

Hybrid cloud: the launch pad for data-first modernization



Most companies are sitting on a treasure trove of data. Yet many struggle to unlock insights from that data. Embracing a hybrid cloud strategy lays the groundwork for a robust data management backbone and artificial intelligence (AI) pipeline, which in turn accelerates decision-making and enables richer customer and user experiences, all in service of competitive advantage.

Businesses are at a crossroads: They recognize the importance of prioritizing business data and data management strategies, but they don't necessarily know where to start or what success looks like. A study from ESG found that almost three quarters (74%) of organizations acknowledge that their data management capabilities aren't in step with business requirements.

For one thing, data management is costly and complex. Data is trapped in silos and data stores distributed across the organization, spanning the edge, on premises, and the cloud. The lack of proper data hygiene and cross-organizational standards and processes disadvantage organizations from leveraging data's full value in a consistent and sustainable way.

Thanks to internet of things and other initiatives, organizations are generating volumes of data at the edge, but they lack the proper strategy, infrastructure, and processes to act on that data in real-time. At the same time, AI and analytics are central to data-first modernization, yet most companies have yet to master how to scale AI beyond tactical use cases or pilots.

An [Emerald Research Group](#) study found while almost all respondents (98%) are using AI in some capacity, 89% are encountering difficulties on their own and only 14% have fully realized their AI strategy.

A hybrid cloud strategy allows an organization to optimize data location and usage, mitigating the data latency issues that have degraded workload performance. "In an era where data is exploding at the edge and organizations are expected to leverage that data to drive new innovations with AI and ML, it's critical to process that data where it makes the most sense," says Richard Amos, HPE global transformation strategist. "Additionally, a hybrid cloud approach allows an organization to drive strategy based on business outcome needs, not just location."

Creating a holistic and cohesive roadmap

Successful data-first modernization requires a strategy that touches on every facet of the data estate, starting at data ingestion and continuing through analytics and data storage. Before making technology choices, organizations need to follow a robust approach to planning, building, and delivering a modern data platform. Key phases should include:

- **Strategy alignment:** One of the leading causes of stalled transformations is lack of alignment on expected benefits once the initiative is complete. HPE Services has years of experience helping clients solidify their vision regarding expected outcomes, syncing data-first initiatives to core business goals, and building transformation and migration strategies.
- **Capability assessment:** Information is the heart of business, and HPE helps organizations understand their current capabilities and desired proficiency needs. HPE Services collaborates with organizations to develop a roadmap across interrelated domains to achieve data migration and business outcome success. The team establishes the appropriate metrics and KPIs to measure the success of the journey and assists in change management practices to get the organization on board.

- **Plan and design:** The HPE Data Migration Readiness Assessment simplifies and prepares for the migration in a manner that is safe and ensures minimal disruption to the business as data is moved.
- **Data migration:** HPE Data Migration Services, available as packaged offerings or customized to an organization's specific requirements, leverage proven migration methodologies to accelerate and safely migrate data. HPE Services also works with clients to establish the appropriate cross-functional governing body to sustain the transformation, build the guardrails, and provide oversight for data migration.

The HPE GreenLake advantage

The HPE GreenLake edge-to-cloud platform provides a path to hybrid cloud, helping companies unlock data's real value by:

Simplifying data access and management.

A unified management view and single management portal ensures seamless and consistent access to data and apps regardless of where they reside. Support for edge-to-cloud processing delivers insights where data is created, reducing decision latency and bandwidth requirements. HPE also helps align infrastructure to optimize resources and eliminate costly overprovisioning.

Modernizing data protection and security.

Tailored services for security monitoring, vulnerability management, and continuous compliance help reduce the financial impact of cybersecurity incidents.



Unlocking data value with AI/ML and analytics.

HPE helps organizations scale AI/ML and analytics beyond pilots to production through ML Ops frameworks that deliver self-service access to open source tools and libraries. This helps industrialize ML pipelines, from model creation all the way through testing, monitoring, and deployment.

Consulting expertise. HPE experts can help design and deploy an environment that unifies data from various data sources to create a centralized hub. Services range from workshops and assessments to design and implementation services.

For more on how HPE can help, go to GreenLake.HPE.com/data