

# Managed Cloud 10 KINDS OF SERVICES



**Managed cloud services, or the hosting and management of IT services by a third party, isn't an all or nothing proposition. Organizations can pick the right mix of services for them, with the option to add on or remove services as needed. Below are various managed cloud services that are in the market.**

## **CLOUD SERVERS**

A managed cloud services provider can supply one or more cloud servers built on your desired operating system(s). These servers can be configured with the right level of random access memory (RAM), storage space, and bandwidth to fit your requirements, applications, and business workflows.

## **BACKUP AND RECOVERY**

Using a managed cloud provider for backup can provide continuous coverage for all (or some) applications, files, records, settings, and other data within your organization. If a disaster ever damages or destroys your primary IT center, you can quickly and fully recover this important data, so you can continue your business.

## **OFF-SITE DATA STORAGE**

Not only is off-site data storage a "mirror" of your data files, but it can provide additional space for files that outgrow your on-site storage capacity. Similarly, some database files are too large to create and maintain effectively and economically in-house, and are better housed within the cloud.

## **HELP DESK AND CLOUD SUPPORT**

Managed cloud services can serve as a complement to the technical staff you already have in place. Managed

services providers tend to have a level of personnel and support that is impractical and/or unaffordable for individual businesses. And depending on your particular contract, you can have technical resources on hand 24/7.

## **CLOUD ADVISORY SERVICES**

A managed cloud services vendor can provide recommendations on how to better use cloud services and solutions. They can also pinpoint new opportunities for using the cloud, as well as cost benefits tied to moving applications to the cloud/creating them in the cloud.

## **CLOUD STRATEGY SERVICES FOR MIGRATIONS**

Managed services providers can help you develop a strategy for moving workflows to the cloud. This may include a plan for shifting traditional IT resources to cloud resources, and/or incorporating various cloud modes (private, public, and hybrid cloud) with traditional IT environments.

## **CLOUD DESIGN SERVICES**

Moving some (or many) of your in-house business applications and operations to the cloud involves more than simply transferring data and files from one network to another. A managed cloud services provider can supply your business with recommended practices.

## **CLOUD IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES**

Once you have your design for moving applications and operations into the cloud, your managed services provider can help you build, integrate, migrate, and deploy these solutions. They can enable new and existing applications, operations, and workflows to run optimally in the cloud.

## **ARCHITECTURE GUIDANCE**

While your current IT department may be very familiar with the systems and architecture of your existing

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applications and workflows, it's possible these will change when moved into the cloud. A managed cloud services partner can provide your IT staff with guidance and consulting in this area.

## A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT FOR SUPPORT

The right managed services provider may be in a position to provide a single point of support. If your managed services vendor can support your other IT initiatives as well, service calls can be even more efficient. This would lessen the likelihood of needing to contact multiple suppliers in the event of a problem or question.

## SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS, MONITORING, ALERTING, AND REPORTING

Monitoring cloud versus in-house network operations often requires a different kind of expertise. While you may not want to assign all cloud administration responsibility to a managed services provider, some level of partnership can boost your business's own efforts in these areas.

## RAPID APPLICATION IMPLEMENTATION AND DEPLOYMENT

When adding new applications and/or business operations to the cloud, a managed cloud services provider can often have them up and running considerably quicker than an in-house resource. That's because managed cloud services providers typically have access to more technical resources for this kind of project.

## 3 TAKEAWAYS

- Managed cloud services aren't just a large single offering, but rather a pick-list of possible services that a provider can offer.
- Managed cloud services span tasks like data storage, help desk, cloud strategy, cloud implementation, and rapid application deployment.
- Organization can choose to use multiple managed cloud services providers, or rely solely on one provider—depending on their needs as well as preference for having a single point of contact.

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Whether you use our Technology Products, Managed Services, or IT Professional Services, our integrated offerings simplify your business' operations, giving you the efficiencies you value. We stay current in technology that constantly changes, and are committed to providing you service excellence.

A 50-year-old independent, locally-owned company, we're also one of the fastest-growing companies.\* We are here for you now and will be in the future.

\*Providence Business News' Book of Lists, 2016

