

# 5 strategic benefits of hybrid cloud infrastructure for banking

*“Teams are able to move faster, collaborate more efficiently across the company, and spend more time innovating. This effort helps us achieve our promise to do it right for our customers.”<sup>1</sup>*

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## Introduction

While the banking industry began its journey to the cloud cautiously, today nearly every banker uses the cloud in some way, though few are using cloud technology to its full potential. To deliver on the benefits of hybrid cloud solutions, banking organizations need to balance immediate business requirements with providing a consistent enterprise infrastructure.

Hybrid cloud infrastructure is the combination of one or more public and private clouds, using tools and technology to enable workload portability, integration, orchestration, and unified management. Hybrid cloud infrastructure allows bankers to deploy unified business applications by coordinating tasks running in different environments. The continuous flexibility, scale, and interoperability helps you use the technologies and partners that best meet your needs.

## 5 benefits of hybrid cloud infrastructure for banking

### Innovate on your terms

Bankers have long relied on core systems to provide differentiation in the marketplace. The ability to modernize the core, which includes using cloud technology, is a critical part of the bank’s overall success. While most organizations may start their cloud journey with one or two different providers, a [hybrid cloud infrastructure](#) helps bankers innovate by promoting the use of a wider set of technology that is consistent across the datacenter and public clouds. This approach allows teams to build new customer experiences, create and market offers, optimize operations, and manage talent across the enterprise using the same tooling for common tasks. It also helps bankers take advantage of application-specific capabilities, such as machine learning, image recognition, and natural language processing.

### Synchronize the enterprise

The banking industry, particularly bankers with diverse product offerings, has struggled with segmentation. Hybrid cloud infrastructure brings common orchestration that connects tasks across your enterprise to create cohesive workflows, regardless of where they are running. By using a hybrid cloud model, bankers can provide better integration of business units connecting business-critical applications and data sources, which results in unified, governed decisions. A solution like [Red Hat® Ansible® Automation Platform](#) provides the needed orchestration for bankers looking to automatically provision or deploy servers, assign storage capacity, create virtual machines, and manage networking across their multiple business units and various cloud environments.

### Build security-focused, compliant, and resilient operations

One of the early benefits of cloud technology was overall resiliency, helping institutions respond quicker to physical outages and disruptions. However, as data and business applications move to the cloud, it is critically important to maintain compliance and continuity in a uniform and consistent



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<sup>1</sup> Red Hat success story. [“Ally Financial adopts cloud platform and DevOps, speeds time to market,”](#) May 2019.

## About Red Hat

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to deliver reliable and high-performing Linux, hybrid cloud, container, and Kubernetes technologies. Red Hat helps customers integrate new and existing IT applications, develop cloud-native applications, standardize on our industry-leading operating system, and automate, secure, and manage complex environments. Award-winning support, training, and consulting services make Red Hat a trusted adviser to the Fortune 500. As a strategic partner to cloud providers, system integrators, application vendors, customers, and open source communities, Red Hat can help organizations prepare for the digital future.

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manner—to reduce both business and data risks. Individual cloud providers may offer elevated security protocols for financial services companies, but monitoring multiple cloud providers, each with their own specifications, can become problematic. By engineering policy and governance into your hybrid cloud strategy, you will help ensure that your systems, software, and people are in compliance as your architecture changes.

## Use what you have, scale as you need

Bankers have invested heavily in hardware, development work, and commercial software. A hybrid cloud architecture protects and uses existing investments while providing the foundation for modernization. By building a consistent architecture throughout the enterprise and the various cloud environments that are available both now and in the future, bankers can start to shift processing and applications away from heavy up-front capital spending and toward operational expenditure. In addition, banks can rapidly scale, increasing or decreasing compute capacity to respond more quickly to market shifts or customer demands.

## Optimize talent and develop new ways of working

Hybrid cloud, along with containers, microservices, and cloud-native development tooling, presents an opportunity to train teams on the most popular tools of modern technology environments, develop new talent, and build new collaboration methods. Red Hat can provide your organization with the capabilities and solutions to attract new workers and train existing employees in open source skills including DevOps, agile methodologies, and user experience design (UX).

## Red Hat and open hybrid cloud

Cloud technology is built for agility, allowing you to rapidly respond to changes and scale to meet customer demands. However, without careful planning, you could find yourself locked into specific vendors, facing the same lack of agility you experience with on-premise, legacy solutions. An enterprise open source approach helps you create higher value in your hybrid cloud implementation with a DevOps culture and modern practices such as containerization, continuous deployment, management automation, and analytics-driven decision making.

At Red Hat, our cloud container platform supports bankers in their cloud journey, introducing a modern DevOps methodology while providing the flexibility to build and run scalable applications in any environment. [Red Hat® OpenShift® Container Platform](#), combined with [cloud-native development](#) and [automation technology](#), delivers enterprise open source software infrastructure that helps bankers meet the interoperability needs of a hybrid cloud, provide security for the critical capabilities of the datacenter, and take advantage of public cloud tooling.

Read more about [hybrid cloud infrastructure](#).