

## Cloud-as-a-Service Issue Brief

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*- Rob Davies, Chief Operating Officer, VION*

### What’s Old Isn’t New Again: Cloud Smarter in 2021

The past year demonstrated Federal IT’s vital role in government service delivery. Technology challenges were front page news. Employees quickly shifted to work from home – security was critical, networks were tested, and vendors put supply chains into overdrive.

Government’s ability to pivot a huge workforce was tremendous, with over 95% of the workforce working from home. The shift was possible due to IT modernization progress, but there is more work to do. The challenge – forty-two percent of Federal leaders say said at least half of the IT they regularly use for work needs to be updated or replaced, according to new [research](#) from MeriTalk, ACT-IAC, and the Partnership for Public Service.

Recommendations for improving IT includes transitioning data to multi-cloud environments, with one in two Federal leaders saying a cloud model should be among the most important technologies in their agencies. Analyst firm, Deltek, [projects](#) Federal government investments will continue to grow, bolstered by factors including accelerated adoption rates, Trusted Internet Connection (TIC) reform, and improved cloud data management capabilities. But as IT leaders are finding – cloud does not automatically

mean “public cloud.” Most agencies are developing a hybrid strategy. Selecting the right cloud for the right workload is the crucial first step – whether implemented with private, on-premise, in a co-hosted/co-location facility, or in a public cloud. Considering innovative procurement alternatives is also key, for example, infrastructure as-a-Service. This approach gives teams faster access to new technology, and reduces capital expenses (CAPEX). Agencies regain valuable engineering time for their staffs. Buying capacity is easier and less time-consuming because the service provider is responsible for every piece and part to make IT capacity “ready for use.”

On-premise private clouds are the right choice for some high value workloads because they reduce the risk of placing all data and applications on a single (public cloud) platform. The private cloud model provides the opportunity for agencies to experiment with workloads that aren’t ready to move into a public cloud environment, for example, a new pilot project not yet in full production.

### Beyond Speeds and Feeds – New Skillsets, New Acquisition Models Needed

There are a series of workforce considerations that go hand-in-hand with the shift to cloud. Agencies need team members who understand how to manage workloads across multi-cloud environments so they can make the right cloud choice for each workload. IT teams must effectively operate, provision, and govern in these new and evolving environments.

In addition to workforce reskilling, we must rethink Federal procurement cycles. When unexpected needs arise – for example, the need to suddenly accommodate huge spikes in users – Federal procurement processes are not designed to put new tools, systems, and capacity in place quickly.

## Managing Data like a Business: ViON's Cloud as-a-Service Offerings

In order to choose the right cloud model for their unique needs – and meet changing requirements at the speed of the mission, agency IT technical and procurement teams need a clear picture of their workloads, their mission goals, their cloud requirements, and the funding mechanism for cloud services, says Rob Davies, Chief Operating Officer at ViON.

“ViON’s management tools connect the business of data centers down to the operational level,” Davies said. “Our platform allows you to manage the business of data. You have to really understand data, data management, and the issues surrounding forever data to build an effective infrastructure for the future.”

For example, ViON’s Cloud [Infrastructure-as-a-Service](#) (IaaS) provides all facets of data center technology including storage, compute, and network, as well as capabilities like data management, protection, back-up, recovery, archiving, and analytics.

Civilian agencies, the DoD, and the Intelligence community need flexible, future-proofed IT infrastructure to support current and future mission success. ViON’s Cloud IaaS accelerates IT modernization – empowering IT teams to consolidate data centers, understand capacity needs, and scale easily to manage variable workloads.

“When IT teams have better visibility into IT resources, they can make better budget decisions and workflows are more efficient,” Davies adds. “Transparency is key. Leaders spend less time comparing what technology is where, and more time supporting teams with the right tools.”

Multi-cloud IaaS enables innovation, improves security, and scales up/down quickly – to deliver mission advantage and ensure your team is ready for anything that comes next.

Learn more [here](#).



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