SCALING IN A CRISIS: TAKE TO THE CLOUD FOR BUSINESS AGILITY AND CONTINUITY

Executive Summary

Businesses must remain agile and adaptable, even under the best of conditions. Enduring a global pandemic has underscored companies' need to pivot quickly to adapt, sometimes to survive. A common lifeline that businesses turned to during the pandemic is the cloud. This paper explores the reasoning behind utilizing cloud services in a crisis and offers real examples of implementing these strategies.

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LOADSPRING

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1

INTRODUCTION 3

CREATE WORKFORCE FLEXIBILITY 4

- Leverage Cloud-Hosted Software 4
- Consider Offsite Infrastructure 5

RAPID SCALING 6

- Scaling Real-time in a Crisis 6

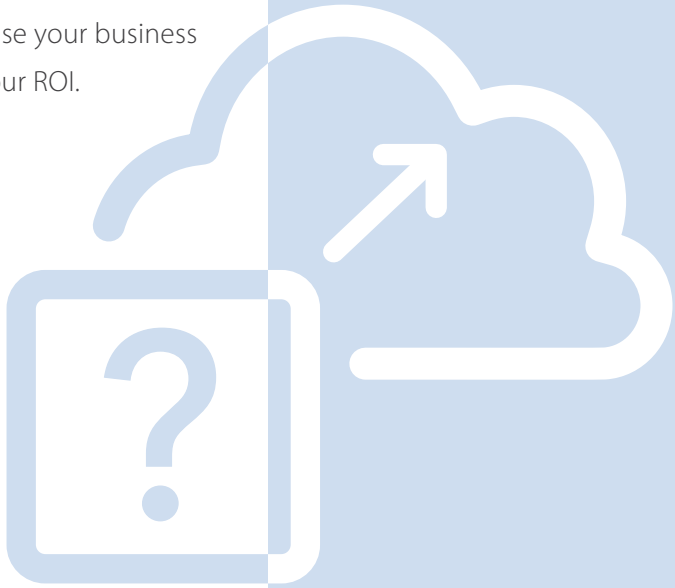
CONCLUSION 7

ABOUT LOADSPRING SOLUTIONS, INC. 8

INTRODUCTION

Companies that were not already in the cloud or unprepared to transition their workforce and infrastructure to a cloud environment turned expediently to the cloud to deliver projects on time and on budget. A common factor among the success stories was workforce flexibility and the ability to scale and do it quickly. Those who could do both from one single dashboard lead the competition. Having the right set of tools in a simple, secure cloud can enable your workforce to work from anywhere and drive unparalleled business scalability.

Data needs will change with the times under any circumstance. Having affordable, scalable, high-performance cloud access and storage is critical to not only surviving but thriving in any event. Managed cloud services like LoadSpring's have built-in tools to streamline administrative work and provide the expertise necessary to manage infrastructure and users. With the right cloud strategy, you can keep teams going, increase your business adaptability, and improve your operations and increase your ROI.



CREATE WORKFORCE FLEXIBILITY

Before the pandemic, remote work was often considered a luxury and a potential productivity hazard. Now, remote work is critical for business operations, if not corporate survival. As it turns out, many companies have maintained or even increased productivity. According to the Harvard Business Review, the top 25% of companies were "40% more productive than the rest" during the pandemic. Adapting to change increasingly requires the efficient use of technology. The cloud enables this adaptive piece of the puzzle. Two essential parts are:

- Hosted software
- Offsite infrastructure and expertise

Leverage Cloud-Hosted Software

Cloud-hosted software is software, like Oracle's Primavera P6, installed on cloud servers and operated remotely. This cloud innovation allows for:

- **Remote work simplified.** LoadSpring Cloud Platform provides a single portal where workers can connect securely and use their chosen software anywhere on virtually any hardware.
- **Easy updating.** Updates are executed in the cloud by LoadSpring experts, and roll out within your timeframe, reducing internal IT workload.
- **Rapid provisioning.** Assign and deploy software with the click of a mouse. Reassign licenses as quickly as projects ramp up or down.
- **Better performance.** Cloud hosting software can increase performance enough to pay for itself because of time saved by project managers, which increases overall productivity measurably.

CREATE WORKFORCE FLEXIBILITY (continued)

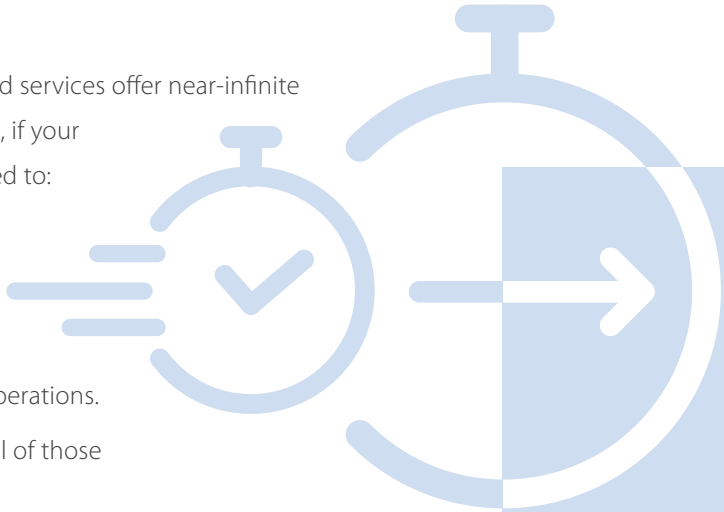
Consider Offsite Infrastructure

Housing software and related data on-site seems like it might be a good idea on the surface. Security fears often drive organizations to host in-house. Considering that cyber attacks have increased significantly during the pandemic, reactive thinking to this onslaught is understandable. The fact is that the right cloud comes with turnkey cloud security that meets and exceeds Fortune 500 and government standards. Keeping corporate data in a centralized place also offers:

- Accessibility and sharing from anywhere, any time
- Automated backup and disaster recovery
- 24/7/365 support
- Consolidation and cleaning of data for use in data lakes, analytics, business intelligence, and project intelligence

Empowering your workforce is what LoadSpring Solutions, Inc. does. Giving people access to the tools they need when and where they need them allows for innovation even in a crisis.

RAPID SCALING



Businesses must prepare for a disaster as well as for success. Cloud services offer near-infinite scalability to meet the demand to scale up or down. For example, if your manufacturing firm sees a sudden upsurge in business, you'll need to:

- Increase infrastructure and storage requirements.
- Purchase and assign more software.
- Onboard and train new or transitioning workers.
- Integrate analytics and business intelligence to streamline operations.

The right cloud provider, like LoadSpring Solutions, Inc., can do all of those things for you at a price that makes business sense.

Scaling Real-time in a Crisis

When the pandemic struck, planners at Gleeds stepped up to support their workforce. In response, they pivoted fast to make a seamless transition. Planners and estimators at the company make extensive use of iTWO CostX estimating software, including BIM/CAD modules. Project-intensive software such as CostX uses large files that many people need to access, share, and edit. Users were tunneling into the corporate network via VPN, a secure and reliable method, but performance (and productivity) dropped considerably. Speed of access had fallen nearly 50%, which created innumerable problems.

Gleeds contacted LoadSpring to seek cloud hosting of CostX. LoadSpring's flagship product, LoadSpring Cloud Platform, hosts CostX and similar products with ease. Gleeds was able to ramp up 120 users of CostX in a short amount of time. Performance of CostX returned to normal levels, which allowed Gleeds to continue business as usual, ensuring effective adaption.

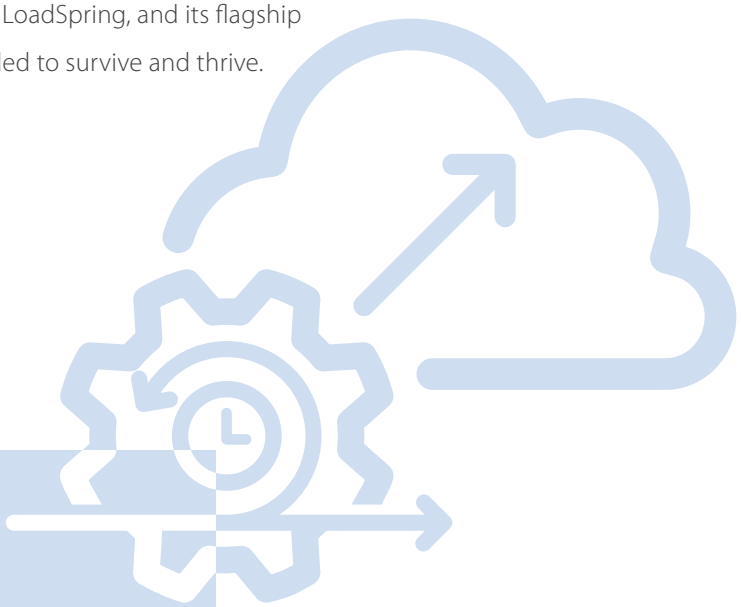
Gleeds avoided the disastrous loss of productivity by moving to the cloud and enabled their workforce to do their jobs securely from home. Utilizing cloud-hosted software and hosting the project data in the cloud gives Gleeds the software performance and reliability that they need, with sharable files providing the efficiency of use and ability to extract project intelligence for future use. Furthermore, LoadSpring Cloud Platform allows for integrating project data between different applications, enabling your teams and your business to maximize project and operational efficiencies.

Moving forward, Gleeds is looking to roll out cloud-hosted software throughout their global enterprise, beginning with the U.S., moving into Japan and India, and beyond. LoadSpring Cloud Platform's inherent flexibility, scalability, and security allow for smooth transitions and global rollouts. There is no perfect disaster-proof solution for everything, but cloud computing does provide the ability to adapt to change and keep moving forward, whatever the circumstances.

CONCLUSION

In unpredictable times or environments, having the right tools to meet whatever challenges come can not only save you from disaster but help you pivot into a winning position. Managed cloud services give your business flexibility and scalability at the flick of a switch. From enabling efficient, productive work-from-anywhere workforces to rapid rollouts of complex project-intensive applications, the cloud can take you where you need to go when you need to get there.

Scale up or down, assign and reassign software seats remotely, and train remote workforces so they can keep your business moving. Companies like Gleeds know that for enabling remote work and providing secure, high-performance, scalable storage, LoadSpring, and its flagship LoadSpring Cloud Platform offer businesses the tools needed to survive and thrive.



ABOUT LOADSPRING

Founded in 1999, LoadSpring is a global Cloud solutions provider that strives to boost customer ROI and offer quality managed services. LoadSpring challenges the traditional IT approach to deliver innovative solutions for its customers by providing easy procurement and secure access to best-in-class project-based applications and their data.

LoadSpring's SOC 2 Type II security certification provides a highly secure infrastructure and cloud environment hosting more than 200 Project Management related applications. Through LoadSpring Cloud Platform and LoadSpring MarketPlace, customers and partners achieve maximized productivity and ROI, all while reducing their IT department's burden for support, infrastructure, and security management.

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