

CloudStrategies

Newsletter

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NEW UPDATES COMING TO MICROSOFT OFFICE 365

- [Exchange Online Gets Office Web Apps attachment preview](#)
- [SharePoint Online Adds Windows Phone 7 Access, BCS & LiveID](#)
- [Lync Online interoperability with Exchange Online voice mail and Mac Support](#)

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Office 365 On Track to Become One of Microsoft's Fastest-Growing Offers Ever

"We are seeing really positive momentum for Office 365. Customers are adopting Office 365 eight times faster than our previous service, and the solution is on track to become one of our fastest-growing offers in Microsoft history," said Kurt DelBene, president of the Office Division at Microsoft.

In the August 2011 issue of CloudStrategies News we reported on the first wave of improvements to Windows Intune. Now, more details are becoming available about upgrades and improvements to Microsoft Office 365. In fact, Microsoft is making more than 30 new updates to Office 365 to enhance collaboration and communication, including:



Exchange Online

- Exchange Online will now be able to use WebReady Document Viewing from Office Web Apps to get high-fidelity previews of Word, Excel, PowerPoint and PDF documents in exactly the same format in which they were created. Users can then choose to edit their document with a single click.

SharePoint Online

- Customers with Office 365 Enterprise plans will be able to use Business Connectivity Services (BCS) to connect to external systems via web service based endpoints.
- Office 365 administrators will be able to invite external users to site collections using their Microsoft Live ID for authentication.
- Windows Phone 7.5 users will be able to access SharePoint Online lists and document libraries from their Windows Phone.

Lync Online

- Lync Online will add multitenant hosting, voice support for mobile information workers and interoperability with Exchange Online voicemail
- Support for Lync for Mac. Mac users can now use instant messaging, presence and videoconferencing through Office 365.

SkyDrive

- SkyDrive gets simpler app-centric sharing for Office, powerful file management and easier uploads with HTML5. Share any Office document in one click. Work together more easily with any contact — across email services and connected networks such as Facebook or LinkedIn. Powerful tools to manage and organize files quickly. Drag and drop multiple files to upload across browsers on PC and Mac.

For more information on these improvements and how they can benefit you, call CloudStrategies at 973-630-5020

CloudBreakingNews

CloudStrategies to Introduce First Managed Services Suite Designed Around Windows Intune

One of the goals of transitioning to the cloud is to have all computing capabilities delivered to you as a service, just like telephone service or electricity. All you need to do is to plug your computer into the network to obtain whatever you need with no thought about how it got there. You should never have to worry about how those services are managed, you just know that they are and that they work.

CloudStrategies Managed Services

Continuing in its commitment to worry-free cloud computing, CloudStrategies will introduce Cloud Managed Services that will provide the best possible user experience for its clients.

CloudStrategies program will provide full helpdesk support 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Should the client need help onsite, field personnel will be available to provide it. All cloud services will be monitored and managed constantly to assure that every cloud service provider meets or exceeds their Service Level Agreements.

Services Available Nationwide

CloudStrategies has the capabilities and capacity to deliver services nationwide. To effectively support every client wherever they may be located, we are partnering with a Fortune 500 company that employs thousands of people nationally.



Designed Around Windows Intune

While many managed service providers support only the core network and not the desktops, perhaps the most exciting element of the upcoming CloudStrategies program is that it is being designed completely around Windows Intune, Microsoft's comprehensive solution that includes

- **PC desktop management**
- **Malware protection**
- **Enterprise level security including BitLocker**
- **Update and service pack management**
- **Remote software installation**
- **Remote user assistance**
- **Windows 7 upgrades with full Software Assurance and more**

CloudStrategies CEO Pete Zarras commented that, "Intune is like purchasing an upgrade to Windows 7 Enterprise with Software Assurance and getting all these incredible desktop management services thrown in with it. With all the additional new features slated for rollout in the months ahead, Intune was the logical choice for our managed services platform."



At CloudStrategies, much of our work helps people communicate with each other via email, instant messaging, voice, videoconferencing and more.

At this most joyous time of the year we wish everyone all the happiness and merriment shared with their friends and families. For those who are far from you and may not be able to visit, we hope you'll take advantage of the wonderful technologies available to us to reach out, see, & speak with them.

We also want to take a moment to thank and bless the young men and women of our Armed Forces serving overseas and giving everything to protect our way of life. Your contributions cannot be measured, but they are truly appreciated.

To Cloud or Not to Cloud

Multi-Tenancy What it Means to You What you Need to Ask

CloudStrategies' mission is to help clients take fullest possible advantage of the incredible cost savings available from cloud computing, and to do so in a completely secure, private and compliant manner.

One of the primary ways in which cloud computing creates these economies is through sharing of resources, including shared servers, shared storage, even shared applications. This is similar to having many tenants in a building sharing common space such as hallways, elevators, storage facilities and utilities. Accordingly, in the cloud computing environment this sharing is referred to as "multi-tenancy."

Multi-Tenancy Based on Service Type

The economies available from **Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS)** are derived in large part by virtualizing servers and allowing many clients to share a physical machine that is running multiple instances of a server operating system. CloudStrategies only works with cloud providers who have demonstrated their ability to manage their virtualization implementation to assure proper segregation, segmentation, and isolation. This assures each tenant that their resources are completely protected from other tenants on the same hardware.

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) providers allow access to their applications by many users from many different organizations. When CloudStrategies evaluates SaaS providers we look for strong authentication and authorization provisions, security policies that insure controlled access to each users' data, and encryption of the data in storage.

Questions We Ask—And You Should Too

Just as you exercise due diligence when making any purchase, you must ask questions of the cloud service providers you intend to contract with. Ask them how they protect your data in storage, and how they assure that the only people who can access your data are those you approve. What are their provisions for user authentication and access authorization? Talk with them about the virtualization systems they use to provide multiple server instances. How do they go about assuring that each server instance is completely segregated from others on the same physical server device? Since cloud infrastructure is ever-changing and ever-growing, discuss their use of automation and how it enables them to keep ahead of capacity and configuration changes.

At CloudStrategies, we pride ourselves on partnering closely with our clients in addressing their data management issues utilizing state-of-the-art software and hardware tools. This gives us peace of mind knowing that our clients have the most current, advanced, and secure data management solutions available.





CloudCalendar



Learn more about **Cloud Computing** and how to create **YOUR best CloudStrategy!**

Visit our **Event Calendar** regularly for updates or to register at <http://www.cloudstrategies.net/calendar.aspx>

CloudStrategies 101: Including Office 365

Webinar: Are you curious about the "Cloud" and what it means to your business?

Join us for an in-depth discussion about all things cloud where we will help you learn why businesses are leveraging the "Cloud" to Save Money, Increase Reliability, and deploy IT solutions faster than traditional "On-Premise" solutions. In addition to business and economic value discussion, we will introduce several top Cloud Solutions such as:

- **Microsoft Office 365 including:**
 - Exchange Online 2010
 - SharePoint Online 2010
 - Lync Online
- **Windows Intune for cloud-based Desktop security and management**
- **Workspace Communications Hosted OCS and Lync Solutions**
- **Rackspace Cloud Solutions for Hosted IT Infrastructure**
- **Neverfail Cloud Based High Availability and Disaster Recovery Solutions**

Upcoming Sessions:

Thursday Dec 8th
Thursday Dec 22nd
12:30 - 1:30p EST
(9:30 - 10:30a PST)

Intro to Office 365

Webinar: Microsoft recently announced Office 365™, as the new version of the popular BPOS Suite of Cloud software that will be deployed mid-2011. This excited new product brings many new features to the cloud that will enable many businesses to join the cloud revolution that have previously been unable to do so. At the event you will learn about the new features of the full Office 365 software suite :

- **Exchange/SharePoint and Lync**
- **Office Professional Plus**
- **Office Web Apps**
- **Robust and Granular management console**
- **Transition of Existing BPOS Customers to Office 365**
- **Rich Co-existence and federation service**

Upcoming Sessions:

To Be Announced

Moving your Microsoft Infrastructure to the Cloud with Rackspace Hosting Solutions

Webinar: Turning Cloud Computing into a winning business strategy requires expertise, experience, and the right set of cloud services. Beyond the productivity applications your people use each day are the core line-of-business applications that are the foundation of how you run your business profitably. In this session, CloudStrategies shows you how to leverage the experience, expertise and extensive resources of Rackspace Hosting to provide superior performance, reliability, sustainability, and durability for your key applications. You'll learn:

- **How to select the right size cloud servers for your requirements**
- **How to make the transition to cloud-based servers painless and productive**
- **How Rackspace Hosting provides the ability to scale servers on demand as your business grows**
- **How you continue to enjoy complete control over your computing environment in the cloud**

Upcoming Sessions:

To Be Announced

Microsoft Windows Intune - PC Management Platform

Webinar: How can you keep your PCs & employees operating at peak performance, when you or your users are in the office or on the road?

Microsoft recently announced Windows Intune™, a new solution that brings together cloud services for PC management and malware protection with a Windows® 7 upgrade subscription. Remote workers in multiple locations. Multiple PC configurations. Limited resources-these are just a few of the challenges that face businesses every day. Windows Intune™ not only helps you address these challenges, it takes PC management to a whole new level of simplicity. With its powerful combination of Windows® cloud services and Windows 7, Windows Intune offers a comprehensive solution to help keep your PCs and employees operating at peak performance.

At the event you will learn how to achieve big-tech results with a small-tech investment. Experts will show you how easy it is to:

- **How to select the right size cloud servers for your requirements**
- **Manage and secure PCs anywhere with cloud services**
- **How to provide the best Windows experience with Windows 7**
- **Stop malware threats before they stop you**
- **Identify issues before they impact business**

Upcoming Sessions:

Thursday Dec 15th
Thursday Dec 29th
12:30 - 1:30p EST
(9:30 - 10:30a PST)

Microsoft Lync - Unified Communications in the Cloud

Webinar: Microsoft Lync™ Online (a component of Microsoft Office 365) delivers a fresh, intuitive user experience that brings together the different ways people communicate in a single interface. During this informative webinar, you will see and learn about using Lync for:

- **Instant Messaging and Presence**
- **Video and Web Conferencing**
- **Group Chat**
- **Full integration with Microsoft Office**
- **Enterprise Voice and software based VoIP (leveraging Workspace Communications)**

Upcoming Sessions:

To Be Announced