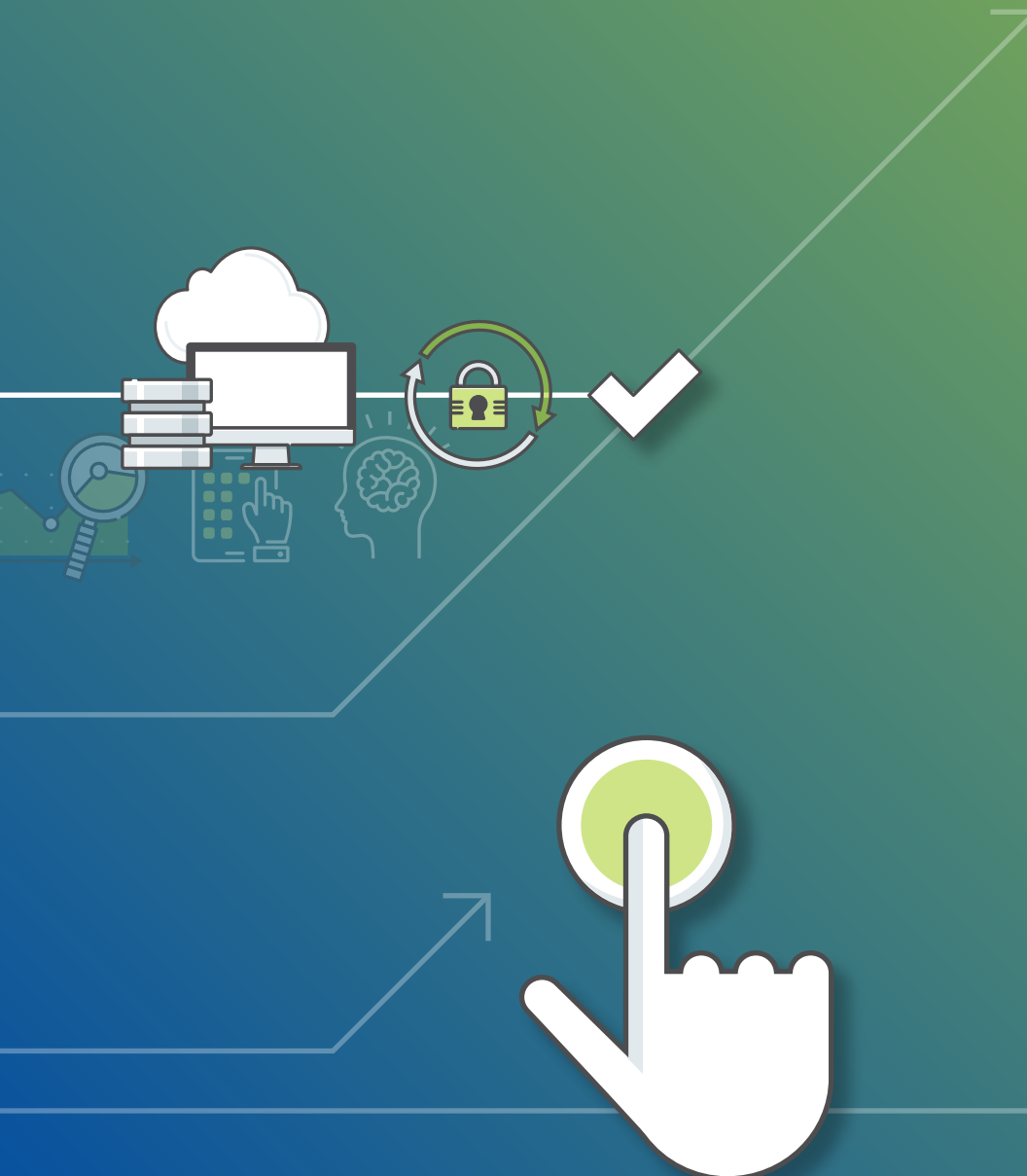Get answers today by contacting us!

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FUJITSU

Fujitsu UK
AskFujitsu@uk.fujitsu.com

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