

Cloud Security and Privacy: An Enterprise Perspective on Risks and Compliance

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Low IT services cost, massive scalability, pay-as-you-go, and access to new technologies! What is there not to like about Cloud computing? How about possible vulnerability to hackers, loss of control of data, and being locked into a less than great Cloud Service Provider (CSP)? This book takes an unflinching look at both the great benefits and many pitfalls of Cloud computing. Why the Cloud may be great for small to medium size businesses but larger ones may want to approach entry into the Cloud more cautiously. Many of the challenges that currently exist with application, networking and hosting become exacerbated with Cloud computing. Also, while a CSP can pool his physical resources together to offer massive scalability, that same scalability means that your data is residing side by side with another company's. This book does a very thorough job of explaining what the Cloud is and giving important information and guidance on how to evaluate whether or not you should be in the Cloud. It also gives information and guidance on how to move forward with implementing the Cloud into your organization. Although there are obstacles to overcome, and some of them are quite large, the future benefits of using, securing, and expanding the Cloud are going to take us to the next level of information evolution.

The Cloud is the Internet, and many services that are part of IT departments like software applications, platforms, and infrastructure are now being offered thru the Cloud as Software as a Service (SaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), and Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS). This book looks at existing Cloud security as it applies to infrastructure security, data security and storage, identity and access management, security management, privacy, audit and compliance, security as a (Cloud) service, and the impact of Cloud computing on the role of corporate IT. The authors go into great detail explaining what each of these is, and their existing security practices and challenges.

In addition, the authors give advice on many areas of Cloud security and privacy, and make many smart recommendations for securing virtual servers, how to audit your CSP, and much, MUCH more. They bring up the subject of customer responsibility for security versus the CSP responsibility for security. The book gives much information on the security and privacy challenges to be aware of and how to work within those challenges. I chose to read this book because I had very little understanding of what Cloud computing was and it's implications to my career. I have a much better understanding of it now and this will be a great benefit to me as I move forward. This book is an exhaustive study on the subject of security and privacy of Cloud computing. You will learn so much about this 'potentially disruptive technology'. I highly recommend reading 'Cloud Security and Privacy'.

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