

FACT SHEET (June 2009)

Cloud Computing – A Paradigm Shift

The Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) foresees a paradigm shift in computing, where businesses and end-users will be accessing applications such as word processing, storage, and even compute power, through the Web. In short, the interwoven nature of Internet applications will be akin to a “cloud” of services that everyone can eventually access easily through a broadband connection. These services are also typically offered via a “pay-as-you-use” model. Cloud computing enables consumers and business users to consume infocomm services without a need to own or operate an IT support team. This enables a lot more business users to adopt infocomm than possible today.

With this paradigm shift, it is important for Singapore to remain competitive through the adoption of cloud computing and enhance the vibrancy and growth of the Singapore infocomm sector through the development of a cloud computing ecosystem. With the Next Gen NBN coming into place, Singaporeans will have even faster access, with cloud computing offerings being part of the exciting range of Next Generation Services to come.

Cloud Computing in Singapore

Singapore Centre of Excellence for Open Cirrus Cloud Computing Testbed

On 30 July 2008, the IDA joined hands with three technology giants (HP, Intel and Yahoo!) to set up a research initiative to study one of today’s hottest technologies: cloud computing.

As a Centre of Excellence (COE) in this joint initiative, IDA will create opportunities for research and development in the area of cloud computing, enhance local capabilities and also let users here have easy access to this next generation service.

Researchers from HP Labs, Intel, Yahoo Research and Singapore will jointly identify the research and development focus for the testbed. However, the main aim is to build up a core group of people who have the skill set to undertake and develop cloud computing innovations.

The targets for the Singapore COE are:

- (a) Research – Facilitate as many as 45 projects, with 15 of them being global collaboration projects;
- (b) Development – Provide access to cloud services for more than 14 Internet-scale projects in the area of developing software and applications for cloud computing; and
- (c) Competency building – Train up to 60 local experts from IHLs and industry with in-depth knowledge of cloud computing.

Cloud Innovation Centre (CIC)

The Cloud Innovation Centre (CIC) established on 13 April 2009, operated by Platform Computing Inc and with the support of IDA, enables Singapore enterprises, ISVs and start-ups to accelerate the adoption of cloud computing technologies in transforming their business for greater competitiveness and productivity. In particular, the CIC, which is located at Platform Computing Singapore, will focus on helping enterprises to build private clouds and address many of the challenges associated with using a public cloud. The CIC provides enterprises with the infrastructure and software expertise for consultation, development and testing of cloud computing applications or proofs-of-concept.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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