



# The right approach to **secure cloud migration**

Agencies can streamline modernization by embracing cloud-native solutions and a unified security approach



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**SEVERAL YEARS AGO,** discussions with agencies tended to revolve around convincing skeptics to move to the cloud. Those discussions evolved over time as IT leaders grew to understand the clear value of adopting cloud. Not only can it be a more secure, elastic and scalable approach to managing workloads, but it is also integral to IT modernization goals.

Cloud provides the flexibility agencies need to manage workloads and adopt the latest innovative technologies while controlling costs. The challenge is to avoid taking a lift-and-shift approach. Existing business systems and applications were historically built to run on-premises. As a result, simply moving them to the cloud does not fully translate into cloud benefits. Likewise, the tools and techniques used to manage on-premises workloads cannot simply extend into the cloud either.

Taking an on-premises approach and repurposing it for cloud creates unnecessary complexity and expense, ultimately undermining the benefits of running workloads in the cloud. In order to realize true cloud success, you must couple cloud migration with IT modernization, thus taking advantage of all that cloud technology has to offer.

### Unifying security across hybrid environments

Agencies understandably want to ensure they can offer users the same services and performance in the cloud that they currently have on-premises. However, by implementing cloud-native solutions, agencies can exceed these expectations

rather than only meet them. The goal is to give users secure, seamless access to all the tools and data they need via the cloud.

In the interim, agencies will have to operate in a hybrid environment with some workloads still running in on-premises data centers until they can be transitioned more completely to cloud. Having different programs for managing and securing workloads in a data center versus the cloud can be challenging. Therefore, agencies should look for opportunities to unify their approach to security across all environments.

This can be a hurdle for some agencies,

in part because their IT teams may lack the necessary cloud skill sets. Migrating, managing and securing workloads in the cloud require specific expertise that differs significantly from a data center. To resolve this skills gap, agencies should consider the advantages of cloud-based managed services, which can significantly accelerate the benefits of cloud and help unify security programs.

### Cloud partnerships built on the tenets of trust

Cloud technology is essential to IT modernization because it enables agencies





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to rapidly adapt to fluctuating environments. User expectations, compliance requirements and workloads can change very quickly these days. By utilizing expert cloud-managed services, agencies can accelerate their pace to stay a step ahead. In fact, a recent study from Forrester, “How Expert Managed Services Accelerate Benefits of Multicloud,” shows that the top benefits for using managed services for multicloud strategies include more time for IT staff to work on

high-priority initiatives and overall faster time to value.

Agencies need their applications and data to be secure as they strive to modernize their IT environments. Successful cloud deployments hinge on creating partnerships with cloud providers that are based on the tenets of trust: security, compliance, privacy and transparency. At Virtustream, our motto is “Security is Everyone’s Job.” This only

works if the entire team internalizes this mantra, takes personal ownership in it and understands how it helps us — and our customers — succeed. To that end, forming a trusted relationship with a mission-critical cloud partner may be the single most important step an agency takes on its cloud journey. ■

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## The Right Approach to Secure Cloud Migration Starts With Trust

### Navigate the Four Tenets of Trust



Security



Compliance



Privacy



Transparency

Choosing a cloud provider for your mission-critical applications is all about trust.

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