
More than half of respondents remain unaware of the cloud’s capability to enable SaaS and mobile

**Washington, D.C. (December 12, 2017)** — Government Business Council (GBC), Government Executive Media Group’s research division, in collaboration with Deloitte released today the results of a survey assessing the federal government’s progress in data reorganization. Key findings show federal employees’ reliance on the cloud continues to grow at a rapid pace, but oversight over migration and consolidation remains inconsistent.

Several federal government agencies have been pursuing data reorganization with cloud solutions provided by government contractors. To understand the primary challenges facing cloud migration, Deloitte commissioned GBC’s “Channeling the Cloud” survey.

“We’re excited to tackle this topic with Deloitte, given the fast-paced developments in cloud technology over the past year,” said Nicholas Mcclusky, director of research & strategic insights at Government Executive Media Group.

Over 41% of respondents indicate progress in moving their agency’s applications to the cloud, with an additional 9% planning to migrate soon. While more federal agencies are moving to the cloud, top incentives for cloud migration continue to be cost savings (30%), organizational efficiency (28%), and data sharing (28%). The ability of cloud offerings to facilitate more modern technology, such as SaaS and mobile, are largely unknown by respondents (68% and 57%, respectively).

More than 69% of respondents require cloud access to produce successful work. However, 24% cite dissatisfaction with their agency’s cloud offerings, and awareness of cloud-first and data center consolidation initiatives remains low: 59% of respondents say their organization’s cloud governance is nonexistent or ineffective, and 71% of respondents claim to have used IT applications that fall outside the toolkit of approved
applications provided by their organization. Over 35% say these practices occur on a frequent to occasional basis.

“How the cloud is used – governance, tech enablement, and organizational factors – will determine the success of cloud adoption,” said Doug Bourgeois, managing director, Deloitte Consulting LLP, and federal cloud leader. “The power of the cloud to advance the federal government’s use of new technology seems widely unknown. While cost and efficiency benefits are well understood, these other cloud capabilities can help the federal government adopt next generation tech much faster – and unleash the tremendous untapped potential of cloud investments.”

GBC randomly sampled 536 federal employees for this survey, including those at the GS/GM 11-15 pay levels and members of the Senior Executive Service. Respondents include representatives from at least 29 federal and defense agencies.

This is the second cloud survey by Deloitte and GBC on federal government cloud-use trends.

The full report from “Channeling the Cloud” is available here.

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