

Ascure:

Your clarity in the Cloud

What is the cloud?

Ask 100 people what the Cloud is and you will get 100 different versions. Everyone heard about it but most don't know what to expect from it.

Even though the use of the word "Cloud" is being hyped at the moment, the principles behind cloud computing are not new. Businesses outsourcing their servers and applications to a third party in a remote datacentre have been around for at least a decade.

What is new however is that while in the early days your servers and data were stored in a known location, with the "nowadays" cloud computing services this is no longer the case. While the traditional hosting assured you of a dedicated server with your own data and your own applications, today an evolution can be seen observed: infrastructure and storage are shared amongst many different users and even companies. While this often benefits a company in terms of cost-cutting and reliability, 2011 Cloud computing also introduces a whole new range of risks.

What can we do for you?

Mapping the correct cloud service and the required deployment model to your business need is a very hard thing to do.

Listing all your business requirements in order to obtain the correct services from a service provider is a difficult task to perform. Mapping your business needs to the existing cloud services is key to a successful implementation of cloud services within your company.

Ascure will help you analyse your various business needs and map them to the various Cloud service offerings available. We will therefore analyse all your individual business needs, find the best and most secure solution per individual need and guide you to a full service model that will benefit your entire business. After all, email is quite different from data storage or a database.

About Ascure

Ascure is specialized in operational risk management consultancy and staffing. Operational risk management, information security, business continuity and compliance to laws and regulations are major cornerstones of our services.

Ascure assists its customers with the incorporation of operational risk management at all levels and in all areas of their organization, including day-to-day operational decisions. No decision should be taken in any organization without applying proper operational risk management. It can be applied throughout the entire life cycle of any activity or project. In order to minimize risk, it is however preferable to apply operational risk management at the beginning phase of a project or operational activity.

About Ascure Academy

Ascure offers, through the Ascure Academy, an extensive education and awareness program, covering several open classes, events and customized education experiences.

Contact

For further and additional information, please contact us on Tel. +32 (0)9 243 10 20 or info@ascure.com

On all Ascure services our general terms of delivery apply.

Cloud service models – overview

There are various different service models available whereas each model offers a combination of opportunities and possibilities.

SaaS – Software as a Service

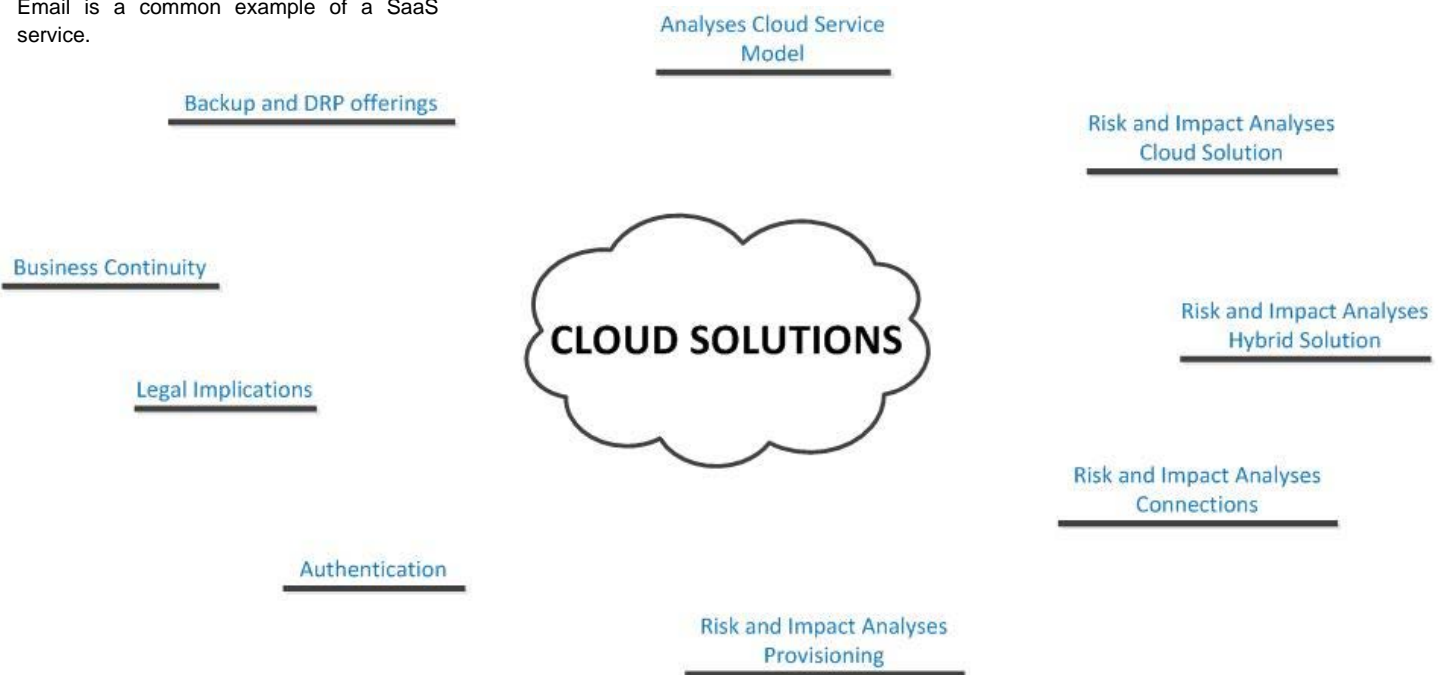
SaaS is the most common used Cloud service. The Cloud provider offers you a software (for example mail) that is fully operational within the Cloud infrastructure. While the connection is generally generic and platform-independent as a user you have no control or responsibilities towards the underlying hardware infrastructure. Often a “take it or leave it” service customization towards specific business needs is next to inexistent. Email is a common example of a SaaS service.

PaaS – Platform as a Service

In a PaaS solution the Cloud provider offers you the tools to develop your own applications, all within the constraint of their offered programming languages. While this gives the customer some customization, you are still limited to the boundaries set by the provider. Web hosting is a common example of a PaaS service.

IaaS – Infrastructure as a Service

In an IaaS solution the Cloud provider offers you the room with all its facilities and the server hardware together with all necessary components (firewalls, storage, network components, ..). While you have no responsibility for the hardware you can deploy your own choice of operating systems, software and tools. The traditional outsourced datacenter is actually the most common example of an IaaS service.



Cloud deployment models – overview

Various different deployment models are used. The differentiator is the number of people/companies using the infrastructure and their interests.

Private Cloud

In a Private Cloud the use of the clouds infrastructure is limited to one business only. All hardware and the housing is solely dedicated.

An on-site Private Cloud is a very specific form of private cloud is where all the infrastructure is maintained by internal IT people and all applications are provided towards the business as a service.

Community Cloud

In a Community Cloud the infrastructure is used by multiple companies or organizations that all share a common goal or directive. Because the this hardware, storage and security needs are standardized for all Community Cloud participants.

Private Cloud

In a Private Cloud the use of the clouds infrastructure is limited to one business only. All hardware and the housing is solely dedicated.

An on-site Private Cloud is a very specific form of private cloud is where all the infrastructure is maintained by internal IT people and all applications are provided towards the business as a service.

Private Cloud

In a Private Cloud the use of the clouds infrastructure is limited to one business only. All hardware and the housing is solely dedicated.

An on-site Private Cloud is a very specific form of private cloud is where all the infrastructure is maintained by internal IT people and all applications are provided towards the business as a service.

Cloud computing – The sky is the limit.