



# CLOUD COMPUTING TECHNOLOGY

## NEBRASKA BROADBAND

The Nebraska Broadband Initiative proudly shares information to support the increased adoption and use of Broadband high speed Internet.

To provide a better understanding of Cloud Computing Technology, University of Nebraska - Lincoln technical experts and successful small business leaders explain the advantages of cloud technology, including information storage and access.

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### Cloud Computing

With cloud computing, a business rents space on an online server rather than storing data in-house. Cloud computing allows you to share files, collaborate online and synch files between various electronic devices. It is estimated that by 2016, 50% of Global 1000 companies will be using cloud data services to store company and consumer information.



AIM Institute



Nebraska Information Technology Commission



Nebraska Department of Economic Development



Nebraska Public Service Commission



University of Nebraska-Lincoln



The Broadband Mapping and Planning Initiative is funded through a grant to the Nebraska Public Service Commission by the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration and aims to increase broadband adoption and utilization. Project partners include Nebraska Public Service Commission, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska Information Technology Commission, Nebraska Department of Economic Development and AIM Institute

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To learn more about Cloud Computing Technology, watch the webinar with UNL experts and small business leaders at:

<http://broadband.nebraska.gov/events>

Presented by Ed Media and Nebraska Broadband Initiative UNL Planning Team

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[www.broadband.nebraska.gov](http://www.broadband.nebraska.gov)

## BENEFITS OF CLOUD COMPUTING

*Provides flexibility for employees to work from home.* Employees in rural location don't need to commute to work, which increases employee morale and productivity.

*Allows you to work with clients from any location.* Illness or travel won't keep you from meeting with a client, because you can meet virtually through the cloud.

*Increases the geographic reach of your organization.* Because you aren't limited by location, you can hire the best and brightest employees for your business.

*Reduces infrastructure costs.* There is no need to buy servers, computer hardware and disc storage space; and you won't need to employ someone to manage your computer storage systems.

*Provides flexibility to scale up or down according to needs.* With the cloud you're only paying for what you use. You can purchase more storage space during a busy time and scale down during a slow time.

## CONSIDERATIONS IN CHOOSING A CLOUD COMPUTING SYSTEM

*Do they manage their own data?* You reduce the risk of glitches if there is no third party involved.

*Are they certified with security standards?* Compliance with standards ensures security for your data.

*Do they have multiple facilities across the country?* An alternate facility can provide continued service if a natural disaster occurs in one part of the country.

## EXAMPLES OF CLOUD COMPUTING PROGRAMS

*Interested in trying out the cloud?* These websites offer free cloud services that allow you to evaluate and get comfortable with the cloud.

*Dropbox* (dropbox.com) gives you storage space online and allows you or others to access the files from any location or device.

*Google Drive* (drive.google.com) is a file storage service available to anyone with a Google account. Google Docs are stored online, allowing you to "grab" those files from any location when you need them. Others can collaborate on the documents as well.

*Evernote* (evernote.com) allows you to take notes, store them online, and then retrieve them from your smartphone or other device. You can add pictures, insert videos and even sketch ideas.

*"The trend is a mobile workforce, so having these apps in the cloud gives you access anywhere. The future of the cloud looks really bright, and I think there is a lot of value for a small business as more and more solutions are available and integrated in the cloud. You don't have to worry about having a data center in your office and having an IT staff to manage that."* (Sean Nathaniel, CIO for Filebound Office Automated Solutions)

*"If they want their business to move ahead, they need to invest in this technology."* (Bryson, National Sales Executive for Health Mate Saunas in Fremont, Nebraska)

*"It is essential for our business. With multiple locations and people who cannot easily access a server that would be sitting in our office, having the cloud server allows them to access it wherever they are located."* (Annie Loutzenhiser, CPA, Partner/Shareholder, Fred Lockwood & Co.)