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Aligning Your IT Requirements with Resilient Resources

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Aligning Your IT Requirements with Resilient Resources

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Overview

- What is Cloud Computing?
- What is Server Virtualization?

● Cloud Email

- Commonly used for many years now.
 - Google's Gmail, Apple's iCloud, Microsoft's Outlook.com, and many more.
- Backup/Restore generally not provided.
 - "Deleted Items" folder available for some solutions.
 - Point in time restores generally not available.

● Cloud Storage

● File Storage

- Amazon's Cloud Drive, Apple's iCloud, Microsoft's Skydrive, Box, Dropbox, and many more.
- Recycle bins touted as alternative for some solutions.
- Point in time restores generally not available.
- Previous version restore available for some solutions.
- Carefully check the context of the word "unlimited" in these offerings.

● Backup

- Carbonite, Mozy, SOS Online Backup, IDrive, and many more.
- Check retention limits against your IT policies and requirements.

● Hosted Services

● LMS (Learning Management Systems)

- Blackboard, MoodleRooms, and others.
- Offer geographic resiliency for your distance learning initiatives.

● SaaS (Software as a Service)

- Oracle, Windows Azure, Amazon Web Services, and many more.
- Offerings include a wide variety of software solutions.

● Server Virtualization

- Server virtualization is usually adopted for the potential cost savings.
- Unfortunately, this sometimes results in less reliable systems. The cause is very simple. It is much easier and less expensive to deploy server virtualization in a non-redundant fashion.
- This increases the risk of outages due to single points of failure (SPOF). The loss of a single physical server that hosts a single application results in the loss of that application.
- If that same physical server is hosting a dozen virtual servers, then the loss is greatly multiplied

● Eliminate SPOF

- Redundant virtual infrastructures eliminate SPOF risks.
- In fact, they increase resilience by eliminating the dependence of any application to a single piece of hardware, while still providing significant cost savings.

● Asking the Right Questions

- Where will my data reside? Geographically?
- How is my data secured? Is the data stream encrypted?
- Am I surrendering any exclusive rights to my data?
- How do I get my data back, if I terminate the agreement?
- What provisions are available for backup/restore of my data? What are the retention policies?
- What is the datacenter's track record on uptime and availability?
- How are they rated on customer service experience?
- What is the real and complete cost of conversion?
- Will I still be in compliance with all policies and regulations affecting my enterprise?

Questions?

- Contact Info

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Please do not hesitate to contact me...