

# Securing the Cloud

## Cloud Computing



Cloud computing takes many forms and operates in many environments. It includes the creation, storage, transmission and modification of documents, records, databases and other information in an environment that is flexible, scalable, and adaptable. Cloud computing raises significant upside potential for electronic discovery, document management, e-commerce, web-based and netbook computing, and instant access to a wealth of programs, documents and records. However, there is a dark cloud associated with this silver lining. How do you secure a cloud - particularly when you don't own it?

## Layered Security?

Traditional security involved various layers of security. Securing the perimeter of a network. Ensuring that applications are secure. Having effective intrusion prevention and intrusion detection. Monitoring user's activities. Encrypting documents and records at rest, in storage, in transmission and in backup. These layers add complexity to an overall system architecture, but also permit organizations to fine tune their security posture. When an organization migrates to the cloud, however, it shares a computing resource with all of the other users of that cloud. Applications are no longer "owned" but "leased." New versions migrate online almost instantaneously. Many of the traditional "layers" of security disappear in the cloud.

## Law of the Cloud

Cloud computing similarly changes how the law treats the environment. Documents are no longer physically in one location or another - they are everywhere simultaneously. Compulsory process can be served on the "owner" of the records, the "custodian" of the records, or the operator of the cloud - wherever they may be. Laws related to security, defamation, e-discovery and compliance frequently depend on where the documents reside. When they reside on the cloud, there is no clear answer.

Cloud computing has its benefits, such as economies of scale and standardization, but they in turn raise security challenges. "To bring these efficiencies to bear, cloud providers have to provide services that are flexible enough to serve the largest customer base possible, maximizing their addressable market."

"CIOs understand the potential business benefits of cloud computing but are challenged with how best to manage the risks associated with adoption"

HP executive VP  
Thomas E. Hogan  
Information Week  
December 17, 2009



# Cloud inSITE Services

## Expert Solutions with Secure IT Experts How Secure IT Experts Can Help

**Secure IT Experts** can help you develop, audit, validate and maintain your cloud computing strategy. We work with your IT staff and Cloud vendor to develop the comprehensive security strategy that will maximize the benefits of cloud computing to you and your environment while minimizing the security, reputational and compliance risks associated with the new technologies. We will help develop appropriate plans for securing and auditing your portion of a cloud, testing applications for regulatory compliance, and ensuring that any cloud solution you deploy is tested and meets your legal and operational needs.

*Let us develop a solution for you.*

Integrating security into these solutions is often perceived as making them more rigid.

Cloud Security Alliance Guide - Security Guidance for Critical Areas of Focus in Cloud Computing V2.1

Cloud computing has its benefits, such as economies of scale and standardization, but they in turn raise security challenges. "To bring these efficiencies to bear, cloud providers have to provide services that are flexible enough to serve the largest customer base possible, maximizing their addressable market. Unfortunately, integrating security into these solutions is often perceived as making them more rigid. This rigidity often manifests in the inability to gain parity in security control deployment in cloud environments compared to traditional IT. This stems mostly from the abstraction of infrastructure, and the lack of visibility and capability to integrate many familiar security controls -- especially at the network layer."

## About Secure IT Experts

**Secure IT Experts** takes a new approach to risk management. We have assembled a team of world-class experts in virtually every aspect of technology risk management – compliance, assessment, audit, insurance, policy, and specific technological solutions. We recognize the threats and risk businesses encounter every day. That is why this collaboration of world-class Experts has come together to provide you **with cost effective solutions** – learning YOUR unique challenges and assembling the right team FOR YOU. These Experts own the challenges of protecting your data and information assets from beginning to end. Security, compliance, recovery – that's what we do.....**covering the full range of security posture options**. Our combined decades of experience transform security problems into business solutions. You have enough to focus on in these economic times instead of worrying about a data breach. Let Secure IT Experts be the agile team that eliminates roadblocks and paves a secure path for your strategies. We have only one focus – our customers. We are about making you succeed. Let Secure IT Experts get you where you need to go and keep you out of the headlines. Contact us and let us find the right solution and the right expert for you.

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