



BUILDING A HYBRID CLOUD

IT is challenged with delivering flexible, on-demand services much like the offerings from the major Hyper-scalers. For many organizations, this means embarking on an IT transformation to act on and deliver services in a totally different way while maintaining the core operations. They are challenged to support DevOps' new initiatives. The data scientists have introduced data requirements, with on- and off-premises access. Governance has become a challenge. The range and types of technology solutions widely vary from 'as-a-Service' complete solutions to open source, build your own solutions.

IT teams ask: What works? What are my peers doing? What will be cost effective? What will enable us to deliver on the current operational requirements while evolving into this new world?

Evaluator Group works with IT clients to solve near-term IT demands while building a solid long-term strategy for managing data in the hybrid, multi-cloud environment. We understand the balance of managing for the speed of the business, with the scrutiny of IT expenses. Core business applications may or may not be able to move to the new environment. Yet, new applications require a new infrastructure. With our research and expertise on technology solutions, we help IT evaluate capabilities across on-premises and public clouds and look at options for long-term delivery that can meet business demands, budgets and governance needs.

Case Study: IT Transformation – “Act like the cloud”

A federal government institution was asked to deliver cloud-like on-premises services. Their environment included applications that were highly critical and data storage performance sensitive. There was no budget to re-engineer, yet the mandate was to move to the new environment. The team examined options from fast growing start-ups, to current providers and 'Cloud-in-a-Box' solutions. While many held promise, questions on performance, high availability and risk lingered.

Evaluator Group was engaged to review the technology options and vendor proposals in order to provide recommendations that could meet the stringent requirements. Budget was a key consideration, both in the technology required and the personnel skills needed to operate. We also looked at the pressures on speed of the new environment delivery (weeks, not months), to determine the optimum fit for the client. Today, they have one environment, though data is served to the applications from platforms that best meet the SLA's of the business.

How Evaluator Group Offerings Can Help

For clients looking to deploy hybrid, multi-cloud IT environments, we can help in the following ways:

- Identify overall technology strategies to address the stated business goals
- Review and compare the technical options, identifying improvement areas and trade-offs
- Develop an economic analysis incorporating the changes in technology, skills and organization delivery
- Technology areas include: Multi-Cloud Data Management, On-Premises Hybrid Cloud, Managing containers in a persistent data environment