HYBRID CLOUD
BRING IT TO YOUR DEVS

We've created this cheat sheet to give you some ideas about how you might bring hybrid cloud to your team in the most positive and empathetic way possible. Read on...

Hybrid cloud is a great way to prepare your business for the challenges of the future. Even so, it will take some tact and strategic thinking to make sure that everyone on your team both supports your intentions and is comfortable with any changes. If they're not, you're endangering your rollout and compromising your developer experience (DevX), and they are both dangerous roads to take.

1 Think in terms of use cases, not tools

Bring the innovation to your team in terms they can relate to quickly. Rather than first contact being a long and detailed hybrid cloud strategy, pique their interest with some practical use cases that are applicable and relevant to your team. Your use cases should be exciting, solving existing problems and offering visionary flair - all in one.

2 Make sure the overall plan is documented and visible

That said, it will be a short-sighted team that takes one or two use cases and then run willingly into the future with your vision. For those who need or want the gritty details, business strategy, and 5-year plan, make sure a solid business plan that offers long-term vision and strategy for the whole hybrid cloud revolution is available for those who want the whole shebang: audit, problems, and solutions.

3 Ensure that non-cloud enabled devs can act autonomously

Once you're taking concrete steps towards hybrid cloud, make sure it's obvious how devs without cloud and/or DevOps leanings will be able to interact with the bright, hybrid cloud future on their own terms. Every dev dreads a situation where they might have to open a ticket and ensure a frustrating wait for a solution, so show them how your approach will allow them, for example, to deploy environments on their own.

4 Don't neglect inter-cloud communication paths

If your devs don't have access to fully automated and reproducible deployment processes across clouds, everything is at risk. Without it, your bright new vision is going to feel like a boatload of extra toil and work, and suddenly, it won't seem like a visionary improvement. Instead, make sure your hybrid cloud management tool allows for automation that will allow full cross-cloud flexibility with a fraction of the work, instead of a different, complex approach for every new platform you meet.

5 Protect your DevX at all costs

Ultimately, a CTO's main concern should be the well-being of her team. By ensuring that everyone's needs are met, you can make a pretty good attempt at keeping everyone happy. If you don't, your cloud-enabled team members will resent the extra work the new strategy will entail, and anyone who isn't an expert in all the cloud providers (and let's be honest here, who is?) will feel frustrated and dependent on others. Our pro tip? Always ensure that if a dev does want to upskill on a certain process, there is a specific and accessible way to the new knowledge.

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