UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Cloud-Computing

IaaS

The benefit of IaaS platform are: 1) they are highly flexible and scalable; 2) easily accessible by multiple users; and 3) cost-effective.

However, there are certain limitations and concerns when it comes to transitioning to IaaS, including 1) Legacy systems: Before a full migration to the cloud is completed, any legacy technology or applications should be reviewed for compatibility. There are many older systems that are not designed for cloud-based services and may need to be upgraded or replaced. 2) Security: With the move from on-premises to the cloud, there could be new security threats, whether sources from the host or other virtual machines (VMs). It is critical that organizations review and research up-to-date security threats and their remediation strategies. 3) Internal Training: With a new system comes a lack of familiarity with its intricacies. Businesses should prepare additional training and resources to ensure their users know what they are doing.

Examples of IaaS are AWS, Google cloud platform, Microsoft Azure, and IBM cloud. For example, EC2 delivers scalable infrastructure for companies that want to host cloud-based applications. EC2 users do not own the physical servers — AWS provides virtual servers. Users only pay for the usage of the servers, saving them the cost — and associated ongoing maintenance — of investing in physical hardware.