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RECONSIDERING

ON-PREM
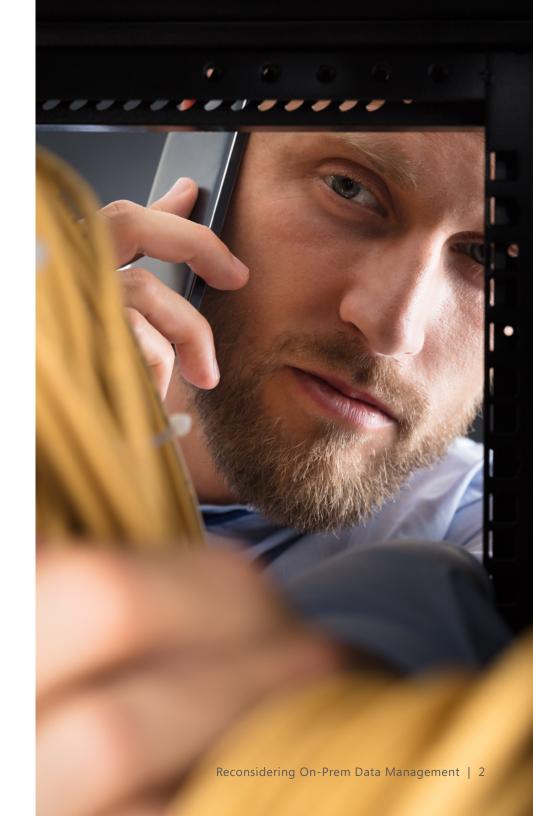
DATA
MANAGEMENT

A viable alternative to cloud.

Let's take a closer look at on-prem.

Corporate IT leaders are always searching for the most efficient strategies for storing and managing data – and in recent years, cloud has become a ubiquitous part of that conversation. Cloud has become such a prominent buzzword that companies nowadays often simply adopt it impulsively, without stopping to think about the pros and cons.

In reality, an on-premises solution for managing data is actually the best way to go in many cases. In this ebook, we'll discuss the advantages of on-prem you may not be considering, the drawbacks to the cloud approach, and everything that Zones and Dell Technologies can do to help your business make the most of its on-prem data management investment.

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The upside of on-prem.

When IT leaders act too impulsively to choose a data management solution, they can easily overlook the many advantages of adopting an on-prem solution.

Let's walk through a few of them now:

> **Total control.** Companies today manage a great deal of confidential information. When you host your company's data on-premises, you're able to maintain complete control, which means you're in charge of the security measures used to manage physical data access.

> **Complete independence.** Cloud-based solutions are often hailed as being highly flexible, but the truth is they lead to vendor dependency – you often get locked into long-term technology decisions made entirely by your vendor. You might be stuck with a cloud solution that's suboptimal for your business for up to 15 years.

> **Limited costs.** On-premises data management brings a higher upfront cost, but the total cost of ownership is lower over the long haul. You don't have to worry about the ongoing subscription fees and technical support charges that come with a cloud provider – instead, you get the upfront costs out of the way once, and after that, your budget is lean.

> **A solid foundation.** Your business always needs to be adaptable – and so does your data strategy. When you have a robust on-prem infrastructure in place for data management, you have a great foundation to expand later if necessary. If you choose, you can incorporate select public cloud applications later, just to fill in gaps on a case-by-case basis.

> **Easier customization.** While cloud solutions are excellent at integrating with popular third-party applications and software, they don't offer much in the way of flexibility to incorporate customized solutions. An on-prem system gives you a wide range of customization options, making it easy to add new apps into your workflow.

The risks with cloud.

If your business makes the move to cloud too quickly, there are all sorts of potential drawbacks you could stumble into. It's best to understand these drawbacks and think about their impact on your business before making any rash decisions.

They include:

> **A lack of flexibility.** In most cases, public cloud providers don't provide on-premises replication for the data you store in the cloud. This means your data is locked in to the cloud and only the cloud, which makes it extremely difficult to replicate your data in your physical environment when necessary.

> **Total control.** Excessive costs. Cloud adoption is generally viewed as a way to save money, but many companies actually experience the exact opposite. The combination of virtually unlimited scale and extensive automation encourages cloud adopters to store unprecedented amounts of enterprise data in the cloud. What ends up happening is they lose track of how much data they're storing, leading to sticker shock when the first bill arrives.

> **A lack of visibility.** Once your data resides in the cloud, it's difficult to keep tabs on it moving forward. According to a 2019 study from Dimensional Research, less than 20% of companies using public cloud believe they have the data needed to properly monitor their environment, compared to 82% among companies that stick with on-prem.

> **Inconsistent performance.** Because cloud providers' data centers are located all over the world, customers are often forced to pull the results of the queries they run across massive geographic distances. This can result in significant latency, which can limit the overall performance of their applications. Furthermore, cloud providers tend to leverage commodity hardware that doesn't provide the performance their applications demand.

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How we can help.

Team up with Zones and Dell Technologies.

Are you interested in adopting an on-prem solution for data management at your business? If so, you can't do better than teaming up with Zones. We have a proven track record of designing and implementing reliable data management solutions, ensuring that our clients' workloads and supporting data are well positioned to support growth, mitigate risks, and reduce costs.

We also have strong partnerships with the world's best tech companies, which means we can always find the best possible hardware and software to meet your specific needs. For instance, our relationship with Dell Technologies helps us deliver on-prem solutions that cover all the bases – security, compliance, disaster recovery, backup methodology, workload migration, and more. Start working with Zones and Dell Technologies today, and we'll get to work quickly on a solution that meets both the current and future needs of your business.

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Zones and Dell Technologies work together to bring you
the products and solutions your business needs to succeed.
We recognize that service is at the heart of every digital
transformation opportunity, so we collaborate to serve you,
eliminating any and all barriers to transformation. Whether
you're deploying new infrastructure, rolling out applications,
protecting the data center, or supporting your workforce,
our goal is the same – to help you accelerate time to value.

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