Most manufacturers are moving key applications and processes to the Internet and cloud providers. Cloud infrastructure can help to reduce costs, scale applications and processes, and offload data storage. Your evolved network infrastructure is likely a complex one, including a mix of private cloud and multiple public cloud and SaaS-based applications.

As applications continue to migrate to the cloud to enable the digital enterprise, there are multiple considerations to ensure your new network infrastructure is successful:

1. **Does your cloud provider enable your applications to perform consistently, regardless of where the users are located?**
   Many cloud providers don’t guarantee global app performance or scalability. The further users are from where the cloud vendor hosts your application, the more likely they are to encounter Internet bottlenecks, slow performance, and poor availability—and the more likely you are to have low application adoption and more help-desk calls.

2. **Can you apply web security consistently across applications in the cloud?**
   Computing in the cloud changes everything for IT security. When securing websites and applications against cyberattackers, knowledge is your best defense. It can be challenging to implement security and firewalls on all of your cloud providers consistently. You need to apply integrated protection against DDoS and web application attacks.

3. **Will you have business continuity if your cloud provider(s) goes down?**
   Data centers go down from time to time, network connections experience congestion, and network equipment failures happen. How will you ensure that your applications are available 100% of the time, even when your cloud provider(s)—or the network connection from your end users to the cloud provider—goes down?

4. **Do you have good visibility and control over your cloud applications?**
   How will you maintain visibility and control over end-to-end application delivery now that you don’t control this distributed delivery platform?

5. **Do you understand what the TCO of the cloud will be?**
   Companies can often be surprised when they realize that the cost of the VM is only a portion of the cost with many cloud services providers. Additional costs can include storage, bandwidth, VPN connectivity, and more.
To overcome these challenges, you will need web performance and security services that work across your combined data center and hosting environments. Akamai is committed to helping you get the most out of your cloud initiatives without sacrificing security or end-user experience.

Akamai helps the top manufacturers enable their businesses to run on the cloud provider, or providers, of their choosing. With mobile, cloud, and video transforming so much of our daily lives, the pressure to deliver great online experiences is greater than ever.

As the world's most highly distributed Content Delivery Network (CDN), with the broadest service portfolio serving 30% of all web traffic, Akamai has the experience to help you deliver. And with the most experienced professionals in the business, we're redefining the CDN category.

**Rethink Application Delivery.**

Learn more by reading:
Forrester's CDNs Extend Web Performance Optimization and End-To-End Cloud Services