**Introduction to Cloud Computing.txt**

Cloud computing delivers on-demand computing services—from applications to storage and processing power—over the internet. Instead of owning and maintaining your own computing infrastructure, you can access services from a cloud provider like AWS, Azure, or Google Cloud.

Key benefits include cost savings, increased scalability, enhanced flexibility, and improved reliability. You only pay for the resources you use, and you can easily scale up or down based on demand, eliminating the need for large upfront hardware investments.

Cloud services are generally categorized into three main types:

* **Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS):** Provides fundamental computing resources like virtual machines, networks, and storage. You manage operating systems and applications.
* **Platform as a Service (PaaS):** Offers a complete development and deployment environment in the cloud, including tools, infrastructure, and operating systems. Developers can focus on coding.
* **Software as a Service (SaaS):** Delivers ready-to-use software applications over the internet, typically on a subscription basis. Examples include Gmail, Salesforce, and Dropbox.

Understanding these basics is crucial for navigating the modern IT landscape.