



Cloud ERP: A pivot for Enterprise in diversified Business Scenarios

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ABSTRACT: In the modern era, cloud computing gains a lot of attention due to its various features such as it is simple to use, minimum cost, mostly low power consumption. It provides the facility to access the shared data through internet. The data that is stored, managed and processed is accessed in the same way as traditional systems without buy them. The use of cloud is not for large organizations only and is used by many organizations today are moving towards to the use of cloud and are having many benefits. In this paper, our aim is to discuss the cloud based ERP, their benefits and their ways to use in business in cloud environment. The ERP helps the organizations to use the services provided by the cloud in a better way and help them to grow their business. This paper discusses about the advantages of using cloud in business organizations.

I. INTRODUCTION

Cloud computing is a large scale distributed computing paradigm, driven by an increasing demand for various levels of pay-per-use computing Resources. Sharing infrastructure, platform and provide services to the remote services are the basic types of the vast emerging technology cloud computing. Cloud computing is one of the recent technologies and is widely acceptable. These services are few likely our telephone service that is you have to pay only that much amount you use (pay as per your use). You only need a telephone in your home not to set up whole exchange office personally. It's the various companies such as telecom services that provide you services from their exchange and one has to pay according to the services used by him. Similarly, users submit their computing task to their registered cloud system.

Cloud computing allows delivering computing resources by the means of internet. Cloud has emerged as a favorable technology to satisfy the computational needs of users. The cost is computed in terms of resource usage in Cloud. The three basic characteristics of Cloud are resource scalability, pay per usage and self service. In datacenter, the data of an organization stored within the organization. When the data of more than one organization is stored outside the organization with the help of third party and is accessed with the help of web such service is termed as cloud. The resources are managed by the third party. When the client requests the data, it can only access the data if he is authorized. When resource requirements need to be met with fewer resources, the virtualization technique comes into play. It also allows cloud to be used by multiple users at a time.

Virtualization also supports on demand delivery. It is highly energy efficient technology.

Cloud provides infrastructure as a service, software as a service and platform as a service which can be accessed by the user on rent. In traditional system, whenever user needs some software or platform, he needs to buy it. If it is a temporary user then there is wastage of resources. Cloud provides a solution to this problem by providing the resources on rent.

The use of cloud grows due to the reason that cloud based services and applications can be accessed with the help of web anytime from anywhere. There is reduction in time, effort and cost of managing the system. It has the advantage of not running out of capacity as the cloud is infinite in size. This made the use of cloud in business. Not only the large organizations use cloud based services and applications but is used by the small or medium business.

II. BUSINESS ERP

ERP is an acronym for Enterprise Resource Planning, defined as a platform that manages a company's finance and workflow ecosystem. The Business ERP, light business management software broadly used to meet the needs of business organizations. It is designed to handle data with less complexity. As the name implies ERP provides a framework for the business to plan various resources. It helps business to streamline their operations and to focus on their goals. ERP software help to manage inventory, expense reports etc. Employer and the employees need not to waste their precious time trying to work out the kinks. With the use of ERP, organizations can adapt and stimulate quickly and in a

smarter way to the change in market. Investing in ERP is one time decision, one need to give some attention and time while going for the ERP services. There are three different types of ERP used in organizations. These are cloud based, on premise and open source. As a small businessman, one requires maximum number of facilities in less cost. One needs to adapt the ERP software with less cost. A brief discussion on cloud based ERP is given in the paper.

Cloud ERP

The cloud based ERP is a blessing for small business organizations. As the cloud works, the business is hosted by the so the implementation time is nearly negligible. The cost of implementing the software can be saved. One has to pay only as per use. But on comparison with the on premise ERP, it requires less cost for operation when we are working for the long time. It is not compared to the cloud based ERP as one need to pay timely for the maintenance of on premise. The facility of data backup, disaster recovery and updates can only be provided in cloud based systems. So, it is beneficial to use cloud based ERP because the cost of security, data backup, disaster recovery is very high. One can save this amount by using the cloud base ERP. But if an organization doesn't want to pay anything, and then open source software is good option for them. The newest release of MPL, Oracle ERP in cloud, is one of the best examples of business management for small business. SAP, Oracle, Infor and Microsoft are well known ERP working in today's business. Some examples of cloud ERP are:

(A) Microsoft. Microsoft Dynamics ERP accounting software that grows with your business, is integrated with other systems, gives the detailed reporting required, and is easy to set up, customize and use.

(B) SAP. SAP ERP is a trusted foundation that is built to support companies of all sizes. It provides access to critical data, applications, and analytical tools – and streamline your processes across procurement, manufacturing, service, sales, finance, and HR.

(C) Oracle. Oracle ERP designed to integrate and streamline company's process and transactions. It supports ERP financial distribution, human resource, CRM Manufacturing ERP

(D) Acumatica Cloud ERP. Acumatica ERP, is the licensing option that fits in business today and change according to the needs in future to serve the best .It provide services to the customers with lesser cost. It provides e-commerce, accounting, distribution, manufacturing and many more.

(E) Epicor. Epicor ERP software provides services over 150 countries to 20000 customers. It is a global enterprise solution that delivers the flexibility, choice and agility. It helps to drive growth and address the real

world challenges companies face and provides opportunity throughout your business.

(F) NetSuite. NetSuite is a leading cloud based ERP, trusted by more than 40,000 organizations across 160 countries. It unifies CRM, e-commerce, inventory and order management into one cloud ERP.

(G) Financial Force. Financial Force combines front and back office on one platform with the top cloud ERP software. It provide the services like billing, accounting, supply chain management (SCM), revenue recognition and so on.

(H) Apetan. Apetan ERP is found in more than 65,000 organizations, build and acquire enterprise based solution. It supports CRM, ERP, supply chain management, business intelligence, manufacturing execution and more.

(I) IQMS. IQMS Enterprise Manufacturing ERP Software designed especially for small business, deployed on premise or clouds and integrates enterprise resource planning and manufacturing operations functionality, including accounting, CRM, purchasing, EDI, reporting and business intelligence, production planning and scheduling, and production, real-time shop floor control, quality, supply chain, and warehouse and shipping management.

Plex, Rootstock, Kenandy, Unit4, Ramco, Workday are other cloud ERP found in market today.

Global ERP Software Market is expected to reach \$41.69 billion by 2020, registering a CAGR of 7.2% during the forecast period 2014 - 2020.[IX]



III. REASONS TO CHOOSE CLOUD

Many small organizations are moving from their IT to cloud hosting as it can be beneficial tool for them for several reasons. Organizations can lower expenditure on

IT infrastructure as they use the offerings of the cloud hosting plan to upgrade or provide security to internal computing resources. Meanwhile, the best cloud hosting provider claims to help businesses cut down expenditure on software installation by preventing them from buying separate software packages to run their various applications in the cloud. Today businesses are adopting cloud based services and applications and experiencing the benefits that were never before. Before the use of cloud, if a user need some services, applications or resources temporarily, he needs to buy that whole and there is wastage of resources. Now the cloud changes a lot, you can access only those resources that you need and has to pay for as per the usage. If a user is ready to use cloud for his business, he can see the benefits without making major changes to our organization. Amazon and Google are the best examples of use of cloud and many other organizations are adapting the use of cloud like these organizations in their business applications. Some of the ways to use cloud and its advantages are discussed here:

A. Ability to work from anywhere

With the use of cloud data can be accessed anywhere anytime with the use of web. So, small organizations team has no restriction to work on one system and in one place. The organizations are free to open new business locations and to hire remote workers. It increases the flexibility. Today, we live in a mobile world. We are free from the days when files are stuck on a single server on a single computer. Traditional systems are restrictive that one can access the file from that system only where it has been saved. But with the use of cloud one has the ability to access, modify and save files from any number of devices in any location with the aid of internet connection only. This provides a greater range of accessibility. It is helpful for the small business owner to work on different locations and helps in increasing productivity, competitiveness and most important time management.

B. Flexibility

The cloud provides the feature of grow and change according to the need of business requirements. They provide the ideal services for organization in this competitive world with their fluctuating or growing demands. In cloud, it is easy to scale up cloud capacity according to the change in demand. One has to pay only for the resources that he needs at that time. It is a great aid for the organizations that experience seasonal change or growing pains. It helps the organizations to save cost and have greater flexibility.

C. Better collaboration

It provides the ability to access various files through the cloud that enable many workers to work easily from the same master document. It provides a great range of collaboration. Employers can also pose restriction to the accessibility for employees. It increases productivity and enables collaboration and allows working teams even in different locations to get things done. Being able to easily share and collaborate on files, see updates in real time and use web conferencing for important meetings will help your staff get more done. Cloud collaboration tools allow users to upload, edit documents, which makes for better workplace collaboration such as Google Drive. These tools can be used by any organization easily.

D. Automatic Software Updates

Using cloud, user doesn't have to make any effort for maintain various softwares. Automatic software updates are done after the release and the user can focus on how to grow his business, what is important for business and being competitive

E. Lower Costs

Cloud eliminates the cost of hardware. Pay as per use is the basic characteristic of cloud computing. It provides small organizations with greater savings. With the use of cloud, there is decrease in space, power usage and less need of maintenance, hardware, upgrade and support costs. These savings are highly helpful for small organizations. Cloud computing is very affordable as Start-up costs are cheap, applications are quick and easy to access and customize.

F. Security

If one store all of its data on a mobile device and it gets lost, then all of your data is lost. But if your data is in cloud, and then your device is lost, still one can access his data as it is stored using the third party. It helps to keep all our data safe.

G. Data Backup

Disaster Recovery is another benefit other than security. There are great chances to lose data even in great security but with the use of cloud, the chances of breaking of data decreases as the data is saved remotely by the third party and is accessed by the means of internet and is highly useful for small organizations in storing the data.

H. Ease of Use

One of the great attractiveness while using cloud in small organizations is saving and accessing files on the Cloud is easy, even for non-technical small business owners. Even persons with less knowledge of computer can easily use these features and access information easily.

I. Information Sharing

Whether you are working in small area or in remote areas, the Cloud makes sharing data effortless. Once you have your data backed up, sharing files can be as easy as sending a link, eliminating the cumbersome process of emailing large files or saving copies on system.

Cloud computing is a primary contributor that can benefit the small business. With the help of these advantages of cloud computing can not only be used by small organizations but can also be widely used in small organizations. Small businessman, industrialists, companies are blessed with the cloud with the lot of uses. It provides the organizations not to waste time in storing and sharing data but and can use their precious time in planning their growth. It provides a great security and disaster recovery in storing the data. Information sharing becomes easy and data can be accessed from anywhere with the help of internet. It is a great need of small organizations to use cloud in their work to reach the heights in lower cost.

IV. CONCLUSION

Cloud computing is a game changer approach as it allow small organizations to store, manage and process the data using the availability of internet instead of investing space and storage in our own premises. There is increase in business value and production with the use of cloud. All companies want to stay competitive in the market by making the best use of cloud computing with the use of Internet services and make their company work best and better than all the other. The evolution of cloud technology can help enterprises move their focus to

building up effective business applications that will bring true business value. Cloud based ERP enables small organizations operations, accounts and resource planning in a highly efficient, secured way. Picking the correct cloud based ERP service provider, a company can scale its business as per the demand of market.

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