



# Accelerating mission success at the edge

Faster access to insights opens up new opportunities for employee engagement and innovation



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**EDGE COMPUTING** **ALLOWS** agencies to grab data from the physical world and use it in the digital world. Because edge computing brings insights and intelligence right where that data is being generated, it gives agencies the ability to return data analysis and insights very quickly.

Reducing latency is extremely important when time is of the essence – for example, when an agency needs to predict a potential disaster or when employees are working in remote locations. By having access to intelligence right where data is being generated and analyzed, frontline workers can be empowered to make data-driven, timely decisions that advance the agency’s mission. They can be more productive because they’re not waiting for answers to come back down the line, and they are more engaged because they’ve been invested with the capacity to make good decisions.

Keeping data analytics close to where data is being generated can also reduce vulnerabilities, improve security and support compliance with data locality and data privacy requirements.

## Edge plus the power of 5G

Highly immersive and data-intensive services often won’t work in a centralized data center or even a cloud. The clearest example is autonomous vehicles. In that case, the onboard computer must be able to communicate with the car’s sensors and cameras in real time.

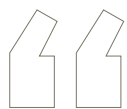
The data does not leave the car because we cannot afford even a few milliseconds for it to travel to a data center for analysis.

Such latency-sensitive use cases require edge computing and are further enhanced by the addition of 5G. Other emerging technologies that benefit from that combination include precision robotics, virtual reality and mission-critical artificial intelligence. For highly elastic, data-intensive, time-sensitive and immersive graphical capabilities, 5G plus edge computing is the formula for achieving the outcomes that agencies seek.

## Key considerations for adopting edge computing

Agencies should view edge computing as another tool in the toolbox. For any given workload, they should ask: What is the right technology environment? What performance do I need? What can I afford? There can be more than one right answer. Sometimes an agency will want to be in a cloud environment, sometimes it will choose an edge computing environment, and often, it will need both. In that situation, some quick analytics can happen at the edge, but then the data can move to the cloud for a deeper evaluation that





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will draw out more predictive insights and analytics.

There are three key considerations agencies should keep in mind when moving to edge computing. First, they should think about it as part of a larger continuum alongside their core technologies, including cloud.

Second, agencies should design for consistency in management and orchestration. Regardless of where a

workload is running, a consistent approach helps agencies manage IT resources and costs and allows the organizations to scale and expand.

The third consideration is more far-reaching, but I encourage agency leaders to think about the opportunities that edge computing opens up. What can you do with faster analytics and the ability to produce and deliver intelligence to frontline teams around the world? What can you

enable those teams to do with that new intelligence? How can edge computing accelerate your agency's mission?

At Dell Technologies, we are always looking for ways to help our agency partners use the latest technology, including edge computing, to achieve their goals. ■

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Edge computing:  
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