

Why Hybrid Integration is a Must?

Due to newer business requirements, the existing integration solutions and platforms have become obsolete, which call a need for hybrid integration. For this reason, the perception of hybrid integration has changed over the past few years. It is the latest integration solution that is needed for the business requirements of tomorrow.

WHAT IS HYBRID INTEGRATION?

The term hybrid integration was devised by Gartner by basing it on the word "hybrid" which means mixed character in Oxford language. According to Gartner, Hybrid integration is composed of four main elements:

1. **Deployment models:** It includes the data being produced by the deployment settings or the systems residing in it. It can further be classified as edge (data or systems within distributed locations), on premises (data or systems on site), cloud (data or systems on cloud platforms), and SaaS (data or systems within SaaS applications).
2. **Integration models:** The digital enterprise needs to automate and integrate both the data and the systems. It can further be classified as edge (data residing in multiple locations needs to be transferred, integrated and processed), applications (applications would need to perform cross-communication), processes (operational processes and business processes), and B2B (systems residing in different organizations).
3. **Endpoints:** It includes the different data types which include on premises systems (both existing and new systems on the site), IoT (existing and new cameras, machines, sensors), cloud providers (cloud platforms which include AWS, Azure, Google Cloud, and more), mobile (applications and systems that are made available on mobile platforms), and SaaS (applications based on the internet which include ServiceNow, Salesforce, etc).
4. **Stakeholders or Constituents:** This element includes citizen super users (it includes the technical personnel who work in the various departments of the company), integration specialists and developers (this includes the technical personnel of the enterprise who are involved in the integration of the projects, such as the R&D teams, central IT members, etc.), citizen integrators (it includes the personnel who are not equipped with technical skills such as the managers and other departmental users who are not technical employees), and cross functional management (leadership and management of various aspects and departments of business).

WHY HYBRID INTEGRATION MATTERS?

So, when all the data can be easily stored on the cloud, then why would organizations need hybrid integration?

Regulations on Data

Migration of all the data on the cloud may not be extremely convenient due to the presence of policies and regulations. The presence of these policies do not allow the enterprises to move all their data on cloud, as only certain systems can be moved.

Extended adoption of SaaS applications

A hybrid solution is essential for companies as some of the popular solutions may only be available on SaaS platforms. To be able to integrate these SaaS solutions with the systems that are available on-premises, it becomes imperative for these enterprises to integrate [hybrid solutions](#).

Reduced costs and Enhanced quality of service (QoS)

To gain the benefit of lower costs of IT infrastructure, accelerated time to market, improved reliability and dependence of services, and higher QoS majority of the companies move their data, services and IT infrastructure to the cloud.

Mitigate impact on business of cloud migration

In order to have lesser impact on the business, companies would attempt to move their existing systems and data onto the cloud in an incremental and phased manner. This calls for the need to adopt hybrid integration in the business as it will help the company in moving their complete system and data to the cloud in a gradual manner.

Most importantly, hybrid integration is needed to provide intelligent workflows for automation owing to its SMART aspects of being able to integrate AI/ ML with real time data. It also provides horizontal integration entirely on-premise, within the firewall due to the platform being based on [Edge technologies](#). Furthermore, hybrid integration is IoT enabled and event driven which aids in bringing the physical and virtual worlds closer and performing real time actions on virtual data that may be new or updated.

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