

Topic:

All about “the cloud.” (Part 2 of 3)

Cloud Implementation Models

There are three cloud implementation models:

- **Private** – Private clouds are virtualized computing, network, and storage resources that support automation and orchestration, and are deployed within a customer’s private network. They may reside on-premises, managed internally. They can also be located off-premises, managed by a third party and connected through virtual private networks (VPNs). Managed solutions may be provisioned as single or multi-tenant configurations.
- **Public** – Public clouds are virtualized computing, network, and storage resources that are offered and managed by a third party outside of the customer’s private network. Resources are hosted in a multi-tenant configuration in an external data center which may be distributed geographically.
- **Hybrid** – Hybrid clouds provide an approach that combines workload components from both private and public cloud solutions.

Cloud Service Types

There are three primary types of cloud services:

- **Software as a service (SaaS)** – SaaS includes network-based services offered through commercial software that runs on private or public clouds. SaaS examples include applications like customer relationship management (CRM), productivity and collaboration tools, online file storage, and backup services. SaaS options generally offer excellent agility and service quality, as well as simplified internal management with little or no capital expense.
- **Platform as a service (PaaS)** – Offered in both public and private clouds, PaaS provides a structured environment with an operating system that allows developers to rapidly deploy applications without having to procure or provision servers. PaaS enables rapid application deployment through self-service, on-demand tools, resources, automation, and a hosted platform runtime container in private or public clouds.
- **Infrastructure as a service (IaaS)** – IaaS is virtualized hardware (computing, storage, and network) delivered as code. IaaS gives developers more control over the entire application stack, or when the application requires isolation from other applications within the stack. In addition, an IaaS implementation exposes infrastructure services as API’s (Application Programming Interface) and provides a user interface that makes it easy for developers to consume computing, networking, and storage.

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