Four Key Considerations for Building the Best Multicloud Architecture



As cloud architects move more workloads to public and private clouds, hybrid multicloud architectures are becoming more commonplace at large enterprises with always-on service requirements. But unlike the early days of cloud expansion when implementations were self-contained monoliths, these hybrid multicloud footprints are heterogeneous and always changing based on strategic goals related to cost, latency, security, service and other requirements.

The recent Truth in Cloud report revealed there is still confusion about the delineation of responsibilities between cloud service providers and cloud architects and administrators. For example, 84 percent of respondents believe their cloud provider is responsible for backing up data, but that's not true—they are.

As you navigate the complexities of building and maintaining a hybrid multicloud environment for your organization, consider the following four factors when it comes to your architecture.



1. CHOOSE PROVIDERS THAT CAN KEEP UP WITH CONTINUAL CHANGE.

Any provider you work with should be aligned with your evolving needs and should be committed to supporting you and your customers during these changes. This commitment applies mainly to cloud service providers but should apply to *anyone* with whom you work.

For example, customer-facing applications not only require frequent updates for security and performance but could also require the transfer of workloads to new geographic locations as your company enters new markets. If downtime is required to update or move an application, you need to alert your customers in advance to prevent negative experiences.

If you're using one cloud service provider or many, be sure they can handle all these changes with care using a white-glove approach tailored for your organization's needs—with no unexpected surprises.



2. CHOOSE PROVIDERS THAT SUPPORT API FRAMEWORKS.

API frameworks are becoming increasingly important within hybrid multicloud architectures as systems become more interconnected. Although APIs aren't new, they're extremely important as a universal language that connects separate digital components for a smooth user experience.

In particular, RESTful APIs have come into play in the last decade because they use less bandwidth, making them ideal for the crowded Internet. Simply put, having an API framework will make it easier to integrate different applications like a popular CRM app and other components into your hybrid multicloud architecture. Without an API framework, this integration becomes much more complicated.



3. CHOOSE PROVIDERS THAT OFFER FLEXIBILITY WITH CONSISTENCY.

In a hybrid multicloud architecture, products such as a data backup system need to handle changing workload requirements and maintain the same level of service offered by many cloud service providers at no cost.

But flexibility is about more than just handling workload changes. You need to keep all data compliant—regardless of its location or whether you have on-premises, hybrid or full cloud integrations. Flexibility means you don't have to wonder if a new technology or workload will be in compliance with your backup vendor.

When it's time to change or modify your technology stack, you need to ensure your data will stay recoverable, allowing you to grow alongside whatever technology you've adopted without worrying a point product will stall your progress.



4. CHOOSE PROVIDERS THAT CAN CONFIDENTLY MEET YOUR UPTIME TARGETS.

Uptime is critical. Every second a company is down can lead to lost productivity, lost revenue and potentially lost data. To understand why uptime is so important, consider the implications for a gas station, a bank and a casino. Each institution completes financial transactions every minute and all need reliable uptime.

All three institutions are completely transaction-focused, but each has a different need when it comes to uptime. The gas station can stomach a few minutes or even an hour of downtime because of the frequency with which transactions occur. Plus, it could manually restore everything that could be lost using receipts and time stamps.

The bank has a much stricter need for near-zero downtime because one minute of downtime could mean thousands of transactions potentially lost and dollars missing in both its and its customers' accounts. The same near-zero requirement goes for the casino, which sees hundreds of transactions occurring every minute on its one-arm bandits. Even one second of downtime could mean inaccurate reporting and potentially money ill-gained or lost.

The risk is tremendous the more transaction-focused your business is—and the reward for maintaining near-zero downtime is often the ability to stay in business.

VERITAS PROVIDES AVAILABILITY, PROTECTION AND INSIGHTS TO ADDRESS THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF YOUR BUSINESS.

A market leader in enterprise data management and protection, Veritas can help your organization achieve the hybrid multicloud architecture that meets your specific needs and goals. Our solutions can help you address each of the factors we've mentioned.

- NetBackup™—Ensure your enterprise data backup and recovery is optimized for your architecture.
- InfoScale[™]—Use a software-defined infrastructure to help improve and maintain availability.
- Resiliency Platform—Rely on automated resiliency to help quickly and easily move or migrate solutions.

Learn how Veritas can help you build the right multicloud architecture for your organization at www.veritas.com/solutions/cloud

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