

Data Security in the Cloud – Presentation Abstract

Cloud based computing services is among the fastest growing sections of the IT industry due to features such as attractive cost savings for buyers, accessibility & reliability options for users and scalable sales for providers, especially as recession-hit institutions are increasingly cost conscious. Such cloud-based computing services come in various models such as Software as a Service (SaaS), Platform as a Service, Infrastructure as a Service and social networks such as Microsoft Online Services, Postini, Rackspace, Paychex, Twitter, Facebook and Google Apps. The continued and growing use of such cloud-based computing solutions is changing the way IT leaders identify, mitigate and communicate the existing and potential future risks of the various cloud models.

It is critical for IT Leaders to begin recognizing how these outsourced data service models impact organizational risk and effectively communicate those risks to Business Management. This presentation will address this topic in three main sections:

- Section One begins with an overview of current and upcoming cloud computing threats and cyber security risks such as hacks, cracks and carelessness.
- In Section Two the discussion continues with an examination of how cloud computing exposes institutions to more serious data privacy risks than Business Management may realize.
- Section Three of the presentation concludes with a review of building cloud security awareness and minimizing the risks associated with cloud computing.