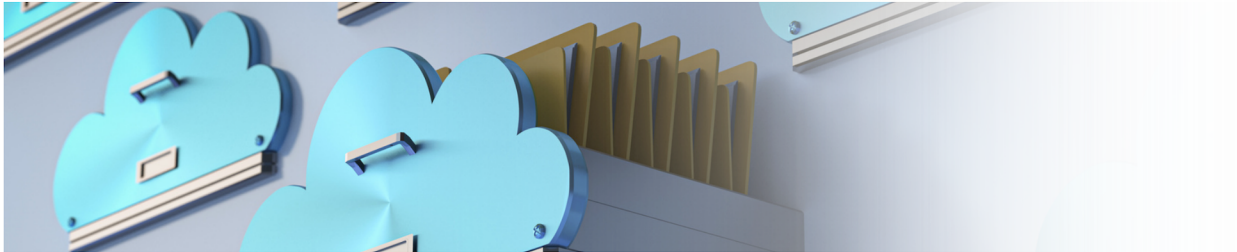


HYBRID CLOUD STRATEGIES FOR MODERN DATA CHALLENGES



The volume of data generated worldwide is expanding at an exponential rate. Gartner predicts a staggering threefold increase in unstructured data for large enterprises by 2026. From social media to scientific research, digital information is being created at an unprecedented pace.

This data explosion, primarily composed of unstructured content like videos, images, and text, is reshaping industries and challenging traditional data management approaches.

The strain on legacy storage systems

Legacy storage infrastructure, designed for structured data, is ill-equipped to handle the tidal wave of unstructured information, resulting in performance bottlenecks, scalability issues, and increased operational costs. As data continues to proliferate, the limitations of traditional storage systems will become increasingly apparent.

According to a Gartner report, Infrastructure and Operations (I&O) leaders face multiple challenges in managing the increasing volume of unstructured data:

- 1. Managing workloads across silos:** Traditional storage solutions often struggle to accommodate the diverse and demanding nature of unstructured data workloads, leading to performance issues and inefficiencies.
- 2. Leveraging the public cloud for agility:** Organizations aim to leverage the scalability and capabilities of the public cloud. However, traditional storage systems can complicate data migration and integration, making it challenging to fully exploit cloud benefits.
- 3. Data security concerns:** With data spread across on-premises and cloud environments, ensuring its security becomes a critical concern for I&O leaders. The challenge lies in protecting data consistently across these diverse platforms.

Gartner underscores the rapid growth of file systems, with end users reporting a substantial 30–60% increase in file data over the past year. This explosive growth necessitates innovative solutions capable of addressing diverse business needs with greater agility and efficiency.

The solution lies in adopting a hybrid cloud storage strategy.

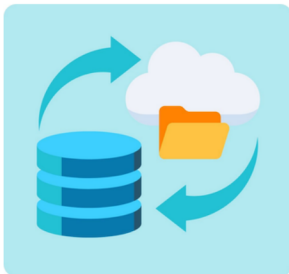
The promise of hybrid clouds

Hybrid cloud computing offers a compelling solution to the growing challenges of data management. By combining the strengths of on-premises and cloud-based storage, organizations can optimize performance, reduce costs, and enhance data security. Recent data indicates that 65% of organizations plan to increase their cloud computing budgets, reflecting a strong commitment to cloud initiatives for cost management and operational efficiency.

Moreover, 58% of organizations are planning to migrate at least half of their business processes to the cloud within the next 12–18 months, indicating a clear trend towards hybrid cloud adoption. Additionally, 80% of organizations with a multi-cloud strategy are utilizing hybrid cloud platforms, integrating both public and private cloud services. This shift highlights the increasing significance of flexibility, scalability, and security in data management strategies, driving the adoption of hybrid architectures.

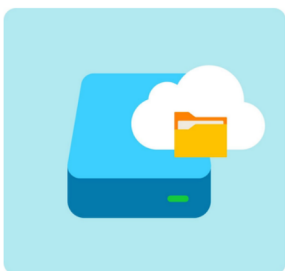
The market for hybrid clouds is experiencing substantial growth. Valued at \$85 billion in 2021, it is projected to reach \$262 billion by 2027, underscoring the increasing adoption of this technology across industries. This trend towards hybrid cloud adoption is undeniable, as industry experts and analysts consistently predict that hybrid cloud will be a dominant IT architecture in the coming years.

Three strategies for data modernization



Next-Generation File Platforms

These platforms represent an evolution of traditional file systems. They are designed with a strong emphasis on integration with public cloud infrastructure. Examples of next-generation file platforms might include cloud-scale file systems offered by major cloud providers or on-premises solutions with robust cloud integration capabilities.



Hybrid Cloud File Data Services

These services focus on enhancing existing on-premises storage systems with cloud capabilities. They act as a bridge between the two environments. Hybrid cloud file data services are often offered by smaller, specialized vendors or as add-ons to existing storage solutions.



Cloud-Native File Platforms

These platforms are built from the ground up for the cloud environment. They leverage cloud infrastructure and services to deliver file storage capabilities. Cloud-native file platforms are typically offered by major cloud providers and are designed to take full advantage of cloud capabilities.