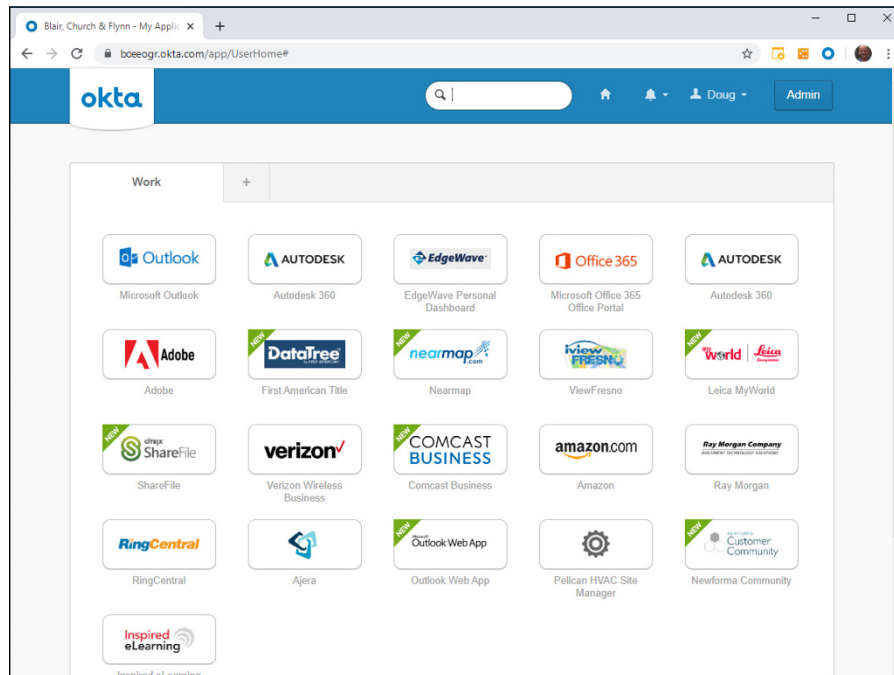


FIGURE 26-2: Hybrid cloud seeks to unify on-premises IT with cloud services.



Here are some additional points to ponder about the abilities of identity management platforms such as Okta:

- » Okta does much more than simply remember your usernames and passwords — all modern web browsers have the ability to do that. Okta actually participates with the cloud service provider to negotiate the user authentication process, which often involves more than just supplying the username and password. And unlike built-in password management found in browsers, Okta provides a single point of management for your entire organization.
- » An SSO platform such as Okta dramatically improves your password security for one simple reason: Because the SSO platform remembers the password for all of a user's accounts, the user doesn't have to. And because the user doesn't have to remember all those passwords, he or she won't resort to writing them down on a sticky note stuck to the monitor.
- » Okta can even be set up so that users never actually *know* their passwords. This feature is incredibly useful because it allows your organization to maintain control of its user accounts. For example, when a user leaves your organization, simply disabling the user in Okta will also prevent the now-former-employee from using cloud subscriptions that your company is paying for. Without an identity manager like Okta, you'll have to manually disable the user's account for every cloud service the user had access to.