

Cloud Computing

To: Darlene Killian
From: Moritz Hytry, Mathias Grund, Mark Schramm
Date: April 23, 2011

This is in response to the proposal assignment due on April 25th. As we mentioned earlier during the course, we will hold a presentation on the topic of cloud computing. The following proposal describes the problem that this project addresses, outlines the information we intend to present and explains the benefits for the students.

Background: Class Situation

It's a given fact that students use a lot of different ways of obtaining information for their work. Due to the fact that they are primarily using the computer to reach this target, we would like to give them an insight of cloud computing and how it might help them. Since we are studying media informatics, it's a very interesting way for us to quarrel with Cloud Computing because of its importance and possibilities to accomplish objectives easier, cheaper and faster.

Proposal

In this presentation, we will show how and why cloud based applications and services will play an even more significant role in our personal life, while in the meantime, stress the fact that in most cases they will hardly replace the traditional forms of computing entirely and are to be regarded as an addition to the latter.

Furthermore, we will explain the technical concept behind cloud computing and the ways in which it changes business models. We will talk about the opportunities it will bring to the smaller companies, as well as the obstacles of migrating existing infrastructure to cloud based services.

Additionally, we want to start off a discussion about whether the students in our class would consider using cloud based services and where they see possible further applications for them.

Benefits

By holding this presentation, we hope to give a general introduction to the students about the basic concept as well as the applications of cloud computing. It will be beneficial to the students as they will unavoidably encounter cloud computing in their future life and career.

Secondly, we hope the students will benefit by start using cloud based applications to easily collaborate with other student and manage their time more effectively.

Feasibility

We do not anticipate problems in obtaining the information we need for this presentation, since they are widely available. However, since cloud computing has been a buzzword for the last years, it will not be that easy to filter the important information. Nevertheless, as students of computer science in media, we will have the necessary knowledge to create an accurate summary of what cloud computing is and how it works.



Procedure

In preparation to this presentation, we will take the following steps to obtain the information needed and to create a comprehensive handout for the students:

1. Our first source of information will be the websites of cloud service providers, such as Google, Amazon and Microsoft. An additional source of material will be the Microsoft Case studies (<http://www.microsoft.com/casestudies/>).
2. We will create a comprehensive handout with illustrations. Additional to that, we will use a cloud based service to build a dynamic and easy understandable online presentation and to give a real world example of cloud based computing.
3. Furthermore, for this presentation we will extensively use other cloud based applications to gain first-hand experience.

These steps will help tie together everything involved in how and why cloud computing will be so important.

Results

To support the presentation as well as encourage collaboration we will distribute handouts, which will also contain a vocabulary list. In addition we will visually support the presentation through prezi and show popular examples of cloud computing applications. In Addition to that, we will distribute handouts and use the blackboard for making quick notes during the discussion.

Tentative Outline

- I. Real World Example / Demonstration
- II. Introduction into Cloud Computing
- III. Technical Background (from Server-Infrastructure to Clouds)
 - A. Business Clouds (IaaS & PaaS)
 - B. Consumer Clouds (PaaS & SaaS)
- IV. Pros & Cons
 - A. Business Clouds
 - Pros: Scalability, Flexibility
 - Cons: Increasing costs with higher demand, Dependency
 - B. Consumer Clouds
 - Pros: Easy to Use, Comfort Features
 - Cons: Dependency
- V. Discussion: Where do you see possible applications for cloud based services?
- VI. Future Development / Outlook

Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule for the report:

April 23	Proposal uploaded to Opal; begin research
May 1	Complete compiling research
May 8	Complete online presentation (prezi) and other material; all uploaded to Opal
May 16	Presentation

This schedule is subject to change as required, but we do not foresee any problems in maintaining this timeline.