

Cloud Computing - UK - August 2019

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“Cloud computing is a fast growing market. The corporate need to keep pace with the latest technology combined with the advantages it offers at times of economic disruption mean that the market is potentially even benefitting from the uncertainties caused by Brexit.”
– Terry Leggett, Senior Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- Why is the UK at the forefront of the European market?
- The data sovereignty issue

One of the greatest challenges to organisations is how to manage their many critical IT assets, including skills. This has led to the explosive growth development of cloud services, which includes everything from infrastructure-as-a-service (IaaS) to platform-as-a-service (PaaS), to fully-managed software-as-a-service (SaaS), the critical applications used by organisations. IT capabilities used to be a significant capital investment for companies, who looked to gain competitive advantage by the constantly evolving capabilities of both hardware and software. IT is now a very large area where scalable service delivery models (so called pay-as-you-go) are challenging formerly capital expenditure-based models.

Organisations embracing cloud services can benefit from the ability to uptake the latest technology, instead of being bogged down by maintaining out-of-date, not-yet-capitalised equipment (some of which may be past its end-of-life). Furthermore, their IT resources can be used on innovation rather than up and down lifting. In many cases, innovation is directly enabled by cloud services with flexible, scalable workloads (a company can 'rent' the extra capacity needed), the provision of highly proficient data analytics, and the ability to analyse vast volumes of data.

Cloud service adoption is evolving from tentative trials to managing mission-critical data in the cloud. Cloud adopters increasingly believe that placing data in the cloud makes it easier to secure, and ultimately enables them to be more secure organisations.

We are entering an unprecedented time of change as digital technologies disrupt entire industries and customer expectations, and the cloud is critical in helping companies cope with this change. A growing number of companies can foresee a time when they move all of their IT to the cloud, though with UK businesses steadily adopting a 'cloud-first approach', this change will take time. While smaller businesses are able to make the logical step to remove their depreciated hardware assets and move entirely to the cloud, this is less feasible for larger organisations with heavy infrastructure investments. Total cloud use remains many years away, but the vast majority of companies are developing hybrid IT environments.

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market

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