This is the HCL Podcast Network and you are listening to the HCL podcast. The place where industry experts help us identify, understand and prepare for future technology trends.

Host

Hi, I am [*Host Name*] and in this podcast episode we will be discussing about "the Rise in hybrid cloud adoption and how HCL is helping it's customer through their hybrid cloud journey"

To understand the surging adoption of hybrid cloud and how is it going to impact the digital transformation of the enterprises, our guest for is Mr. Piyush Saxena, VP and Global head – Hybrid Cloud Practice at HCL Technologies.

He is a seasoned and hands-on leader with over 15+ years of extensive IT experience heading and supporting project delivery, practice management, and center of excellence to build and expand hybrid cloud business globally. (Pause). He has helped some of the biggest companies of the world achieve their digital transformation objective.
He is passionate about futuristic technologies
and has a great knack for identifying future trends and helping organizations prepare for them.

Host
Welcome Piyush

Piyush
Hi, [Host].

Host
Thank you, for joining us today. We really appreciate you taking out time to talk to us.

Piyush
Thank you very much for having me. I always interesting to discuss technology, and future trends.

Host
So, we have been hearing about hybrid cloud so much these days. What are your thoughts about it and what kind of ask you see from the customers looking forward to adopt hybrid cloud?

Piyush

If we go back to the 80s, the enterprises used to invest in monolithic centralized IT systems such as mainframe to help run the business. This, subsequently, in the 90s moved to client-server architecture to help businesses scale. Beginning around the latter half of 2000, IT started emerging as a business driver, and today technology drives every business. Companies effectively utilizing technology as a business differentiator are out-performing their peers, and the ones not able to modernize are perishing at an unprecedented pace.

Enterprise today are, therefore, under tremendous pressure to modernize their IT landscape to meet customer expectations and beat competition that is arising from new-age cloud native service providers who do not have the baggage of legacy. While public cloud, brought with it the highly scalable and agile infrastructure required to run an agile enterprise such as Netflix, Amazon, Illumina and Fleetcor among others, most of the traditional enterprises continue to run and manage hundreds and thousands of applications in their legacy architectures. This is because public cloud also comes with its own set of challenges where it is difficult to migrate most of the applications without modernization. Besides, it's expensive to run an application 24x7 as it can't leverage agile public cloud infrastructure and new age analytics workloads, which require extremely low latency like sub 10 millisecond response time to end users, latest regional compliance requirements or possess critical customer data—for example, customer billing systems, payments processing, and customer IPs. Customers are, therefore, investing in private cloud, micro datacenters to deliver agility and scalability provided in a XaaS model, but without the constraints of public cloud and in a more controlled, compliant, low latency and self-secured environment. This is paving the way for hybrid cloud where customers select the best platforms— private and public to run applications and intend to seamlessly migrate these applications across cloud platforms as required.

So, enterprises that want to accelerate their hybrid cloud adoption journey are now seeking answers to some highly critical questions that were never asked so loudly before? Those questions are:
- How can enterprises find the right mix of clouds, and which clouds?
- How soon can they migrate to a multi-cloud environment?
- Can the cloud cost be optimized in the long run?
- Can the cloud consumption be intelligent and cognitive?
- Can it all be threat-free—basically, no security issues at all?
- Can it be real-time?
- Where will they find the right talent to help them achieve the business and IT goals with cloud?
- How can they compete to get the right talent, and through whom?
- How can they manage and govern multiple clouds? And so on…

These pressing questions have a massive impact on the way we, at HCL, are helping enterprises walk their hybrid cloud adoption journey by engineering 'better' ways of doing that.

Host
Interesting.
So, what should be the way forward for the enterprises and what do you think is going to be the right hybrid mix for them?

Piyush
As organizations worldwide continue to accelerate their pace towards cloud adoption, the question in everyone's mind is 'How?' A leading analyst repot says that 90% of the enterprises will have some form of hybrid cloud by 2020. With the advent of IoT, digital is catching up to push the need for new, scalable, and agile architectures that are not possible without taking hybrid cloud into consideration in some form or the other.

Whether it is something as critical as disaster recovery or something as complex as offering new services, organizations are putting their money on hybrid-cloud architectures to innovate faster while

sharing what needs to be shared and keeping private what needs to be secured. It's combination of public, private, and legacy IT services making the journey complex towards their IT estate simplification process. Finding the right hybrid mix is perhaps the most important dilemma everyone is going through today.

While the technology base itself is getting diverse with containers, platforms, and what not, vendors are also getting into new partnerships to come up with services that further complicate this decision-making. For instance, VMware-AWS or GCP partnerships or Microsoft's Azure Stack or AWS Outposts or IBM's ICP, offerings that are trying to let the customers have the best of both worlds (scalability and features of public and control of private cloud) but have some unique services and advantages of their own with a common base. So, while 'cloud first' is now established, customers now have a lot of choice, and they don't necessarily need to commit all their workloads to one deployment model only. What they, however, need to ascertain is that 'what is the best fit' for them, and how do they procure the skills and decide between build versus buy paradigms.

Lastly, any and every enterprise today is expected to end up having a more complex IT estate than ever before. Years of investment on multiple tools, platforms, deployment models, and architectures that is further aggravated with the siloed spending is resulting in this complexity. Therefore, it is imperative that enterprises should now have a clear hybrid strategy based on the foundation of solid assessments, roadmaps, business objectives.