Betting on Hybrid? Here's How to Win.

State and local governments are finding hybrid cloud solutions — which use a combination of on-premises, private cloud and third-party public cloud services — offer a viable path toward more fully leveraging the cloud.

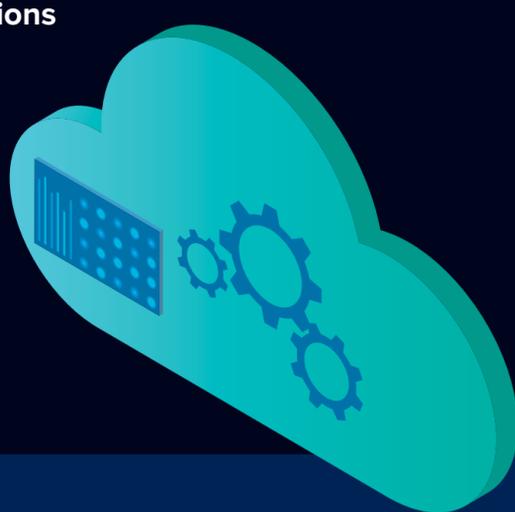## Hybrid is Gaining Steam in Government ...

66% of government agencies are using multiple clouds, with some adopting as many as 10 different types of cloud environments.

Top benefits to a hybrid cloud:

30%
Flexibility and ability to customize solutions

23%
Less downtime

22%
Better business continuity

... But Multi-Cloud Environments Can be Complex to Manage & Maintain

Government leaders worry about:

Security risks

Compliance issues

Lack of staff skills

How to Succeed in Moving to & Managing Multi-Cloud Environments

1 Formulate a strategy.
Consider your legacy portfolio, the goals you want to achieve and how you will manage change within your organization.

2 Determine your cloud migration path.
Common strategies include performing a "lift and shift," augmenting with APIs or a undergoing complete rewrite (i.e. developing a new application from scratch to be cloud native).

3 Look into open source.
Open source provides portability, offers easy access to internal and external data sources, and uses a common language that developers already know.

4 Address cultural change.
"Agencies should look at their organizational structure and start to initiate new ways of working in a manner that can be replicated throughout the organization," says Ian Baker, Vice President for Cloud at IBM. This includes developing a culture based on inclusivity and sharing.

5 Ensure security and compliance.
The Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) ensures cloud security for state agencies through a statewide security standard for cloud-hosted services and standard terms and conditions for cloud procurements.

6 Focus on "cloud smart" vs. "cloud first."
While cloud-first policies can effectively encourage cloud migration, cloud smart means being more deliberate about cloud adoption and taking a measured approach.

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