Ten Cloud Dos and Don'ts

Don't Be Reactive

- Many businesspeople who want to save money fast are tempted to throw out the data centre and put all computing into a public cloud.
- A user should consider all aspects of cloud concerned with performance and benefits and after doing complete analysis user should move its business to cloud.
- A potential user must decide which capabilities that they want to move into the cloud.

For example,

- Do you have compliance issues to consider?
- What is the difference in cost between a public, private, hybrid, or even a traditional data centre?
- You need to make sure that all the possible impacts have been considered before migrating to cloud.

Do Consider the Cloud a Financial Issue

- Before migrating to cloud user must explore all the approaches of cloud and should perform the cost benefit analysis.
- Certain questions to be answered before moving to cloud are:
 - How large is your company?
 - What's the nature of your computing environment?
 - How many applications do you support?
 - How much does your current environment cost?
 - How much spare capacity do you have in your data center?
 - Are there applications that can cost effectively be moved to a Software as a Service model?

Don't Go It Alone

- Although some companies have the sophistication to build their own clouds, they're the exception. Most companies need help, so don't go into this alone.
- An entire industry is just waiting out there to help you. Don't ignore it. Beg, borrow, steal, but get help.
- Talk to your peers who have done some early cloud projects.
- Consult with systems integrators, technology companies, and other consultants who have solid experience with best practices.
- Some cloud Web sites and organizations have great ideas and collaboration opportunities.

Do Think about Your Architecture

- Just because you're thinking about moving into the cloud doesn't mean architecture is no longer important.
- In fact, it's more important than ever. You'll probably have business services that are designed for reuse that should be stored in a private or public cloud that need to be designed for reuse.
- You will likely have a hybrid environment that needs to be well planned to conform to your company's service level agreement and performance requirements.

Don't Neglect Governance

- If you don't pay attention to compliance and governance, you're putting your company at risk.
- For example, some industries require that you store data in a very specific way.
- Some countries require that your customer data never is stored outside of its territory. You still
 have to comply with government regulations.
- These issues don't disappear into a cloud.

Don't Forget about Business Process

- Start with the business process that you want to automate with your cloud initiatives.
- No matter which form of cloud you're considering, process is the building block.
- If you haven't figured out how business processes will be managed in this new distributed world, your business could be at risk.

Do Make Security the Centerpiece of Your Strategy

- It's easy to get caught up in the mix-and-match euphoria and forget about the nitty-gritty issues.
- Pay close attention to the security implications of moving to the cloud. You still need a well-planned security strategy.

Don't Apply the Cloud to Everything

- Don't get carried away. Not everything belongs in a cloud.
- For example, your data centre might have a large, complex, and customized application used by a dozen people.
- It's critical to your business. You have no economic or business reason to move that application to the cloud.
- Do your homework so you have guidelines to help you determine if an application or a function belongs in the data center, a public cloud, or a private cloud.

Don't Forget about Service Management

- It's easy to make the assumption that if something is in the cloud, you don't have to worry about managing it. This isn't true.
- Although many cloud providers allow you to have a portal view of their own service levels, it's your responsibility to keep track of any service you have put into either a public or a private cloud.
- Because many companies inevitably have a hybrid environment, you need to manage your overall service level.

Do Start with a Pilot Project

- Cloud computing will be around for a long time, so get experience now. Start with a pilot project.
- For example, you might want to start with a Software as a Service platform.
- You might use a public cloud for testing a new application before it goes into production.
- This gives you a feeling for what it means to give up this level of control.
- You are still responsible for the integrity and security of your information.
- Finding out how to manage your cloud vendors is an important starting point.