ZONES
First Choice for IT™

PLANNING FOR DISASTER RECOVERY IN A

HYBRID CLOUD
ENVIRONMENT

The best way to
securely store your data

For many organizations today, it's the holy grail: There's nothing more important than finding a data management strategy that's reliable, cost-effective, and above all secure.

No company simply wants a patchwork solution that can secure a little bit of data here, a little there – they're looking for a complete, end-to-end solution that gives them both a high level of performance and the flexibility to adapt as their circumstances change.
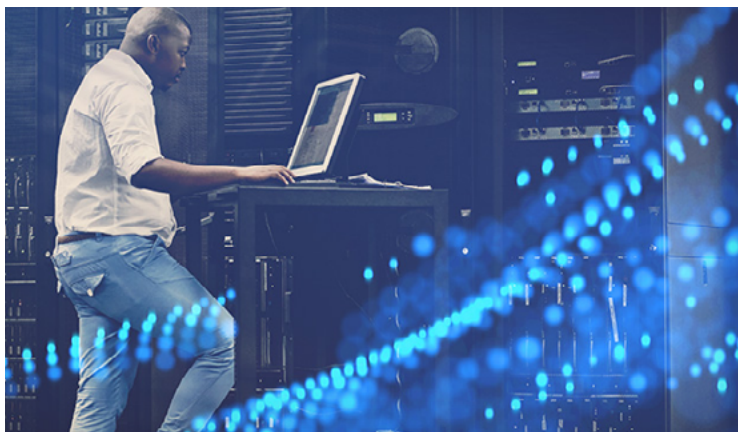
Years ago, this may have meant investing in a robust data center. Nowadays, industry best practices are changing, and this is rarely if ever seen as the way to go. A data center can be built to be secure and fault-tolerant, but it's often very costly. For large enterprises, it sometimes works, but for small and medium-sized businesses, it's hard to design a data center at the right scope and price range to be worth your while.

The cloud is almost always the way to go. If the end objective is to keep your data as secure as possible without breaking the bank, then you can do no better than investing in a cloud solution that offers you scale, efficiency, and comprehensive security. In this eBook, we'll look at how you can make cloud technology work for your business – and how you can build a robust plan for disaster recovery in the process.

Hybrid cloud offers the
best of both worlds

A lot of IT decision-makers struggle to find the perfect data management solution for their businesses.

They worry that without cloud technology, they won't have a plan that's comprehensive or cost-effective enough to cover their needs – but if they invest too heavily in a cloud provider, they may lose the flexibility needed to pivot as their business needs change over time.

This is exactly why hybrid cloud is such a strong option, especially for SMEs. If your organization is going through a period of growth, and your data management needs are in flux, hybrid is the way to go. By combining public cloud services with some private elements that you fully control, you can enjoy the best of both worlds, meaning you'll have a large, powerful data infrastructure that still allows you to move workloads as necessary as your needs and costs fluctuate.

There are a number of legitimate reasons to include some hybrid elements in your cloud business plan. These include soft benefits like expertise and operational excellence – if you've been managing your own IT for a long time, then you no doubt have people on your team who have the requisite knowledge and experience to steer your data management strategies. The last thing you want to do is cut them out of the process entirely. Going the hybrid route enables your in-house experts to retain some control, while you still gain all the benefits of a cloud solution.

The benefits of a
Cloud Solution Provider

When you first make the decision to adopt a hybrid cloud solution, the process can seem a little daunting.

You have so much data to transition over, and so many competing strategic priorities to juggle – it can be difficult to know where to begin. Fortunately, you don't have to undertake that journey alone. By teaming up with a Cloud Solution Provider (CSP), you can obtain the support of a capable business partner that knows how to put the cloud first.

When you work with a CSP, you unlock a lot of benefits. One is flexibility – a good CSP will offer you the autonomy to choose exactly what level of cloud coverage your business needs, thus ensuring that you'll only pay for the resources you want and use. If you have, say 700 licenses for Microsoft Office 365 and want to step it up to 750 as you bring in new team members for a special project, you can make that change easily, and you can also scale back down if your circumstances change. You have total control over what you spend and why.
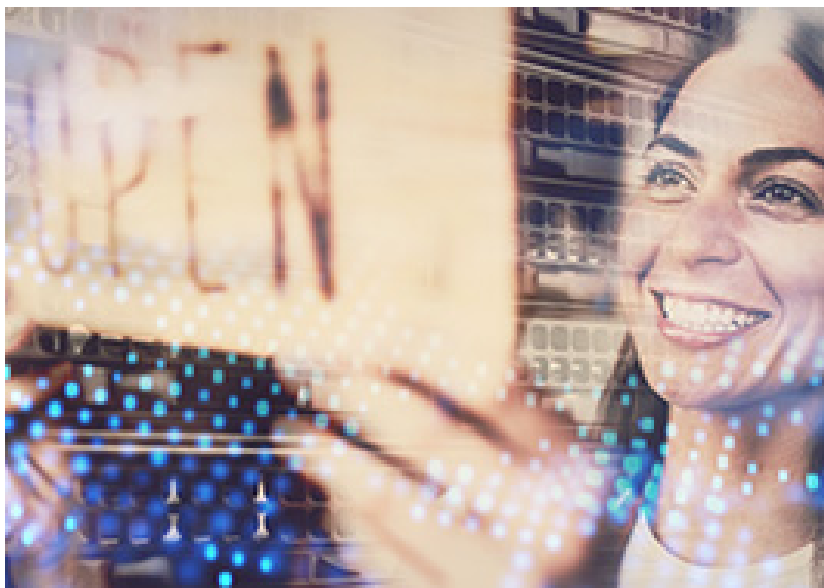
Working with a CSP also offers you capable resources for local support whenever you need it, and the subscription process tends to be easy, as you simply pay a monthly fee using a straightforward billing process. But perhaps most importantly, a good CSP offers you robust options for disaster recovery. This means, if anything ever goes wrong with your business or its data, you'll be fully prepared to deal with the problem and keep your operations going strong.

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Working together to tackle
disaster recovery

Let's face it: A disaster can happen to anyone at any time. A cyberattack could strike your business, or a user error could lead to large amounts of data being deleted.

A natural disaster, such as a fire or hurricane, could do substantial damage to the physical location where your data is housed. Even if you do everything you can to safeguard your data, you can never be 100% secure.

That means it's crucial to have a disaster recovery plan. And at Zones, we're ready to help you draw one up. Zones is the best CSP in the business, which means we can assess your workloads and applications best suited for the cloud and help you transition. But on top of that, we make disaster recovery planning a top priority in everything we do. We want you to manage your data in a way that's secure and cost-effective, and we also help you fully prepare for worst-case scenarios. We'll draw up a foolproof plan so that, if there's ever a disruption to your data storage infrastructure, your business won't miss a beat.

Zones has been supplying small and medium-sized businesses with the highest level of IT support for over 30 years. We'd love to work with you next. Get in touch with us, and we'll lead you forward in this new data management environment with confidence.

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Zones develops IT solutions around four key strategic areas – Workplace Modernization, Network Optimization, Data Center Transformation, and Security Fortification.

We work closely with our clients – from the moment we first make contact, throughout the lifecycle of a project, and beyond.

Our IT solutions address the business challenges of today – flexibility, productivity, scalability, compatibility, and security. And with a global team of over 2,000 hardware and software specialists, serving these needs has become our number one focus. The goal is simple, too – enhance your return on investment, improve efficiency, and optimize workflows.

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Visit our website below to learn more ways
Zones can benefit your business.

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