



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

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Today's View

Hybrid Cloud

Hybrid cloud is a combination of both private and public clouds where companies use private clouds for hosting sensitive or critical workloads and use public clouds to host less-critical resources. **VMware** is a private cloud and **AWS, Google** are public clouds.

The primary benefit of a hybrid cloud is agility. The need to adapt and change direction quickly is a core principle of a digital business.

The global hybrid cloud market was valued at USD 40 billion in 2017 and is expected to reach a value of USD 138 billion by 2023, at a CAGR of 23%. Demand for hybrid cloud is expected to be driven by several factors such as cost efficiency, scalability, agility and security. Hybrid cloud bridges the gap between Information Technology (IT) and businesses by improving agility and efficiency as well as by rapidly delivering IT resources at a low-cost.

Major players in the hybrid cloud market are **IBM (US), Microsoft (US), Cisco Systems (US), AWS (US), Oracle (US), Google (US), VMware (US) and Alibaba (China)**. These players have adopted various growth strategies such as new product launches, mergers and acquisitions, partnerships, collaborations and business expansions to expand their footprint in the hybrid cloud market.

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India's computer shipments record 6-year high in 2019

India saw the highest number of traditional computer shipments in 2019 in the past six years, according to International Data Corporation (IDC) Worldwide Quarterly Personal Computing Device Tracker.



Source – The Economic Times

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Organizations that deploy a hybrid model have a lower TCO (total cost of ownership) than their counterparts that operate in an all-cloud environment. A hybrid cloud interface eliminates the need for massive infrastructural requirements as it is based on a pay-as-you-need model. With the backup of numerous public cloud services, enterprises only pay for resources that they will use. Services like **AWS** and **Azure**, for instance, are designed to offer the flexibility to manage costs without compromising on the quality of services.

The large volume of data generated today has made cloud adoption necessary. Now, merging public and private cloud may seem complicated but it is the way to go. A hybrid cloud model as mentioned earlier provides a safe middle ground. This enables enterprises to take a dynamic yet value-driven approach to leverage the advantages of the cloud. The idea is that public cloud and on-premises private cloud are not mutually exclusive but complementary.

Organizations who don't adopt a cloud-first strategy are likely to fall behind their competitors. While cloud technologies are fast becoming mainstream options in the IT world, hybrid solutions will be the key to survival in today's ever-changing business environment.

Today's News

India on its mind, Microsoft to house a cloud unit within big IT cos

Microsoft is pushing ahead with a strategy to create a separate business unit within large IT companies, in a drive to accelerate its India business. Called the ITeS 360 solution, the business unit helps IT companies in selling the entire stack of Microsoft offerings — ranging from artificial intelligence solutions to business applications — over the cloud to their customers who may be spread across the globe.

The business unit leader housed inside an IT company will ensure that the local Microsoft office in that particular location helps rolling out the solution, Microsoft India president Anant Maheshwari told ET in an interview.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Warner Bros eyes India's retail entertainment space

Warner Bros is scouting for around 20,000-30,000 sq ft space in malls in top cities as the US giant is planning to bring its family entertainment centres with kids playing areas festooned with popular DC characters including Batman, Superman, Joker and miniature sets of Harry Potter castles to lure Indian children, multiple people aware of the development said.

Market watchers say Warner Bros, famed for movies including the Harry Potter series, Matrix, Hangover, Conjuring, Final Destination, the Oceans series as well as DC Comics characters' films such as Batman vs Superman, and Wonder Woman, must be testing the waters in India with the plans for the entertainment centres.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of Manish Kulkarni

Ather Energy to raise Series D funding post July

Electric two-wheeler maker Ather Energy will be looking to raise capital as part of its series D round of funding after July this year as the company prepares to start operations in two dozen new cities. The company has so far raised about \$100 million (714 crore) through equity with Hero MotoCorp being its largest investor with a 31% stake. It has also raised an additional \$20 million through debt. "(As a startup) you stop raising money when you become profitable and it's going to be some time before that happens," said Tarun Mehta, co-founder and chief executive of Ather Energy. "I think we'll go out and raise money once the 450X is out on the road (in July). Till then we'll wait."

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Tesla plans to raise \$2B in stock offering

Tesla Inc made an about-turn on Thursday by announcing plans to raise \$2 billion in a stock offering as the electric-car maker taps into an astronomical jump in its share price in the past few months. As recently as last month, Musk said: "It doesn't make sense to raise money. Diluting the company to pay down debt doesn't sound like a wise move." The company said it would offer 2.65 million shares, of which Musk himself will buy up to \$10 million in shares. Board member and Oracle co-founder Larry Ellison will purchase \$1 million Tesla shares.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Co-working space providers take cover

In the wake of the coronavirus outbreak in China, providers of coworking spaces such as WeWork and Awfis that usually attract travellers and freelancers as their key clientele have started taking preventive measures to keep the deadly virus away from their centres across the country.

Indian arm of WeWork, which has closed around 100 of its coworking buildings in China over the virus concerns, has issued advisory to its members urging them to ensure that people returning from China and other affected areas overseas undergo medical screening. The company is advising such members to work from home for 14 days.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Nestaway Technologies acquires ApnaComplex

Home rental startup Nestaway Technologies has acquired apartment management and security solution ApnaComplex for an undisclosed amount. ApnaComplex, a 10-year-old company, manages over 20,000 societies spread across over 80 cities with a bulk of homes in major cities including, Bangalore, NCR, Mumbai, Pune, and Hyderabad.

ApnaComplex will retain its brand and will continue to operate independently after the acquisition and will continue to focus on its core segment of apartment societies.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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UBS mulls fund to invest in fintech startups

Swiss banking behemoth UBS is considering launching a venture fund to invest in fintech startups, as it bets on technology to help it stay ahead of rivals, and is looking at bringing its startup outreach to India.

Fintechs startups and technology companies were considered the nemesis of traditional banks and financial services firms. But increasingly, the large financial services players are partnering with or buying out fintechs to boost their innovation capabilities. “We are thinking through the process of whether we should do a fund and invest in fintechs at the moment,” Michael Dargan, head of group technology at UBS, told ET in an interview.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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ServiceNow doubling India business: CEO

In India as part of a global tour to meet the over 10,000 employees in his first 100 days, Bill McDermott, CEO, ServiceNow said that the India business was doubling year on year. “We’re growing at 113% year on year in India and if we keep doubling India every year, it will not only be a great place to build software but also an incredible market for us. A lot of the innovation will happen in India,” McDermott told ET.

India and California, where ServiceNow is headquartered, are home to its two biggest development centres and while declining to share the exact headcount, McDermott said that they would look at hiring ‘thousands’ more in India. “I have a long-standing love affair with India; it has been very good to me. We are going to build out a huge workforce here and work with the ecosystem to co-innovate and create solutions we can take to the rest of the world,” he said.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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Simsim's parent SZS Tech raises \$8 million in Series B

SZS Tech, which owns and operates vernacular social commerce and discovery platform Simsim, has raised a shade over \$8 million (about Rs 57 crore) in its Series B funding round, the latest equity capital mopped up by the Delhi-based startup in the last six months.

Source – *The Economic Times*

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