

We Don't Know What Cloud Is But What We're Doing It



Lori MacVittie, 2009-24-08

Survey says IT still doesn't agree on the definition of cloud – private or public – but everybody is doing it

Every organization with a stake in cloud computing's predicted billions of dollar market is interested in understanding what it is IT wants – and needs – for cloud. The only way to find out, in most cases, is to ask. So ask we did.



We asked 250 IT managers, network architects and cloud service providers not only about how they define cloud computing, but how widespread adoption of the disparate models of cloud really was. We asked about concerns and benefits, and just who in their organization had budgetary – and managerial – responsibility for

cloud computing.

The results shouldn't be surprising to anyone who's got their head in the cloud these days: no one is really sure just *what* cloud computing is, but they're all doing it.

Though IT managers may be confused about the exact definition of cloud computing, the technology has become widespread. 99 percent of respondents claim they are currently discussing or implementing public and private cloud computing solutions.

82 percent of respondents report they are in some stage of trial, implementation, or use of public clouds. Furthermore, 83 percent of respondents claim they are in some stage of trial, implementation, or use of private clouds.

BUSINESS IS INTERESTED

A key takeaway from this survey should be that despite IT's ownership of cloud computing responsibilities – including budget – is that line of business owners are driving both public and private cloud computing initiatives. With budgetary responsibility often crossing the lines between the “business” and “IT”, this should be no surprise. The cost of implementing small or even medium application projects desired by line of business owners can be onerous, as the operational costs of acquiring, deploying, and maintaining the hardware necessary to support such projects is often higher than the value such applications are predicted to bring to the organization.

Cloud computing, particularly public but increasingly private, offsets many of those costs by allowing excess compute resources to be shared and allocated to line of business owners for these types of small and medium use cases. That these business stakeholders are interested in and driving adoption of cloud computing, then, should be no surprise.

If you're interested in the survey and its results, you can [download a copy from F5 here](#).



- [Cloud Computing: The Last Definition You'll Ever Need](#)
- [Putting the Cloud Before the Horse](#)
- [Cloud is Not a Big Switch](#)
- [Cloud Computing Makes Servers Obsolete](#)
- [Cloud Balancing, Cloud Bursting, and Intercloud](#)
- [F5 and the Cloud](#)

F5 Networks, Inc. | 401 Elliot Avenue West, Seattle, WA 98119 | 888-882-4447 | [f5.com](#)

F5 Networks, Inc.
Corporate Headquarters
info@f5.com

F5 Networks
Asia-Pacific
apacinfo@f5.com

F5 Networks Ltd.
Europe/Middle-East/Africa
emeainfo@f5.com

F5 Networks
Japan K.K.
f5j-info@f5.com