EXECUTIVE BRIEF

CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE REAL WORLD

Managing traditional and cloud workloads simultaneously

AT A GLANCE

Modern business needs now demand both traditional workloads and cloud-style workloads.

Businesses can now benefit from a hybrid solution to manage and run their traditional and cloud workloads across a heterogeneous datacenter.

An open hybrid approach to the cloud provides unified workload management, avoids isolated silos of data, and complements existing IT resources.

OVERVIEW

Cloud adoption is an evolutionary process that has been leading to hybrid clouds—specifically, open hybrid clouds that provide for portability of applications and data. This is a result of the hybrid nature of existing workloads. It has become increasingly important to recognize that we have to work with and manage two fundamentally different workloads and the transition between them:

- Traditional enterprise workloads are persistent, stateful, and monolithic. Their virtual machines (VMs) are unique, can't be replaced, and therefore require features to keep them up and running.
- Cloud-style Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) workloads are disposable, stateless, modular, and easier to replace than to repair. As new application architectures and technologies, cloud-style IaaS workloads are better suited for highly distributed, fluid IT infrastructures than was once the norm.

Applications can also consist of a mixture of workload types. This mixture highlights the need to manage across different workload types and corresponding infrastructures rather than create new isolated cloud and virtualization silos.

This evolutionary process—a new model for IT—involves bringing workloads to hybrid IT and managing them within hybrid IT. It requires optimizing for different types of workloads as they change over time, such as when traditional workloads are decommissioned in favor of new architectures. This new model means avoiding new points of proprietary lock-in and new silos, and breaking from proprietary software and hardware. It demands that organizations make a smooth transition from one model to another, while valuing both types of workloads equally.

The solution to meeting this need is to build an open hybrid cloud that uses existing software and hardware investments, supports both types of workloads, and provides a single view into the management of this hybrid infrastructure.

HOW RED HAT IS MAKING HYBRID A REALITY

Red Hat® Cloud Infrastructure, a solution that consists of Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization, Red Hat® OpenStack®, and Red Hat CloudForms, makes this possible by enabling organizations to build and manage an IaaS cloud based upon enterprise datacenter virtualization technologies, while providing an on-ramp to a highly scalable, public-cloud-like infrastructure based on OpenStack.

Red Hat Cloud Infrastructure complements your existing IT investments, as well as public clouds, and manages the infrastructure through a single, centralized administration console using Red Hat CloudForms. Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization allows you to grow your virtualization footprint using an open alternative to proprietary virtualization solutions while coexisting with those investments.

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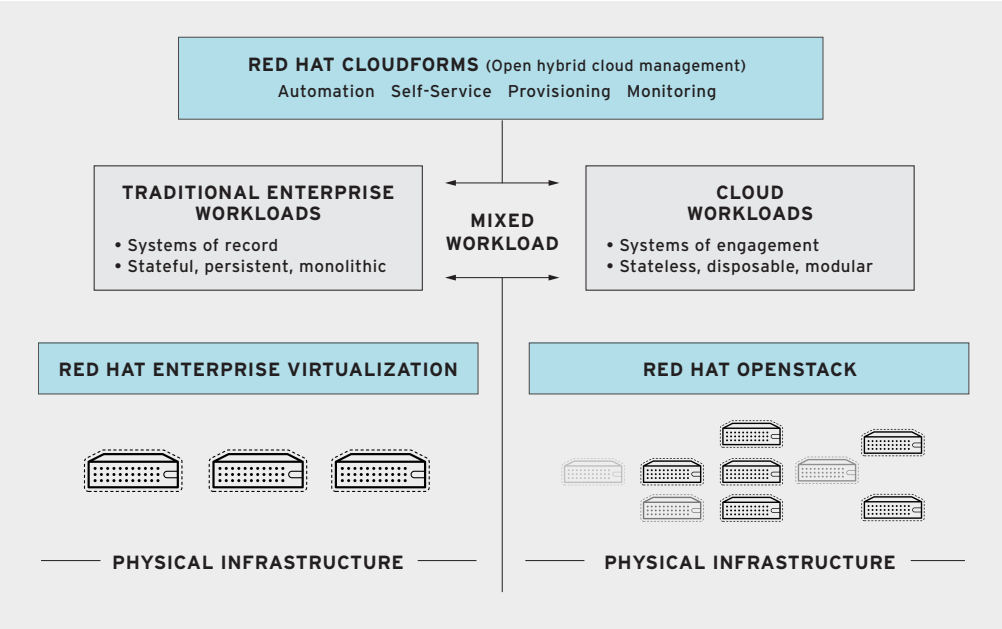
EVOLUTION TO THE CLOUD

Applications don't change overnight in large organizations. Consequently, most organizations should evolve to the cloud in a way that takes advantage of their existing infrastructures and applications.

This approach is made possible with Red Hat Cloud Infrastructure. It provides you with infrastructure options suitable for both traditional applications and cloud-style ones—as well as open hybrid cloud management spanning these options. It lets you move to new application architectures on your terms, at your pace, with your IT policies, and under your control. It's the bridge between the infrastructure and applications that your business runs on now and the infrastructure and applications that will provide new revenue and other opportunities today and in the future.



COMPONENTS

- Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization:
  A complete datacenter virtualization solution for Linux® and Windows workloads that lets you build an agile, secure virtualization foundation with the features needed for more traditional enterprise application workloads.
- Red Hat OpenStack:
  A massively scalable IaaS offering that delivers an open, flexible, and enterprise-ready private cloud foundation built on the community OpenStack project and Red Hat Enterprise Linux.
- Red Hat CloudForms:
  Open hybrid cloud management that provides visibility and control over existing heterogeneous virtual infrastructures and lets you deploy, monitor, and manage cloud services.

ABOUT RED HAT

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source solutions, using a community-powered approach to provide reliable and high-performing cloud, virtualization, storage, Linux, and middleware technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. Red Hat is an S&P company with more than 70 offices spanning the globe, empowering its customers' businesses.

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