Business white paper

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HPE AND VMWARE: ENABLING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION WITH A POWERFUL HYBRID CLOUD SOLUTION

Digital transformation is firmly on the IT agenda, put there by CEOs as the No. 1 priority for CIOs, according to the Digital Business survey from IDG.[1]

While each company may be at a different transformational stage, the inevitable disruption is causing IT leaders to rethink their IT infrastructure. They're up against an urgent need to balance support for strategic objectives to meet business demands while reducing cost and finding other efficiencies to minimize IT complexity.

Many are taking a fresh look at their cloud investments, with public, private, and multicloud strategies all in the mix, as well as modernizing their on-premises data centers.

However, there are multiple challenges when it comes to determining the best approach to maximizing efficiencies for this mixed IT infrastructure. This white paper explores those challenges and offers a possible solution through HPE Synergy and VMware Cloud Foundation™ (VCF).

Organizations planning to move to hybrid cloud within two years.

80%

HYBRID CLOUD AS AN ENABLER TO DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Digital transformation promises significant benefits. Improving customer experiences begets enhanced revenues. Digitizing processes speeds application development to achieve innovation objectives. And automation improves productivity while attaining efficiency.

CIOs understand that cloud infrastructure provides multiple advantages toward reaching these objectives. It's agile, economical, and easily scalable. However, several obstacles have arisen:

- Public cloud, on its own, doesn't meet all business and IT needs. For example, it may not meet security or data sovereignty requirements for certain mission-critical workloads and applications. Also, public cloud is sometimes more costly than anticipated.
- Private clouds and on-premises data centers increase both capital and operational expenses—having to procure the hardware and then pay IT staff to maintain it. IT leaders must balance or reduce these costs.

Companies are looking for the right mix of resources that enables the agility and economics of cloud, with the security and control of on-premises data centers.

For example, they want to be able to get compute at the edge in private clouds that take advantage of analytics and artificial intelligence while securely connecting that data to users throughout their organizations. Meanwhile, their application development teams need on-demand infrastructure to meet project delivery deadlines—but IT must ensure not to overprovision or underprovision capacity to keep capital expenditures on budget.

Hybrid cloud is a mix of on-premises data centers with public and private clouds, which presents the best of both worlds. IDC reports that 80% of organizations are planning to move in this hybrid direction over the next two years.[2] Organizations are moving away from expensive, purpose-built hardware toward a software-defined model, running virtual machines in public clouds while keeping the majority of the workloads on-premises.

THE PATH TO FULL HYBRID IMPLEMENTATION

Many companies have already taken the first step toward hybrid cloud by adopting an on-premises hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI). It provides greater automation and software-defined components to optimize workloads and improve scalability.

The HCI market is experiencing heightened growth because this infrastructure offers significant efficiencies such as reducing the hardware requirement for data centers and helping companies in highly regulated industries to better meet compliance regulations by keeping data on-premises.

HPE and VMware—the power of partnership

During their 20-year partnership and a combined 75-year history, HPE and VMware have revolutionized infrastructure and services—from the data center to the cloud.

Together, they have a shared long-term vision to advance technology and future-proof their customers' investments. Their combined solutions are security conscious and carefully engineered, not siloed efforts that require deep integration.

A few facts:

- HPE and VMware have a shared customer base of 200,000+ with more than 100,000 global partners and more than 25,000 solution experts, they have global scale

- Selling more than 500,000 VMware licenses in the last seven years, HPE is a global leader in server virtualization solutions based on VMware technology

- HPE is the largest VMware Authorized Training Center™ provider. With more than 90 training centers[3]

- HPE and VMware share one of the largest joint-channel partner communities

Because of this extensive relationship, HPE and VMware can help customers seamlessly transition to a hybrid environment. And they're making that possible with VCF running on HPE Synergy.

3 vmware.com/content/dam/digitalmarketing/vmware/en/pdf/partners/vmware-hpe-and-vmware-sddc-overview.pdf

The next logical step on the path to full hybrid—enterprises must tie together their on-premises infrastructure and cloud investments. The goal is a unified architecture that powers any device and any workload in a fully software-defined data center (SDDC) while using and paying for only the IT capacity required—no more and no less.

This secure, modernized hybrid environment provides flexibility, agility, and efficiencies with three Cs:

1. **Consistency**—One consistent hybrid cloud experience built for the SDDC

2. **Composability**—Fluid pools of compute, storage, and network resources, provisioned on-demand with software-defined intelligence

3. **Control**—A consumption-based model where you only pay for the IT infrastructure used to reduce and control costs

HPE and VMware® solutions offer these capabilities, helping to power organizations in their digital transformation and hybrid cloud journeys while simplifying the IT environment for greater efficiency.

HYBRID CLOUD—DRIVING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

HPE and VMware solutions make it easy for companies to traverse between public and private clouds to achieve agility, scalability, and cost-effectiveness while maintaining security and control.

The power and extensibility of VMware Cloud Foundation

With VCF, companies can seamlessly take the next step from HCI to a fully modernized SDDC. The platform delivers a set of software-defined services for compute, storage, networking, security, and cloud management.

VCF deploys a standardized and validated architecture with built-in lifecycle automation for full-stack, modular infrastructure. VCF includes end-to-end security built into every level of the infrastructure, from micro-segmentation at the networking layer down to encryption at the storage layer.

And for those organizations that want to extend to the public cloud, VCF can be consumed as-a-service through cloud service provider partners, including VMware Cloud™ on AWS, IBM, Rackspace, Microsoft Azure, Google™, and others. This enables a true hybrid cloud based on a common and compatible platform that stretches from on-premises private cloud to the public cloud through many hyperscale cloud providers.

HPE SYNERGY:

Delivers one infrastructure to
run any application

Eliminates costly silos, frees
up resources, reduces cost,
and simplifies IT operations

Accelerates application and
service delivery

Automates everyday
operations

Increases productivity and
control across the data center

HPE Synergy provides all-in-one infrastructure

HPE Synergy is a modern, software-defined, composable infrastructure built to serve both as
an ideal platform for private cloud and as the next generation of blade technology.

As the first platform designed for composability, HPE Synergy offers an experience that
empowers IT to create and deliver new value instantly and continuously—coupled with
superior economics. Through a single interface, HPE Synergy composes compute, storage,
and fabric pools into any configuration for any application. As an extensible platform, it easily
enables a broad range of applications from bare metal to virtual machines or containers and
supports operational models such as hybrid cloud and DevOps.

HPE Synergy supports more volume, cooling, and power capacity to meet requirements of
future hardware—more demanding CPU, larger memory footprints, or more powerful GPUs.

HPE Synergy and VCF—purposely built for the hybrid world

By running VCF on HPE Synergy, customers gain a single, consistent hybrid cloud
experience. The infrastructure logically pools resources to reduce both underutilization
and overprovisioning to create a more agile, cost-effective, and fully modernized data center.

HPE Synergy with VCF provides the perfect platform for an enterprise-ready private cloud
solution that is:

• **Flexible**—a future-proof infrastructure

• **Agile**—simple to deploy, reducing complexity and cost

• **Efficient**—software-driven, employing more automation

In addition, embedded inside HPE Synergy is HPE OneView, an infrastructure management
solution that integrates with VCF SDDC Manager to bring simplicity and flexibility in
managing SDDC environments by providing the power of composability natively to VCF.
This unique integration allows customers to dynamically compose software-defined
and physical infrastructure within a single console using SDDC Manager to manage the
demands of VCF workloads.

Today, only Hewlett Packard Enterprise and VMware can deliver a software-defined solution
running on modular infrastructure across compute, storage, network, security, and cloud
management. This next-generation solution can run enterprise apps—both traditional and
containerized—in cloud environments.

HPE GreenLake—Pay-as-you-go model for HPE Synergy and VCF

When deploying HPE Synergy and VCF customers have the freedom to choose to implement
HPE GreenLake, an IT consumption-based model enabling companies to only pay for the
IT infrastructure they use. It's a perfect fit to support critical applications that must remain
on-premises—providing security and control while reducing both CAPEX and OPEX.
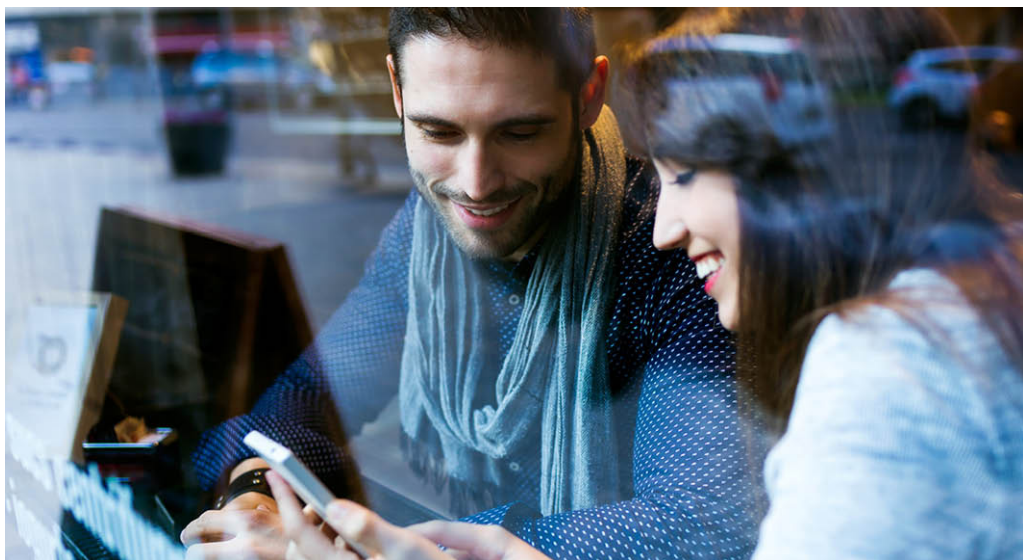
HPE GreenLake integrates seamlessly with VCF and HPE Synergy to offer a single, consistent hybrid cloud experience. It enables infrastructure provisioning within minutes, variable payments based on actual metered usage, rapid scalability using an on-site buffer of extra capacity, and enterprise-grade support. In other words, it offers all the economics of a cloud-like experience for on-premises infrastructure.

THE BOTTOM LINE

As enterprises move through their digital transformation journey, they must take a fresh look at how their IT environment is supporting and enhancing strategic business objectives. Essentially, IT infrastructure must become more agile and scalable while maintaining cost efficiencies.

Hybrid cloud enables the best of both public and private cloud worlds. It helps companies move away from expensive hardware and accelerate business initiatives through software-defined intelligence and automation.

HPE and VMware can help customers seamlessly transition to this hybrid world and push their digital transformation efforts toward the finish line.

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HPE Synergy

VMware Cloud Foundation

HPE GreenLake

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