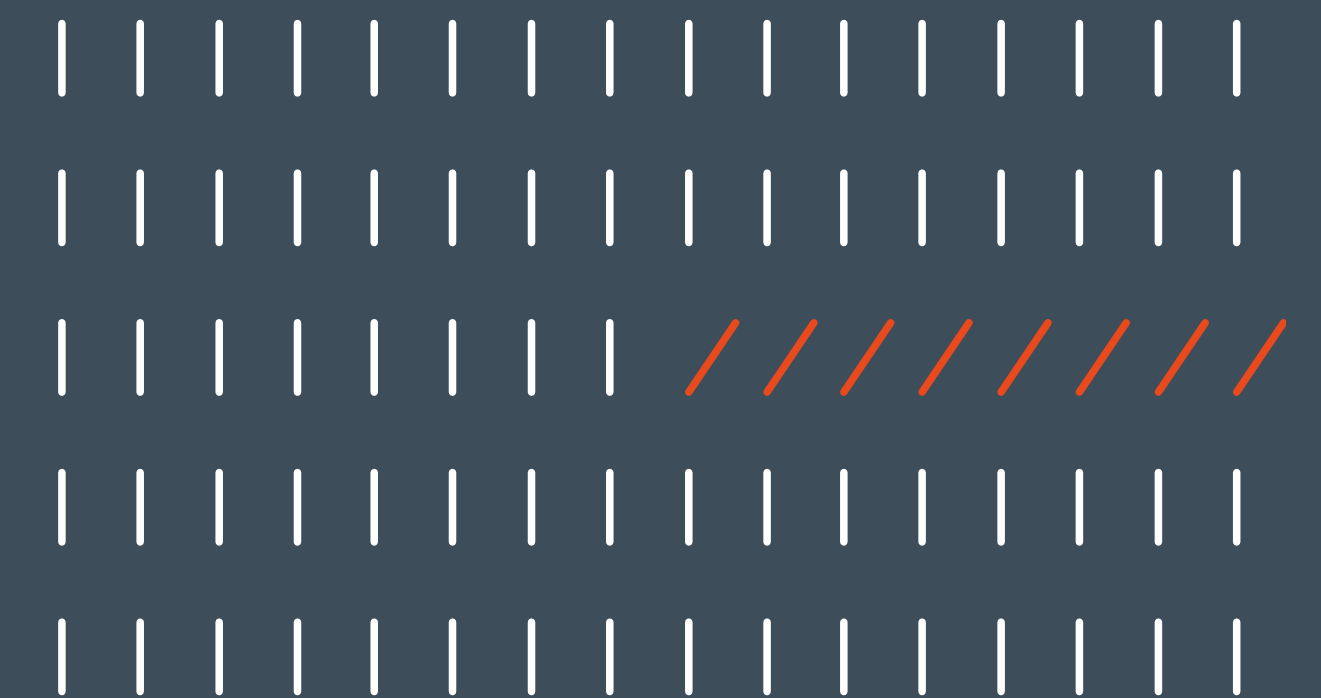


M I R U S



How Microsoft Azure Empowers Your Enterprise

Expansive Business Solutions



Introducing Cloud Technologies

The Cloud has revolutionised the modern industry, rapidly changing the way we work, connect and expand our businesses. But how many of us understand The Cloud's true potential, and is it merely supplementing our industries – or transforming them?

Many of us – whether we know it or not – are already relying on cloud solutions to make work more flexible than ever. Microsoft's Office 365 is one pervasive example, letting users access their work from anywhere in the world; similarly, OneDrive creates an online file storage solution for all our pertinent work and documents.

Yet Cloud technologies can go much further than simple storage solutions; they can also manage expansive networks, emulate powerful computing hardware, and deliver content to customers on an extraordinary scale.

Introducing Microsoft Azure: a cloud computing solution relied upon by 95% of Fortune 500 companies, but scalable to enterprises of almost any size. Operating on a pay-per-use system, Azure provides almost anything your infrastructure demands: file storage, virtual networking, or simply raw computing power. By being entirely scalable, Azure provides unprecedented flexibility, meaning users only pay for the services they've used. And like all Cloud services, it's hosted entirely on its own data centres, so your company needs no extra hardware.



In this eBook, we'll help you understand the potential of Microsoft Azure, how it compares to other Cloud setups, and why it needn't compromise control wherever you need it most.

And remember; while The Cloud can be a complex beast, you're not expected to tackle it alone. The solutions offered by Mirus ensure that yours remains supported, long after we've helped you set it up for success.

Why Might a Business Use Azure?

The sheer breadth of Azure's offerings make it hard to define any single-use scenario; suffice to say, whatever technical limitation you're encountering, Azure is designed to overcome it.

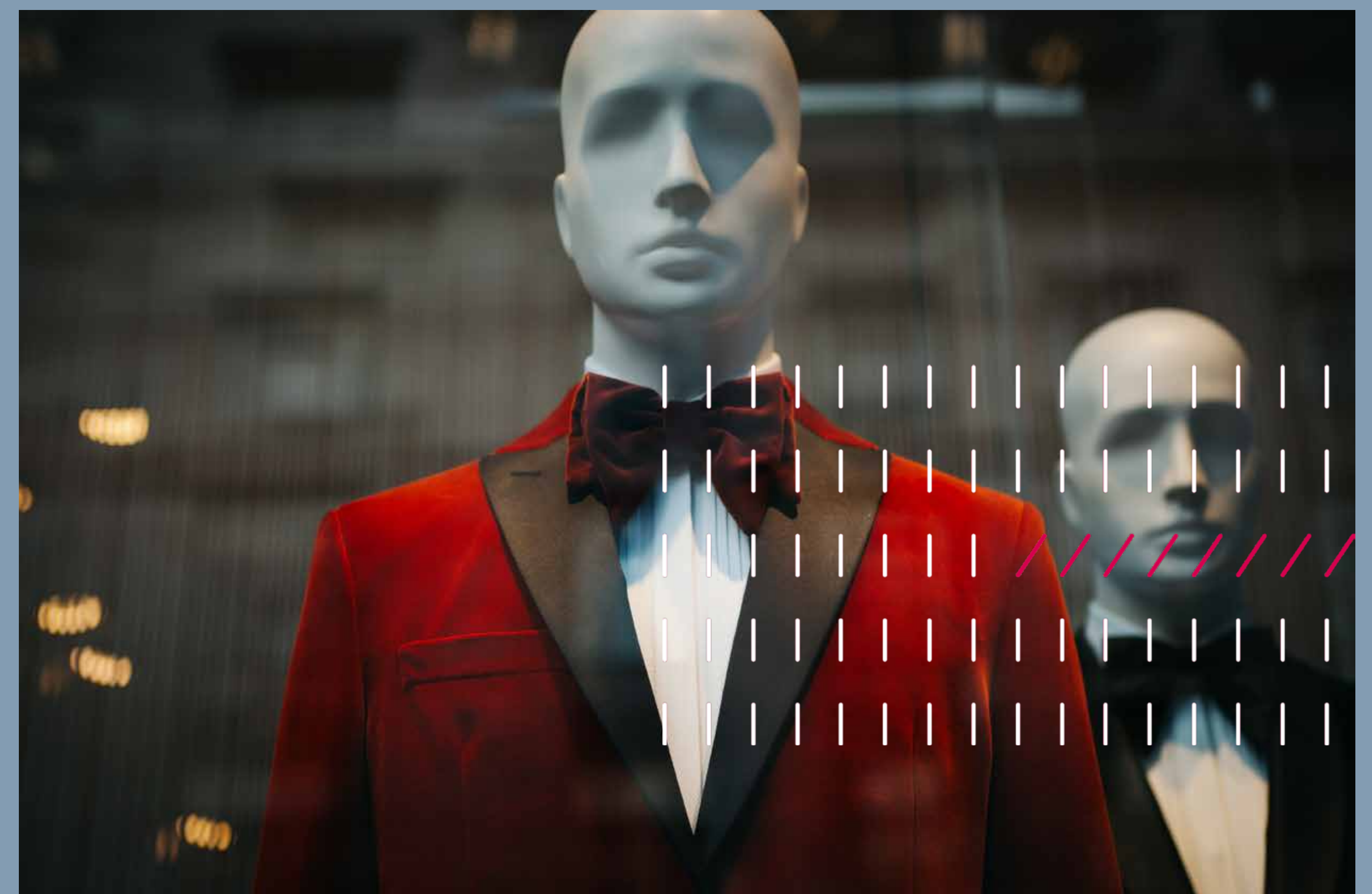
You could be an enterprising startup with a vision to tackle the industry heavyweights, yet you might lack the resources to build that killer app, or secure the bandwidth you need to keep your project sustainable.

Conversely, you may already be an established enterprise; you might be anticipating a huge rise in demand or workload, and your technical setup is struggling to scale alongside it.

In either scenario, you could require any number of technical solutions: servers, storage, developer tools, even machine learning or virtual devices that mimic the fastest computing power available.

Azure delivers all of the above - and plenty more - over the public cloud, quickly and securely. These solutions can be sourced on a pay-as-you-use basis, each of them shrinking or expanding in scale to suit the needs of your project; and by being entirely cloud-based, Azure eliminates the need for hardware investments, physical storage or rigid pricing structures.

Whatever the size of your business, whatever your company aspirations, Azure levels the playing field for businesses worldwide. By providing the resources you need, and letting you control scale and costs, it ensures that no technical solution is ever out of your reach.





Your Company Setup - and Where Azure Fits In

As we touched upon earlier, Azure is a Public Cloud solution which is delivered virtually. It requires no additional hardware on behalf of the user – only a high-speed internet connection - and because of this, it compliments your company setup unobtrusively.

If the bulk of your enterprise is made up of on-prem solutions, such as physical servers, storage and computers, you can employ Azure as part of a Hybrid Cloud solution. This means you'll still rely on your on-prem technologies, but they'll be complimented by Azure's services.

You'll be able to expand your company capabilities while avoiding the need for any high-risk hardware investments.

With Azure File Sync, for example, you can centralise files in the cloud while keeping the flexibility and performance of an on-premises file server; this is useful when speed of access is essential, and you can't afford to rely on fluctuating internet speeds. You can also create file replicas in different offices, whilst tiering your more infrequently used files to Azure. This way, you're streamlining access to your more heavily used files.

Remember, as your use of Azure fluctuates, so too does the cost of the service, so no options will tie your hands to a rigid pricing scheme or obligation.

Cloud Solutions

Cloud Solutions for Businesses

HYBRID CLOUD

- Combination of both public and private cloud
- Shared security responsibility
- Helps maintain tighter controls over sensitive data and processes

PUBLIC CLOUD

- Offered to select users over the internet or a private internal network
- Provides greater security controls
- Requires traditional datacentre staffing and maintenance

PRIVATE CLOUD

- Offered by third-party providers
- Services available to users over the public internet
- Scales quickly and conveniently





What Are the Key Benefits of Azure?

It's Endlessly Flexible

Azure has a near-infinite scale, and can deliver solutions proportionate to your budget, in line with your compliance and mindful of your need to customise. There is no one-size fits all solution to Azure; in fact, there is no size at all.

It's Suitable for Companies of All Sizes

You're never too big or too small to use Azure. Because the wealth of services is so broad, you could have as many as 20 or as few as 2 Azure-powered solutions in your setup. Though favoured by the vast majority of Fortune 500 companies, it remains exceptionally useful for start-ups who might lack the features or funding for that entrepreneurial breakthrough.

Your Storage is Potentially Unlimited

90% of the world's data was created in the past two years. If there's anything to be gleaned from such an astonishing statistic, it's that our data output is increasing rapidly. Your company's private server might only have so much capacity, but Azure offers ongoing, unlimited storage as and when you need it.

It's Compatible With a Wealth of Programming Languages and Operating Systems

Because Azure is technically a hosting platform, not a piece of software, you don't need a Microsoft environment to make the most of it. Linux, AppleOS, Android and Windows are all supported by its myriad features. Similarly, it supports such coding languages as Python, C#, Node.js, Java and JavaScript – should you be coding that next big web app.

It Offers Heightened Security

Despite initial concerns, the cloud has proven itself as one of the safest ways to store data. Providers such as Microsoft – perhaps anticipating the concerns of their audience – know that watertight cloud security is essential to maintaining that trust. As such, Azure offers exactly the kind of file encryption you'd expect from such a large company, and Storage Service Encryption encrypts data on the user's side, the server's side and while data is in transit.

It Simplifies Monthly Budgets

As we touched upon earlier, your cloud storage can be expanded incrementally – not to mention infinitely. As such, providers have had to create clear pricing structures or subscription-based models to make these services more user-friendly.

With Azure's Pay as You Go system, you're not obliged to any subscription packages or upfront costs – you simply pay for the services you use and the length of time you use them for.


It Lessens Your Financial Risks

Investing in new hardware or services can be a risky proposition. When the time comes to provide all-new technologies, we want guaranteed returns on investment to offset those initial costs.


With Azure, you can gradually introduce new solutions on an incremental basis, letting you gauge the costs versus the returns, on solutions of any scale.




Which Technical Requirements Does Microsoft Azure Support?




MICROSOFT AZURE ALSO SUPPORTS THE FOLLOWING TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS




COMPUTING




NETWORKING




STORAGE




IOT




MIGRATION




MOBILE




ANALYTICS




CONTAINERS




IDENTITY




AI + MACHINE
LEARNING




INTEGRATION



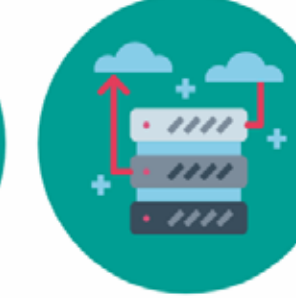
MANAGEMENT
TOOLS




DEVELOPER
TOOLS



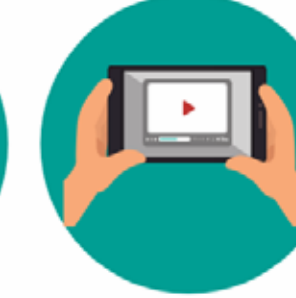
SECURITY




DATABASES





DEVOPS



MEDIA



WEB



MIRUS
a Content+Cloud company



Conclusion

By being deployable across any and all setups, by providing scalability in the face of high demand and by eliminating the risk of high-cost hardware purchases, Azure provides a transformative new environment to evolve, experiment and expand.

As well as the examples provided in this eBook, there are plenty more solutions available via Azure, including DevOps, Analytics, Machine Learning and Networking. As your company evolves, you can add these and more to your Azure environment and move your company forward with a safe, sustainable strategy.

Understanding the wealth of options available with Microsoft Azure can feel a little overwhelming – but you needn't tackle it alone.

At Mirus IT, our award-winning services have provided consistent customer satisfaction and been recognised by some of the industry's biggest names.



Gold
Microsoft
Partner



Want to Know More? Get in Touch

Whatever your future solutions look like, we want to make sure they grow your business, support your strategy and deliver the results your enterprise deserves.

For any and all IT related queries, feel free to call us on 01908 217350.



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PROFESSIONAL IT WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH



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