



5 questions to ask

When Choosing Your Cloud Print Solution

Introduction

As business models are changing, organizations are moving away from traditional IT infrastructure towards a cloud first strategy, enabling them to scale their usage and cost according to their business needs.

The adoption has been driven by existing IT services like Office 365, Salesforce and Amazon AWS. One of the last remaining parts, still running on local servers, is the print management infrastructure.

Up until now, there have been a few vendors claiming that they can provide organizations with a true cloud or service based print management solution.

So, before you set out to select your future cloud print management vendor, there are some questions worth considering before making your choice.

In reality, there is a big difference in how the cloud service is built and delivered, and in some cases you should question if it is actually a cloud service.



Want to learn more?

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Print**

QUESTION 01

Is the solution a true cloud service or just hosted in the cloud?

Cloud print solutions come in many forms. They can simply be traditional premise print solutions hosted as *Infrastructure as a Service*, where the management and maintenance of OS, middleware and application remain an internal responsibility and may require you to maintain each site individually.

Or it can be SaaS (Software as a Service), eliminating maintenance responsibilities and enabling you to operate all sites and branches in one location.

SaaS applications are maintained for all users, like Office 365.

QUESTION 02

Can it be delivered to support your budgetary preferences, and offer an attractive ROI?

With some solutions you will need to cover different hardware and software costs individually, and many organizations cannot keep track of the total cost of operating their print infrastructure. The alternative is a complete solution delivered with a transparent monthly or annual subscription fee to fit your operating budget (OPEX).

A good solution can be instantly scaled according to changing operating needs.

When transitioning from a traditional on-premise print environment, you should expect to see significant savings and a ROI (Return on Investment) within the first year.

QUESTION 03

Does the service offer different deployment options without sacrificing features?

Many organizations will prefer a hosted *public cloud* service, while others choose an on-premise *private cloud* due to special security concerns.

A good cloud print solution can accommodate both use cases without sacrificing features. IT departments are aware that security policies and legislations change over time, so choosing a service that can easily be changed between private and public cloud offers you the flexibility to adapt to ever changing business needs.

QUESTION 04

Is the service independent and scalable across all major printer brands?

A print management solution should not limit your IT operations by dependencies or preferences towards specific device brands. You should have the freedom to choose the correct solution that fits your needs today, while having the flexibility to upgrade your print fleet with any brand tomorrow.

A good solution will support embedded clients and secure print release for all major MFP brands.

QUESTION 05

Are you confident about the solution's ability to handle security concerns?

When considering a cloud service, there are security concerns you must consider. It is important to ensure the solution is compliant with local and international legislation – and that it does not complicate your effort of being compliant.

A good print management service will enable you to define where data is located, and how long it is stored, and who has access to it. Giving you total control of your data.

Some solutions will route all print jobs through the cloud, while it is often preferred, for security and bandwidth reasons, to be able to keep print jobs behind your firewall.

Hybrid Cloud Platform

The Hybrid Cloud Platform (HCP) is an all-in-one cloud-hosted print solution, which allows you to send print jobs from any device to any printer in the organization. No complex setup on your side and no complex and expensive IT infrastructure is needed to provide the service. Furthermore, the solution includes end-to-end print management functionality with secure follow-me print feature as well as substantial reporting capabilities and powerful triggers & automation engine.

The Hybrid Cloud Platform is available in several configurations including cloud hosting, on-premise private cloud or a hybrid of the two. In other words, it can be configured to meet your current business model and can be scaled and shaped to adapt to your future cloud aspirations and growth strategies.

Key benefits



Central management

You can operate your global print environment from the same web based portal; including printers, locations, access controls, print queues and reporting



Independent print management solution

HCP supports all major MFP brands and can be utilized in a mixed fleet environment



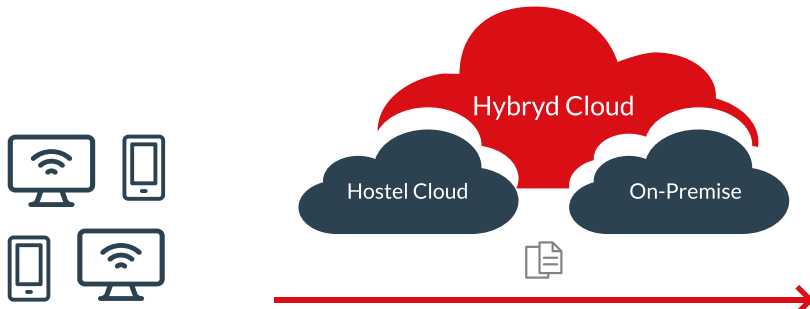
Return on Investment

With HCP organizations dramatically reduce costs, to obtain a ROI in less than 6 – 12 months. The service cost simply scales with changing demand



Hybrid platform

Hosted and/or private cloud in any combination – without loss of functionality, and hosting can easily be changed anytime



Single driver setup

HCP uses a true single driver to easily deploy print configurations to any device



Serverless print environment

Enjoy a much simpler infrastructure and reduced administration and IT support overheads



Security

We ensure that your data in the cloud is secure in accordance with international legislation. State-of-the-art encryption govern your data, and you are in full control of storage and retention of print jobs



Full print functionality

Follow-me print, scan, advanced mobile and guest print etc.



Embedded Clients

Embedded clients for all major vendors. Ability to support mixed fleets.

Ready for a serverless print
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