Benefits, risks and recommendations

# **CLOUD COMPUTING**

# THE CLOUD(S)

"A cloud is a visible **mass** of *liquid droplets* or *frozen crystals* made of **water** and/or various **chemicals** suspended in the **atmosphere** above the surface of a **planetary body**."



source: weather.gov

source: wikipedia

## **CLOUD COMPUTING**

"The cloud is a **business model** of IT (computing) provision based on *virtualization* and *distributed computing*,

whereby highly abstracted and shared resources, are provided "on demand" over the Internet with a "pay as you go" billing system."



source: wikipedia

# THE BENEFITS

## **BENEFITS** OF CLOUD COMPUTING

## Economies of scale (and security)

- Rapid, smart scaling of resources
- Security measures (filtering, patch management, hardening of virtual machine instances and hypervisors, etc)

### Improved management

- Standardised interfaces
- Staff specialization & experience
- Efficient updates and defaults

# **THE RISKS**

# (MAIN) RISKS OF CLOUD COMPUTING

## Policy and Organizational

- Loss of governance
- Lock-In

# Technical

- High value assets
  Isolation failure
- Legal
  - Data protection
  - Intellectual property

# THE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS** OF CLOUD COMPUTING

- Assess the risk of adoption
- Compare different offers
- Obtain assurance (check SLAs)
- Reduce the assurance burden
- Other areas of interest:
  - Data Protection
  - Data Security
  - Transfer
  - Law Enforcement Access
  - Confidentiality and Non-disclosure
  - Intellectual Property
  - Risk Allocation and limitation of liability
  - Change of Control

# THE AUDIENCE

## **TARGET AUDIENCE** OF CLOUD COMPUTING

#### **Big corporations ?**

- cost efficiency
- resource downsizing
- outsourcing of specific, non core-business services
- > private cloud initiatives

#### Governments ?

- mutualisation
- specific, non central gov. services
- > private cloud initiatives

#### • PMEs ?

- less(no) internal resources/"maîtrise"
- access to many (new) services
- > outsourcing to public cloud services



## **ENISA SME** survey - Reasons



## **ENISA SME** SURVEY - SERVICES



# **ENISA SME** SURVEY – MULTIPLE PROVIDERS YES-NOsource: ENISA

## **THE ISSUES**

#### • Can they (PMEs) cope with the risks ?

- Specialized support services ?
- Dedicated risk management approaches ?
- Are cloud providers conscience of them as a target ?
  - Specific and adapted services ?
  - Comparable offers/services ?
  - Cost efficient offers ? Mutualisation efforts ?
- Are frameworks adapted ?
  - Laws ? Quid latest news from the States ?
  - Standards ?

#### Who has the answers ? What are the solutions ?

## **Standards**

#### Vital to achieve success/acceptance

#### Many initiatives exist:

- Architecture standards :
  - Federated identity
  - Inter cloud exchange protocols
  - Resource/performance
  - Monitoring, audit, billing
  - Policy governance
  - SLAs
- Application standards :
  - API, interfaces
  - Development, deployment
  - Orchestration (middleware)

cloud-stan	dards.org	

## COMMUNITY

- A common effort is needed to:
  - Adapt market offers to the needs
  - Raise **awareness** about the risks and benefits
  - Implement **good practices** at all levels:
    - Technical
    - Organizational
    - Legal/contractual
  - Get away from the **BUZZ** and **FUD** approach
  - Build on competences and expertise
  - Create and foster TRUST

## REFERENCES

- ENISA (European Network and Information Security Agency):
  - An SME perspective on Cloud Computing [survey]
  - <u>Cloud Computing Risk Assessment</u>
  - <u>Cloud Information Assurance Framework-report</u>
  - 2011 Governmental Could Report
  - <u>Cloud computing video</u>
  - <u>Report on the resilience of the Internet interconnection</u> <u>'ecosystem'</u>
  - WEF (World Economic Forum):
    - <u>"Advancing Cloud Computing. What to do Now? Priorities for</u> <u>Industry and Government"</u>
  - <u>The Seven Standards of Cloud Computing Service Delivery</u>
  - <u>Cloud Standards Wiki</u>
  - <u>CSA (Cloud Security Alliance)</u>

## "SECURITY MADE IN LËTZEBURG" (SMILE)

SMILE - home of :



www.bee-secure.lu



www.cases.public.lu



www.circl.lu