



THE PRIVATE CLOUD PLAYBOOK

*Strategic Insights for
Technology Leaders*

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| <u>1. Executive Summary</u> | 03 |
| <u>2. Market Context: The 2026 Infrastructure Inflection Point</u> | 04 |
| <u>2.1 Cloud Repatriation Becomes Mainstream</u> | 04 |
| <u>2.2 The Workload Dilemma: Microsoft and Linux Alike</u> | 05 |
| <u>2.3 The Compliance Squeeze</u> | 05 |
| <u>3. Private Cloud Defined: More Than a Location</u> | 06 |
| <u>4. Three Paths to Private Cloud</u> | 07 |
| <u>4.1 The On-Premises Champion: Modernizing without Compromise</u> | 07 |
| <u>4.2 The Public Cloud Emigrant: Reclaiming Control</u> | 08 |
| <u>4.3 The Hybrid Navigator: Achieving Balance</u> | 09 |
| <u>5. The Case for Change: Key Drivers</u> | 10 |
| <u>5.1 Economic Predictability & Cost Control</u> | 10 |
| <u>5.2 Performance & Reliability for Microsoft Workloads</u> | 10 |
| <u>5.3 Security, Sovereignty & Compliance</u> | 11 |
| <u>5.4 Innovation & AI Readiness</u> | 11 |
| <u>6. When to Move: Recognizing the Triggers for Private Cloud Migration</u> | 12 |
| <u>6.1 The On-Premises Pressure Cooker</u> | 12 |
| <u>6.2 The Hyperscale Hangover</u> | 13 |
| <u>6.3 The Hybrid Complexity Trap</u> | 13 |
| <u>7. Quantifying the Advantage: Business Outcomes and Strategic ROI</u> | 14 |
| <u>8. Risk Management & Governance</u> | 15 |
| <u>9. Concourse Cloud: A Smarter Path to Managed Private Cloud</u> | 16 |
| <u>10. Conclusion: Acting with Urgency</u> | 17 |
| <u>11. Endnotes</u> | 18 |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



For a decade, public cloud has been the default answer to almost every infrastructure question. In 2026, the pendulum is swinging back. Eight out of ten enterprises plan to repatriate at least some workloads from hyperscale clouds to private environments within the next 12 months (IDC, March 2025). Cost volatility, compliance pressure, and the need for deterministic performance—especially for Microsoft SQL Server, Dynamics, and .NET applications—are driving a strategic rethink.

Modern private cloud platforms now deliver the self-service agility developers expect plus the financial predictability, architectural control, and security posture boards demand. This guide helps you—the hero of your organization's technology story—navigate the changing infrastructure landscape to ensure your mission-critical Microsoft systems deliver the performance, compliance, and cost benefits your organization deserves.

Key takeaways

- ◊ 98% reduction in unplanned downtime for mission-critical Microsoft workloads compared to public cloud alternatives (IDC, 2025)
- ◊ 34% lower infrastructure cost and 42% lower operating expense versus comparable public-cloud footprints (IDC)
- ◊ Regulatory deadlines (PCI DSS 4.0, AI privacy laws) and VMware licensing changes in 2024-25; waiting means renewing contracts on worse terms
- ◊ Sub-millisecond latency becomes a governance issue—directly affecting revenue and audit outcomes



8 out of 10 enterprises plan to repatriate at least some workloads from hyperscale clouds to private environments within the next 12 months.

IDC, March 2025

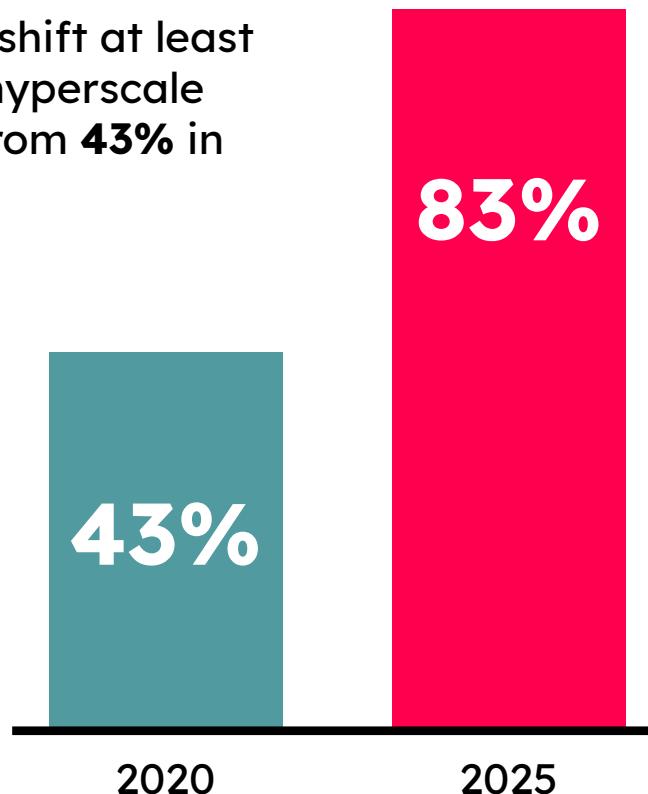
MARKET CONTEXT: THE 2026 INFRASTRUCTURE INFLECTION POINT

2.1 CLOUD REPATRIATION BECOMES MAINSTREAM

83% of CIOs expected to shift at least one workload away from hyperscale public clouds in 2025, up from 43% in 2020 (Barclays CIO Survey, Q4 2024). IDC's Cloud Pulse shows 80% anticipating some level of repatriation in the next year. You're not alone in questioning your cloud strategy—the market is experiencing a significant reassessment driven by three factors:

- ◊ Economic reality check: After years of escalating costs, organizations are demanding predictable spending without compromising performance
- ◊ Performance consistency: Mission-critical applications require deterministic performance that public clouds struggle to guarantee
- ◊ Regulatory intensity: Compliance frameworks now demand granular control over data location, access, and protection
- ◊ Sub-millisecond latency becomes a governance issue—directly affecting revenue and audit outcomes

83% of CIOs expected to shift at least one workload away from hyperscale public clouds in 2025, up from **43%** in 2020.



2.2 THE WORKLOAD DILEMMA: MICROSOFT AND LINUX ALIKE

At the heart of most enterprise environments are mixed workloads—Microsoft for transactional and business systems, Red Hat Linux for middleware, web services, and high-throughput compute tasks. Both require infrastructure that can deliver **consistency, control, and compliance at scale**.

For Microsoft workloads, public cloud has introduced three critical challenges:

- ◊ Licensing penalties: Microsoft's licensing models in public cloud environments force customers to pay for all potential vCPUs, increasing SQL Server costs by **25–40%** compared to core-optimized private infrastructure.
- ◊ Performance variability: The “noisy-neighbor” tax in shared cloud environments causes latency spikes, disrupting user experience and transactional workflows.
- ◊ Storage overkill: Consistent SQL performance often requires premium storage tiers, which can **double or triple storage costs**.

For Red Hat Linux workloads, similar challenges have emerged:

- ◊ Resource sprawl: Elasticity can lead to VM overprovisioning and lack of control, making it harder to optimize environments for known workload patterns.
- ◊ Visibility gaps: Public cloud offers limited transparency into kernel-level performance metrics, hampering tuning and incident response.

Security and compliance drift: As Red Hat systems support more sensitive applications (e.g., healthcare APIs, payment gateways, AI model serving), the need for dedicated, segmented environments with consistent patching and vulnerability management becomes non-negotiable.

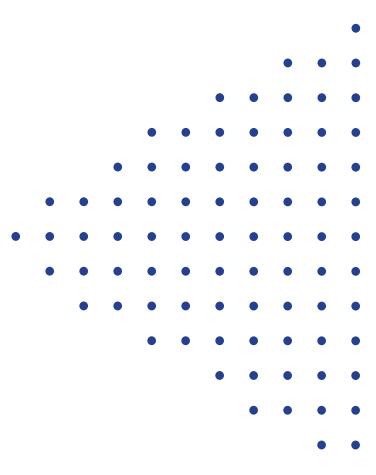
2.3 THE COMPLIANCE SQUEEZE

Compliance is no longer just a checkbox—it's a strategic imperative. The infrastructure you choose directly impacts your organization's risk posture and audit readiness. In 2026, the pressure is intensifying:

- ◊ **PCI DSS 4.0** (enforced March 31, 2025) raises the bar on encryption, segmentation, and access monitoring—especially for environments handling cardholder data.
- ◊ **New AI and data privacy laws** in the U.S. and EU impose stricter mandates on where data can reside, how it's processed, and who can access it.
- ◊ **Sector-specific mandates**—from **HIPAA/HITECH** in healthcare to **ISO 27001** and **SOC 2 Type II** in finance and SaaS—demand demonstrable control frameworks, audit logs, and process integrity.

Public cloud's shared responsibility model often forces IT teams to build and manage these controls themselves. In contrast, a managed private cloud offers single-tenant boundaries, geo-specific data residency, and built-in controls that are pre-mapped to compliance frameworks—giving your teams a head start and your auditors peace of mind.

Compliance is no longer just a checkbox—it's a strategic imperative.



PRIVATE CLOUD DEFINED: MORE THAN A LOCATION

When you consider private cloud, it's essential to understand what truly makes up this approach. IDC names five required attributes: self-service, elastic pooling, workload portability, pervasive automation, and fleet-level management—all inside a dedicated boundary.

Private cloud is both a deployment model (single-tenant) and an operating model (cloud APIs, automation, metering).

Modern private cloud platforms (e.g., VMware Cloud Foundation) deliver these attributes while keeping tenants isolated. This enables you to:

- ◊ Provide your developers with the same self-service experience they expect from public cloud
- ◊ Maintain the security boundaries your compliance team requires
- ◊ Control the infrastructure parameters your most critical applications demand

Private cloud isn't simply "on-premises version 2.0"; it's a completely different operational paradigm that combines the best of traditional infrastructure control with modern cloud operations.

Private Cloud Required Attributes:



Self-service



Elastic pooling



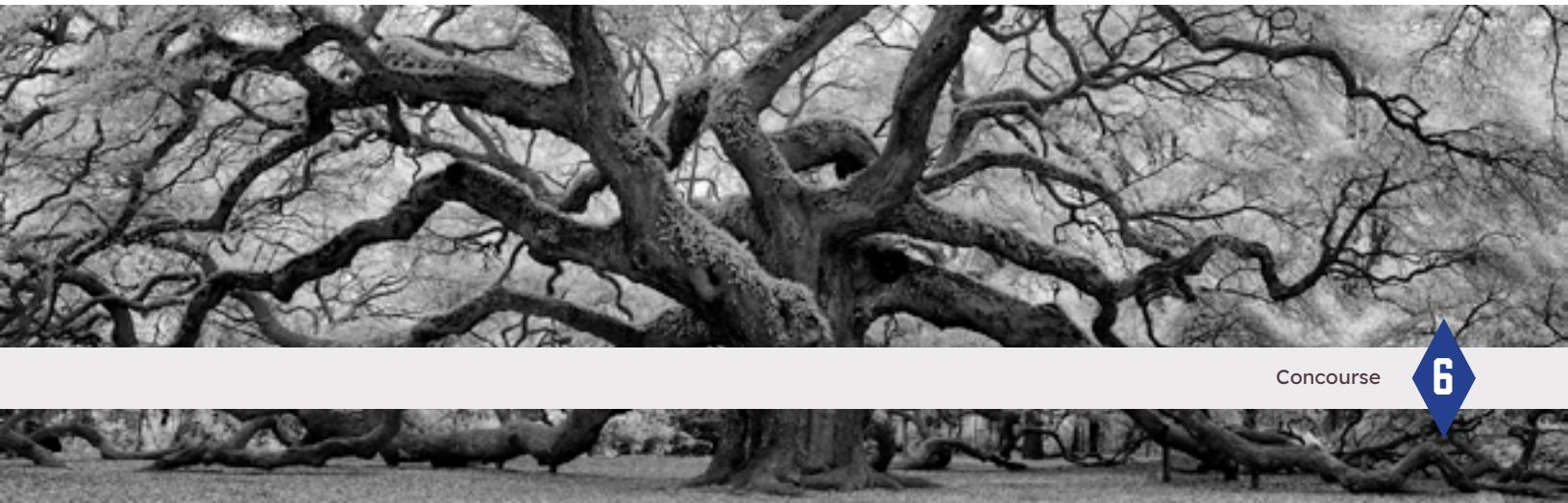
Workload portability



Pervasive automation



Fleet-level management



THREE PATHS TO PRIVATE CLOUD

4.1 THE ON-PREMISES CHAMPION: MODERNIZING WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Your Challenge

As an IT leader managing on-premises infrastructure, you face mounting pressures:

- ◊ Hardware refresh cycles strain your capital budget and procurement timelines
- ◊ Aging infrastructure threatens application performance and availability
- ◊ Demanding recovery time objectives (RTOs) exceed what your traditional backup solutions can deliver
- ◊ Executive pressure to “move to the cloud” conflicts with your need for control and performance

Your Opportunity

Your deep knowledge of your workloads positions you perfectly to lead a strategic transformation. Private cloud offers a path that preserves your investments in Microsoft technologies while eliminating hardware refresh headaches:

- ◊ Operational excellence without capital burdens: Transform your CapEx budgeting cycles into predictable OpEx with infrastructure that scales as needed
- ◊ Modern capabilities without migration risks: Gain self-service, automation, and elasticity without the performance variability of public cloud
- ◊ Enhanced security without compromise: Implement zero-trust architecture and micro-segmentation while maintaining complete control over your data boundaries

Your Path Forward

1. Lift-and-shift your most critical workloads first: Migrate your highest-value Microsoft applications to a private cloud with minimal refactoring
2. Implement self-service gradually: Transform your operations team into cloud architects who enable rather than gatekeep
3. Extend your existing governance: Apply your mature processes to the new environment while enhancing with cloud-native capabilities

Success Story: Manufacturing Leader Transforms with Managed Private Cloud

A global manufacturing company faced an expensive hardware refresh cycle for their mission-critical ERP systems. Rather than sink capital into a three-year refresh, they adopted a private cloud approach that:

- ◊ Eliminated \$3.8M in capital expenditure
- ◊ Reduced ERP transaction times by 42%
- ◊ Cut disaster recovery testing time from weeks to hours
- ◊ Enabled developers to provision test environments in minutes instead of days

“We gained all the benefits of cloud operations without sacrificing the performance our ERP requires. Our SQL workloads run faster than ever, and we’ve eliminated the hardware refresh headache.”

— CIO, Global Manufacturing

4.2 THE PUBLIC CLOUD EMIGRANT: RECLAIMING CONTROL

Your Challenge

You embraced public cloud with optimism, but reality has set in:

- ◊ Monthly bills fluctuate unpredictably, often exceeding forecasts by 30-50%
- ◊ Mission-critical Microsoft applications experience periodic performance degradation
- ◊ Egress fees and premium services balloon costs beyond projections
- ◊ Security and compliance requirements demand customizations that public cloud providers charge premium rates to accommodate

Your Opportunity

Your cloud journey has provided valuable lessons. Now you can apply that knowledge to build a more balanced approach:

- ◊ Cost predictability without surprises: Replace variable billing with fixed, transparent costs aligned to your actual usage patterns
- ◊ Performance guarantees for critical systems: Establish dedicated resources for your Microsoft workloads with sub-millisecond latency
- ◊ Security that satisfies auditors: Implement private VLANs and single-tenant isolation for your most sensitive data

Simplified licensing: Eliminate complex cloud provider multipliers for Microsoft products

Your Path Forward

1. Identify workloads suffering most from cloud constraints: Typically SQL Server, Dynamics, and transaction-heavy .NET applications
2. Re-platform these applications first: Move to purpose-built managed private cloud while leaving cloud-native services in place
3. Optimize connections between environments: Create high-performance links to maintain hybrid functionality

Success Story: Financial Services Firm Repatriates Core Systems

A mid-size financial services organization moved their entire infrastructure to a hyperscale cloud provider, only to see their SQL Server costs triple within two years. By strategically repatriating their core transaction systems to private cloud, they:

- ◊ Reduced overall infrastructure costs by 38%
- ◊ Eliminated performance variability for loan processing applications
- ◊ Simplified PCI DSS 4.0 compliance with dedicated security boundaries
- ◊ Maintained integration with cloud-native services for customer-facing applications

“We thought public cloud was the answer to everything, but our Microsoft SQL workloads never performed consistently. Moving them to private cloud gave us the best of both worlds—predictable costs and guaranteed performance for what matters most.”

— CTO, Financial Services

4.3 THE HYBRID NAVIGATOR: ACHIEVING BALANCE

Your Challenge

You've built a complex hybrid environment blending on-premises and public cloud, but this approach creates its own challenges:

- ◊ Fragmented identity management and security monitoring across multiple environments
- ◊ Duplicate skill sets required to maintain different infrastructure models
- ◊ Complex disaster recovery spanning multiple platforms
- ◊ Inconsistent governance and compliance frameworks

Your Opportunity

Your experience with multiple environments positions you perfectly to optimize workload placement. Private cloud offers the missing piece in your infrastructure strategy:

- ◊ Unified management and monitoring: Create consistent operational approaches across your entire estate
- ◊ Simplified compliance framework: Establish clear boundaries for regulated data
- ◊ Optimized workload placement: Run Microsoft applications where they perform best while maintaining connectivity to cloud-native services
- ◊ Streamlined skill requirements: Leverage your team's existing VMware expertise across both private and on-premises environments

Your Path Forward

1. Consolidate critical databases into a single-tenant environment: Maintain adjacency to SaaS applications and object storage
2. Implement consistent identity and security controls: Create a unified security posture across all environments
3. Establish clear workload placement criteria: Define which applications belong in each environment based on performance, cost, and compliance needs

Success Story: Healthcare Provider Achieves Hybrid Harmony

A regional healthcare system struggled to balance EHR performance needs with data analytics capabilities. Their hybrid environment created security silos and operational complexity. By implementing a purpose-built private cloud for their clinical systems while maintaining cloud-native analytics, they:

- ◊ Reduced security incidents by 78% through unified controls
- ◊ Decreased EHR response times by 65%
- ◊ Simplified HIPAA compliance with clear data boundaries
- ◊ Cut operational overhead by 42% through consistent tooling

"Our hybrid environment grew organically and became unmanageable. Managed Private cloud gave us a place to consolidate our critical clinical systems while maintaining the benefits of our cloud analytics. Now we have the right workloads in the right places."

— CTO, Healthcare System

THE CASE FOR CHANGE: KEY DRIVERS

5.1 ECONOMIC PREDICTABILITY & COST CONTROL

The financial case for purpose-built managed private cloud has never been stronger. As a technology leader responsible for both innovation and fiscal discipline, you need infrastructure that delivers predictable costs without compromising performance:

- ◊ Flattened OpEx curve: Eliminate surprise egress charges, premium storage fees, and variable compute costs that make public cloud budgeting a monthly challenge
- ◊ Right-sized SQL licensing: Deploy core-based licensing without hyper-thread multipliers, reducing SQL Server costs by 15-40%
- ◊ Optimized resource utilization: Allocate precisely the resources each workload requires without artificial constraints or bundled service tiers

The Data Speaks: IDC research confirms 34% lower infrastructure cost, and 42% OpEx reduction over three years with private cloud compared to equivalent public cloud deployments.

For your Microsoft workloads, the savings become even more pronounced. SQL Server Enterprise on private cloud typically costs 22-38% less than equivalent public cloud implementations when factoring in licensing optimization, storage efficiency, and performance-based sizing.

5.2 PERFORMANCE & RELIABILITY FOR MICROSOFT WORKLOADS

Your most critical Microsoft applications demand consistent, predictable performance. Private cloud delivers measurable advantages:

- ◊ All-NVMe storage arrays: Experience <1ms latency—10x faster than general purpose cloud block storage
- ◊ Dedicated CPU pools: Eliminate “noisy neighbor” performance spikes that plague multi-tenant environments
- ◊ Optimized SQL configurations: Deploy database workloads with precisely tuned storage, memory, and CPU resources

The Data Speaks: Organizations using VMware Cloud Foundation for critical workloads experience 98% less unplanned downtime compared to public cloud alternatives.

For transaction-heavy Microsoft applications, consistent sub-millisecond storage performance translates directly to business outcomes:

- ◊ Financial services: 2.3x faster loan processing
- ◊ Healthcare: 65% reduction in EHR screen load times
- ◊ Manufacturing: 42% improvement in ERP transaction throughput
- ◊ Retail: 58% faster order processing during peak periods

5.3 SECURITY, SOVEREIGNTY & COMPLIANCE

As regulatory requirements intensify, your infrastructure choices directly impact compliance outcomes. Private cloud provides distinct security advantages:

- ◊ Private VLANs & zero-trust micro-segmentation: Limit lateral movement with granular controls that satisfy auditors
- ◊ Sovereign data boundaries: Keep information in known jurisdictions—simplifying GDPR, HIPAA, PCI, and other regulatory frameworks
- ◊ Deep attestation & logging: Generate comprehensive audit trails without cross-tenant entanglement

The Data Speaks: Organizations using private cloud for regulated workloads report 64% fewer audit findings and 82% faster compliance certifications than those using multi-tenant environments.

Your compliance team gains demonstrable control over:

- ◊ Data residency: Prove exactly where sensitive information resides
- ◊ Access controls: Document precise authorization boundaries
- ◊ Encryption: Implement customized protection aligned to specific regulations
- ◊ Breach prevention: Deploy security controls without cloud provider limitations

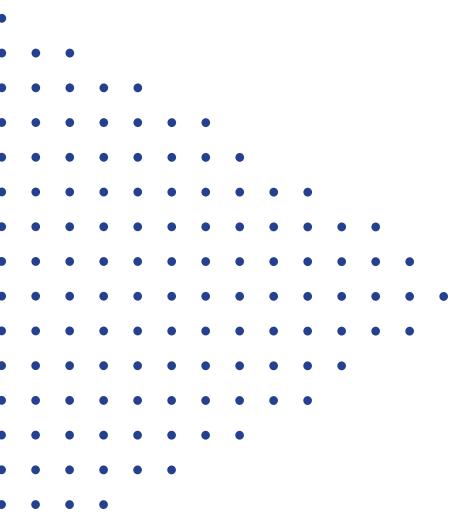
5.4 INNOVATION & AI READINESS

Private cloud isn't just about controlling costs and improving security—it positions you to lead innovation initiatives, particularly around AI:

- ◊ On-demand GPU clusters: Deploy AI acceleration without public-cloud markup
- ◊ Data sovereignty for training: Keep sensitive learning data within your controlled boundary
- ◊ API-driven elasticity: Burst into hosted GPU farms when needed without moving your core data

The Data Speaks: Parallels' 2025 survey found organizations using private cloud for AI initiatives reduced GPU costs by up to 50% while maintaining stricter data controls than possible in public cloud.

As AI becomes central to your competitive strategy, the ability to train models on your most sensitive data without exposing it to multi-tenant environments will be increasingly valuable. Private cloud creates a foundation for AI that balances innovation with protection.



Private cloud creates a foundation for AI that balances innovation with protection.

WHEN TO MOVE: RECOGNIZING THE TRIGGERS FOR PRIVATE CLOUD MIGRATION

Enterprise workloads don't all move at once—and they shouldn't. But certain signals make it clear that the time is right for a transition. Whether you're facing mounting capital costs, unpredictable public-cloud bills, or the growing complexity of hybrid operations, these scenarios highlight when private cloud can offer a more secure, performant, and cost-effective home for your mission-critical systems.

6.1 THE ON-PREMISES PRESSURE COOKER

Many organizations running their own datacenters find themselves approaching a breaking point. Hardware refresh cycles are straining capital budgets just as support contracts expire and performance degradation creeps into customer-facing applications. Meanwhile, disaster recovery solutions that were once adequate now fall short of today's expectations for continuity, and the specialized expertise needed to maintain aging systems is increasingly hard to retain.

For IT leaders in this scenario, private cloud offers a fast-track off the upgrade treadmill. By lifting key Microsoft workloads—such as SQL Server databases or Dynamics ERP instances—into a secure, Software-Defined Data Center (SDDC), organizations can convert unpredictable capital expenses into stable operating costs. Once stabilized, teams can introduce self-service provisioning and automation to boost agility. Equally important, modern backup and DR tools can be implemented without new hardware or licensing complexities. The result is a hardened, high-performance environment for your most business-critical Windows workloads—with fewer late-night calls and far greater predictability.



6.2 THE HYPERSCALE HANGOVER

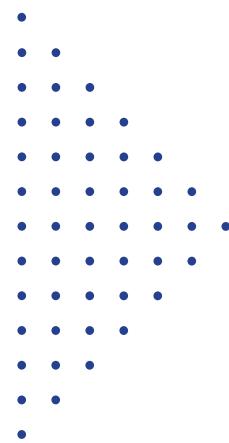
What starts as a cloud transformation often turns into a financial surprise. For many teams that migrate Microsoft workloads to AWS, Azure, or GCP, the monthly bill swings by 20 to 40 percent, with premium storage and data egress charges compounding the issue. Transactional systems like SQL Server may experience burst-driven latency that undermines SLAs, while compliance obligations force increasingly complex cloud architectures that are hard to manage and expensive to audit.

In these cases, the shift to private cloud isn't a step backward; it's a strategic correction. By re-platforming stable, high-throughput workloads like SQL databases or custom .NET applications in a dedicated private environment, teams can regain control over performance and cost. Retaining native cloud services for elastic or cloud-native workloads still makes sense—but moving heavy, sensitive, or highly licensed Microsoft systems to a secure, single-tenant cloud offers immediate benefits. High-speed connectivity between environments ensures users won't notice the move—but finance and compliance teams certainly will.

6.3 THE HYBRID COMPLEXITY TRAP

Operating in both on-prem and public-cloud environments can be the best of both worlds—until it isn't. Over time, maintaining two infrastructures leads to fragmented identity systems, redundant skill sets, brittle disaster recovery configurations, and inconsistent governance. What was once a pragmatic decision becomes a source of risk and inefficiency.

Here, private cloud can simplify the picture without sacrificing flexibility. By consolidating your most critical data systems—those supporting multiple applications or handling identity and access management—into a secure, single-tenant private cloud, you reduce the surface area for threats and streamline operations. Modern environments still maintain adjacency to SaaS platforms and cloud-native services, but they unify identity, monitoring, and security under one framework. The result is stronger governance, clearer compliance visibility, and fewer integration headaches when audits arrive.



The shift to private cloud isn't a step backward; it's a strategic correction.

QUANTIFYING THE ADVANTAGE: BUSINESS OUTCOMES AND STRATEGIC ROI

The financial case for private cloud is compelling. According to IDC's 2024 report on the business value of VMware Cloud Foundation, organizations running private cloud see dramatic cost reductions and operational gains.

| 3-Year Outcome | Public Cloud | Private Cloud | Savings / Uplift |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| Infrastructure cost | \$10 million | \$6.6 million | 34% |
| Operating expense | \$5 million | \$2.9 million | 42% |
| VM deployment time | 38 minutes | 15 minutes | 61% |
| Team efficiency | - | +53% | - |

Source: IDC, Business Value of VCF, August 2024

But these numbers only tell part of the story.

Private cloud also delivers strategic multipliers that extend far beyond financial line items:

- ◊ Greater agility: Teams respond to market opportunities 58% faster thanks to self-service provisioning and simplified infrastructure management.
- ◊ Faster innovation: Standardized development environments reduce time-to-market for new applications and services by 34%.
- ◊ Higher morale: IT staff satisfaction improves by 47% when freed from constant firefighting and repetitive patch cycles.
- ◊ Lower risk: Organizations report a 64% reduction in security incidents through consistent segmentation and unified control frameworks.

These findings are echoed in the Parallels 2025 Cloud Survey, where 86% of IT leaders indicated plans to move at least some workloads away from public cloud—primarily for cost control, performance, and security.

RISK MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

A structured governance approach minimizes risk during and after your transition:



Change Control & Infrastructure as Code

- ◊ Implement pipeline-based deployments with peer review
- ◊ Establish version-controlled infrastructure definitions
- ◊ Create automated testing for configuration changes
- ◊ Document change approval processes aligned to compliance frameworks

Business Continuity

- ◊ Design immutable backups with air-gapped protection
- ◊ Implement geo-separated disaster recovery with ≤ 4 h RPO/RTO
- ◊ Establish regular recovery testing with documented results
- ◊ Create business impact-aligned recovery tiers

Continuous Vulnerability Management

- ◊ Deploy CIS-hardened images with baseline security controls
- ◊ Implement comprehensive EDR and real-time threat monitoring
- ◊ Establish regular scanning and patch management processes
- ◊ Create vulnerability response playbooks for swift remediation

Exit & Portability

- ◊ Maintain OVA/OVF export capabilities for all critical workloads
- ◊ Document de-provisioning runbooks to avoid vendor lock-in
- ◊ Implement data portability processes and regular testing
- ◊ Create clear exit criteria and timelines

Compliance Mapping

- ◊ Align private cloud controls to PCI 4.0, HIPAA, ISO 27001, and AI-privacy requirements
- ◊ Document control matrices with clear evidence sources
- ◊ Implement continuous compliance monitoring with automated alerts
- ◊ Create auditor-ready reporting on demand

CONCOURSE CLOUD: A SMARTER PATH TO MANAGED PRIVATE CLOUD

Moving mission-critical workloads isn't just about where they run, it's about how they're governed, secured, and supported once they get there. Concourse Cloud was built to address what hyperscale providers can't: purpose-built performance, compliance-ready security, and predictable costs.

Unlike the "one-size-fits-all" approach of public cloud, we design a **dedicated, managed private cloud** around your workloads, compliance requirements, and business continuity goals. The result? An environment that's faster, safer, and more cost-effective—without the headaches of managing it yourself.

WHY CONCOURSE IS THE SAFER BET

With Concourse, every deployment comes with:

- ◊ **Purpose Built Environments:** Each environment custom built, with precisely matched processors to specialized tasks for peak efficiency and reliability
- ◊ **White Glove Support:** No chatbots; a dedicated technical account manager who knows your environments, with access to a team of cloud engineers, network and security experts
- ◊ **Dedicated Infrastructure:** No noisy neighbors; VMs tuned for your workloads on custom Dell hardware
- ◊ **Enterprise-Grade Security:** PCI and HIPAA compliance as standard, with Rubrik immutable backups and Cisco-isolated VLANs
- ◊ **High Performance:** Pure Storage NVMe arrays delivering sub-millisecond latency optimized for SQL workloads
- ◊ **Disaster Recovery You Can Trust:** 4-hour RPO/RTO with geographically separated data centers, tested and documented
- ◊ **Predictable Costs:** All-inclusive licensing for SQL Server Enterprise, Windows Server, and essentials built in

BUILT ON BEST-IN-CLASS TECHNOLOGY

Our "best-in-breed" architecture means you're not compromising on infrastructure:

- ◊ **Storage:** Pure Storage all-flash NVMe arrays
- ◊ **Backup & Recovery:** Rubrik encrypted, immutable systems
- ◊ **Network:** Cisco switches with private VLANs
- ◊ **Compute:** Custom-built Dell servers optimized for SQL and Windows workloads

Every environment follows our "one server, one purpose" design—isolating transactional from reporting servers for consistent performance and security.

WHO WE SERVE BEST

Concourse is purpose-built for organizations that can't compromise on uptime, compliance, or fiscal responsibility:

- ◊ **Hybrid operators** needing seamless integration with on-prem or public cloud
- ◊ **Public cloud emigrants** seeking to escape cost unpredictability and compliance gaps
- ◊ **On-prem retirees** ready to modernize without losing control

Industries like nonprofit, higher education, and healthcare trust us because we balance security, performance, and cost efficiency in ways hyperscalers can't.

WHY CIOs ARE MAKING THE MOVE

- ◊ 83% of CIOs planned to move at least one workload off public cloud in 2025 (Barclays)
- ◊ 86% cite cost, performance, or security as the primary drivers (Parallels)
- ◊ Private cloud can deliver 34% lower infrastructure cost and 42% OpEx reduction over three years (IDC)

YOUR CLOUD, YOUR WAY:

We start by understanding your vision, your workload profile, and your constraints. Then we build an environment that fits—not the other way around. When uptime, compliance, and fiscal responsibility matter, Concourse Cloud delivers a safer, faster, and more cost-effective home for the applications and workloads your business can't afford to compromise.

We're not just a replacement for your current hosting solutions, we're a purpose-built partner that simplifies infrastructure, strengthens security, and scales with your needs. With less complexity, greater accountability, and a lower total cost of ownership, we help deliver your cloud, your way.

PART TEN

CONCLUSION: ACTING WITH URGENCY

The infrastructure landscape is at an inflection point. Hyperscale price hikes, PCI 4.0 enforcement, VMware licensing changes, and AI data-sovereignty laws are converging in 2026. Technology leaders who pivot critical Microsoft workloads to managed private cloud now lock in budget certainty, reclaim performance control, and secure data for the AI era—while competitors renegotiate costlier contracts next year.

The question facing you isn't whether private cloud makes sense for your critical Microsoft workloads—the economic, performance, and compliance case is clear. The real question is how quickly you can capture these advantages before market conditions change further.

Purpose Built Managed Private cloud is no longer niche; it is the mature operating model that finally aligns cost, control, and compliance with mission-critical demand. The question is not if—but how quickly you act.

END NOTES

1. IDC, “Assessing the Scale of Workload Repatriation,” June 2024.
2. IDC, “Maximizing the Full Value of VMware Cloud Foundation,” Mar 2025.
3. Parallels, “Cloud Survey 2025,” Apr 2025.
4. Barclays CIO Survey, Oct 2024.
5. “Microsoft Workload Performance Analysis,” Feb 2025.
6. Directions on Microsoft, “SQL Server in the Cloud: Understanding Licensing Impacts,” Dec 2024.
7. Flexera, “State of the Cloud Report,” Jan 2025.
8. IDC, “Business Value of VMware Cloud Foundation,” Aug 2024.
9. Intel & Red Hat, “Red Hat OpenShift Virtualization” Feb 2025.
10. Internal case study client narrative is anonymized and summarized for publication.

