



# A framework for gleaning **multi-cloud** insights

The right monitoring approach ensures that agencies reap the rewards of multi-cloud environments

**T**HE COMPLEXITY OF MANAGING cloud environments has increased exponentially, especially if an agency has multiple clouds. That's why it's essential to have a comprehensive strategy for monitoring all aspects of those environments.

A global management strategy helps agencies understand whether they are running the optimal and most up-to-date version of a cloud provider's product or service and whether they're buying it in the optimal way. For example, does a long-term or short-term contract make the most sense

for a particular cloud instance?

IT teams also need to understand how well resources are utilized. Do they have the right types of resources? Should they switch to something else?

Furthermore, a crucial aspect of multi-cloud management is ensuring that resources and apps comply with government security requirements. Even if a commercial cloud infrastructure has been certified under FedRAMP or other programs, agencies are responsible for protecting whatever runs in that cloud. They must be able to continually ask and then answer a vital question: Are those resources and apps in compliance,



**Brian Paget**

Chief Strategy Officer, SAP National Security Services

or are they potentially drifting out of compliance?

## Capitalizing on the security and flexibility of multi-cloud

By constantly monitoring compliance, agencies ensure that the cloud environment is safe and productive. In other words, their data is protected and their employees have the ability to use that data to perform their jobs and achieve mission goals.

In addition, monitoring compliance and resource optimization is the key to ensuring uptime and appropriate capacity, as well as answering questions about costs. Agencies need to understand how they're running and operating cloud applications and then make sure they're applying the right framework for managing security policies.

Furthermore, flexibility and efficiency are central benefits of a multi-cloud environment. Moving on-premises software into such an environment typically requires a complete re-architecting of those applications. Otherwise, the agency could be locked into a contract with a single provider, which often means out-of-control costs or less-than-favorable terms.

Vendor lock-in keeps agencies from benefiting from the flexibility and efficiency gains of a multi-cloud environment. That's why agencies should consider how to optimize existing apps for a multi-cloud environment and leave their options open for moving resources whenever and wherever they choose.





**Monitoring compliance and resource optimization is the key to ensuring uptime and appropriate capacity, as well as answering questions about costs.**



**Catching compliance drift before it happens**

Given enough time and resources (often in the form of spreadsheets and consultants), agencies can answer any question about their multi-cloud environments. But they can do that more effectively and efficiently by using a tool that allows them to slice and dice information in a hundred different ways with a couple of clicks.

While managing and running our own NS2 cloud environment for clients, we saw

a problem. NS2 cloud delivers SAP and other FedRAMP- and Defense Department-compliant cloud software for agencies to consume at a fixed price. This involves creating, deploying and operating software in a multi-cloud environment securely and cost-efficiently. So we built CloudMIXR, a solution that helps understand changing costs and evolving compliance posture to ensure we catch compliance and cost drift quickly. The framework is designed to monitor cloud security, cost and resources via an intuitive

interface that’s optimized for government and regulated clouds.

Agencies can use CloudMIXR to manage costs and identify when software in their clouds falls out of compliance with security protocols. It’s an efficient way to ensure that agencies experience all the benefits of a multi-cloud environment in terms of cost savings, security, elasticity and flexibility. ■

**Brian Paget** is chief strategy officer at SAP National Security Services.



**CloudMIXR allows you to:**

- Automate security and compliance requirements
- Auto-scan your cloud continuously, monitoring compliance and fixing security gaps in real time
- Manage costs for hyperscaler clouds
- Save up to 50% on cloud costs

**REQUEST A DEMO TODAY**