

Scalability



- Cloud Computing provides businesses with the ability to regulate the service in accordance with their current requirements:
- Scale capacity up and down as needed
- Infinite computing capacity on demand
- Flexibility through cloud bursting

Business Agility



- Ability to handle expected or unexpected changes in load
- Reduced time to deploy an application into production

Cost Efficiency



- The customer pays just for what they need, resulting in directly proportional costs
- The customer avoids provisioning (and paying) for the peak as a permanent fixture
- Move from a large upfront CapEx cost to a comparatively small monthly OpEx cost
- ICT costs are more transparent to the business

Cost Efficiency (Cont.)



- The customer does not have depreciable hardware assets
- Technology refresh is the responsibility of the Cloud Provider
- The provider passes hardware maintenance costs onto the customer as part of the predictable monthly fee, there are no unexpected costs

Competitive Advantage



- Reducing capital spent on infrastructure releases funds to invest in innovation or other priority areas
- Organisations can respond quickly to evolving market trends and focus on growing their core business

Productivity



- IT staff can focus more on strategic decisions and developing and improving core applications rather than maintaining or troubleshooting hardware infrastructure.
- Cloud does not mean that in-house IT is not needed anymore. Deploying in a public cloud environment is just like deploying in a new in-house location. In-house IT need to design and support the solution up to the application and data level.

Availability and Reliability



- All major Cloud Provider's facilities are located in hardened data centers with redundant power, no single points of failure and onsite security
- The service will be certified to the relevant industry standards such as ISO 9001 (Quality) and 27001 (Security)
- The data center is built by facilities, server, networking and storage qualified specialists according to best practice
- Check the Service Level Agreement to see what is guaranteed and the compensation if the SLA is not met



- The advantages are all great to have, but a decision to deploy Cloud Computing usually comes down to the overall long-term cost
- The TCO of maintaining an On Premises solution should be compared to the TCO of maintaining a Cloud equivalent, and the advantages and disadvantages of each factored in when making the final decision
- It is not an either/or decision. The majority of companies who use Cloud services will have a mix of On Premises and Cloud solutions