Why Cloud Security Needs WAN Acceleration

Cloud services typically fall into two main categories: pre-built software-as-a-service (SaaS) in the cloud or cloud platforms, providing components to self-build a service to solve a business problem. However, as more and more organisations are faced with the complex decision of which approach to adopt and why, the size of the organisation and of its digital footprint is now a significant factor.

For example, if you are a small company, you have an internet presence, maybe staff work remotely, and you are most likely to go for a solution using a SaaS cloud model, because it doesn't require technical in-house expertise. It also offers a fixed price, while allowing you to add various applications and services as needed. It also means that you won t need to employ a CISO or a security expert.

With a much larger company, there is a need for more of a larger smorgasbord of applications and services, from which you will inevitably need more sophistication from a cloud provider. You may, for example, have a database to look after, which may require a CISO, and you might need to back up from one cloud to another. The speed of such backups can be slowed by latency, packet loss, and other backup issues.

The important thing to know, is that your organisation should never trust a single cloud provider. In doing so, you are putting all your eggs into one basket and thereby putting all of your data and your ability to maintain business and service continuity at risk. It is recommended that data is stored in at least 3 disparate locations – a great distance from each other. This will protect your ability to restart after an outage, data breach or cyber-attack.

Organisations storing data in the cloud become an instant target for cyber-criminals. To mitigate this threat, you may need to store data outside of the current cloud provider – backing up to a second and third one to ensure constant access to key business data.

There are new technologies to consider too. This is to determine which approach is right for your business. WAN Acceleration is an innovation that allows your organisation to move data rapidly from one cloud to another. This is a vital security-first approach, and a necessary cost.

Organisations should always be auditing cloud providers, cyber-security plans, updating personnel and researching new and award-winning technology. In today's market, it is a case of *when* you are going to be cyber-attacked, not if. So, to ensure that cyber-security is effective it s vital to build it bit-by-bit, to frequently test your cloud security to ensure that you are building the right solution. This also allows you to back out of things that don t work.

With this methodology you can reassess and find out what works without using a Big Bang solution. It s also crucial to ensure the right technical people are in place; they're key to ensuring cloud security is robust with a multi-point defence. WAN Acceleration can obfuscate cyber-criminals, handle encrypted data in transit without anyone viewing it - keeping data much safer in the cloud. Most importantly, it can rapidly restore cloud-hosted data.