



By Elizabeth Elliott  
Niedringhaus  
President and CEO of SSE

In my prior two articles, I have tried to define “the Cloud” for non-techies and explored the pros and cons cloud-based solutions offer to businesses. My guess is that as a business owner or a person charged with making technology decisions, you may feel a bit more knowledgeable about “the Cloud”, but are still left scratching your head to determine if a cloud-based solution is the right fit for your business.

As you probably suspect, the answer is not cut and dry. One answer that is clear - the right fit for most businesses will be a “hybrid” solution. And, no, I am not talking about a car! As this new era in technology evolves, most businesses are determining that the right solution is for some IT services to be provided in the cloud while others remain “on-premise” as they have been traditionally. The right hybrid for your business is best determined by thoroughly evaluating your organizations’ goals as they relate to technology.

Here are some key questions to ponder:

- What are your future business goals?
- How do you believe your organization will evolve in the coming years?
- What scalability or flexibility will your workforce need?
- How are you currently using technology?
- Are you limited by technology in any way?

To help develop a cloud strategy for your business, seek an independent consultant that can provide an objective solution recommendation for your business. If a large hosting company comes calling, be wary - it should be no surprise what solution they will recommend. Likewise if a small technology firm only providing on-site service calls, you may not be offered the advantages of the cloud

---

Call SSE today for your cloud solution assessment! SSE is St. Louis’ premier IT services provider offering services across the full IT spectrum from in-house support to hybrid solutions to fully outsourced IT. Email [info@sseinc.com](mailto:info@sseinc.com) to schedule an assessment and find the right fit for your business!