5 Cloud Migration Considerations for Government

For government entities the cloud offers a way to reduce costs, meet security and regulatory requirements, and ensure high-availability for their critical systems. However, government IT departments face some unique challenges when migrating to the cloud because of regulatory, security and stringent application requirements. If you're part of a government IT team struggling with these challenges, here's a checklist of considerations to help relieve migration headaches:

PUBLIC, PRIVATE OR HYBRID

An in-depth evaluation of your current applications and infrastructure is needed to determine the right cloud choices for your organization.

Evaluate the following needs of each application to ensure cloud success:

- ✓ Performance
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Data needs.

SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE

Develop a strategic plan that identifies where the risks lie and address how to protect sensitive data.

Security policies and protocols should be set in place that addresses:

- ✓ Physical security
- ✓ Cloud security
- ✓ Encryption
- ✓ Compliance mandates, such as PCI-DSS and HIPAA

HIGH-AVAILABILITY

Government operations require 24/7/365 access to data, desktops, applications and communications from anywhere on any device. Address these concerns by:

- ✓ Demanding strong SLAs
- ✓ Defining application-specific performance needs upfront

DISASTER RECOVERY

One aspect of IT infrastructure that often gets neglected is application resiliency and disaster recovery. Your cloud provider should:

- ✓ Explain its own plan for disaster recovery, and provide you with a clearly-documented service level agreement (SLA)
- ✓ Have facilities in multiple regions to ensure a degree of safety in the event of natural disasters or terrorist action

EDUCATION

Assess the skill set of your municipality's IT organization and understand if they have the right training to manage your cloud infrastructure. Ensure your employees are:

- ✓ Well versed in operating and managing your cloud environment
- ✓ Know how to handle problems as they arise

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OneNeck can provide a complete solution for your cloud journey. Our approach is to fully understand your municipality's unique needs and requirements to help you define the right cloud infrastructure for your workloads. We conduct a thorough Hybrid Cloud Assessment that covers all the bases to complete a successful migration to the cloud: workload analysis, bandwidth analysis and end-user experience analysis.

Depending on the workload being examined, OneNeck engineers will use various tools to analyze application access. Valid scenarios will be explored and presented to you as options. Then we can help optimize your workloads across customized hybrid solutions that span on-premises, private and public cloud solutions.

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