10 KEY CONSIDERATIONS
for Successful Cloud Migration

You are likely managing an increasingly heterogeneous environment made up of private cloud, public cloud, and SaaS-based applications. To better manage this complex ecosystem, you will need to take a more holistic approach to utilities like load balancing, DR, security, and performance optimization. We've tapped into our experience delivering thousands of cloud applications to present some key factors to consider as you develop your cloud migration strategy.

1. **What's your strategy for expanding capacity?**
   You don't have a limitless budget to build data centers. To support business growth cost-effectively, engage partners that make it possible for you to scale on demand.

2. **Are your users located close to your applications?**
   The further users are from your applications, the more likely they are to encounter Internet bottlenecks, slow performance, poor availability, and low adoption.

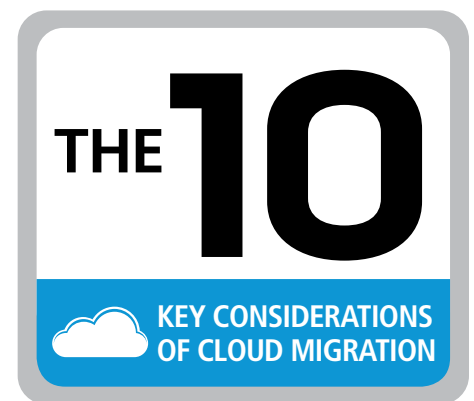3. **Is your organization undergoing data center consolidation?**
   As you consolidate, more users will be further from your applications. Cloud acceleration solutions can offset performance compromises.

4. **How do you satisfy compliance obligations in the cloud?**
   Compliance is not optional and "everyone's doing it" doesn't prevent fines. Make sure your cloud vendors make their processes transparent and give you recourse to audit them.

5. **Will you have business continuity if your cloud provider goes down?**
   With little tolerance for downtime, many businesses are using cloud platforms to load balance across multiple cloud providers for lower risk and vendor independence.

THE 10
KEY CONSIDERATIONS OF CLOUD MIGRATION

The majority of U.S. companies (53%) expect to consolidate datacenters.
— AFCOM DataCenter Institute, 2010

6. Can you apply security consistently across applications in the cloud?

It's challenging – and complicated – to implement security and firewalls on all your cloud providers. New cloud security providers make it possible to set consistent policies across all your applications, no matter where they're hosted.

7. Where in the cloud are your SaaS providers?

Ask whether your SaaS providers use a globally distributed application delivery platform to ensure optimal performance and 100% availability of your SaaS applications.

8. What's your goal for cloud: cost reduction or productivity gains?

As cloud becomes the infrastructure standard, enterprise goals will shift from cost reduction to productivity gains. To achieve these gains you will need to ensure unfettered access, high performance, and high end-user productivity.

9. Can users access your cloud applications in a BYOD world?

Enterprises must deliver their applications to a Bring Your Own Device world. Does your cloud infrastructure support all end-user device types and allow you to scale optimizations for delivering mobile applications and Web sites?

10. Are you using hosted analytics?

In the era of Big Data, your ability to act on data is directly related to how quickly you can ingest, aggregate and analyze it. You need a solution that helps you transmit data to your analytics tool as quickly as possible.

65% of security executives say Web security is as important as email or FTP security.

— CSO 2013

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As your cloud migration strategy evolves, you'll come to consider a cloud platform that provides you with greater consistency and control. Leverage the Akamai Intelligent Platform to help ensure your cloud strategy empowers both IT and the Business to innovate using a well-coordinated, efficient, and resilient approach. To learn more, visit our Web site for access to valuable whitepapers such as IDC's guide, *Next-Generation Application Delivery in the Era of Cloud.*

Download the PDF at: www.akamai.com/cloud

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