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Interconnected Cloud Strategy for Digital Enterprise Resiliency

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Navigating this InfoBrief

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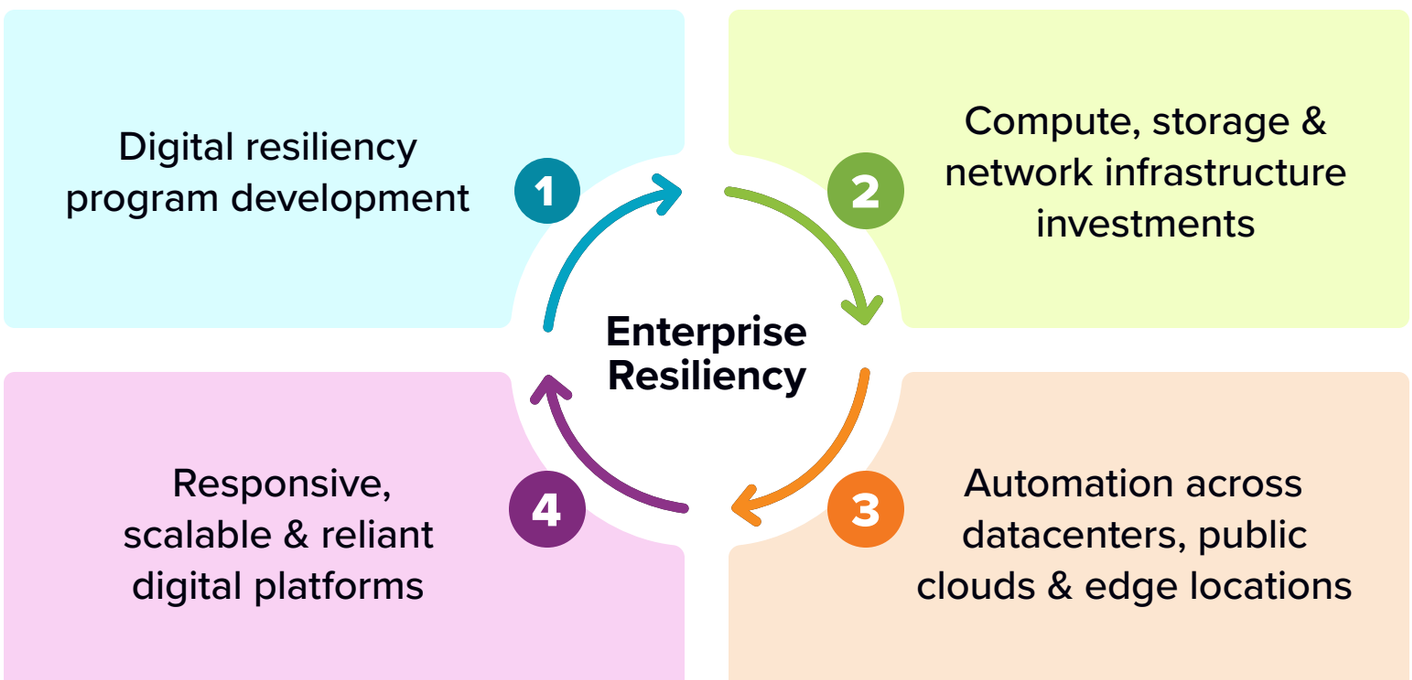
Towards Enterprise Resiliency

Enterprises face new waves of concern: Instead of battling "winds of change," **companies are facing "storms of disruption."** Resiliency can be bolstered with programmatic investments as well as digital infrastructure security, hybrid working models and investments in collaboration technologies.

Enterprise Resiliency 4-step Cycle



49% of companies have changed their resiliency strategy in the last 12 months to **focus much more on digital infrastructure.**

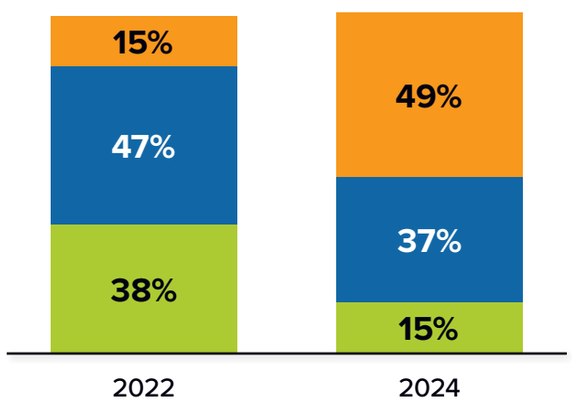
Source: *IDC's 1Q22 Cloud Pulse Survey*, May 2022, IDC

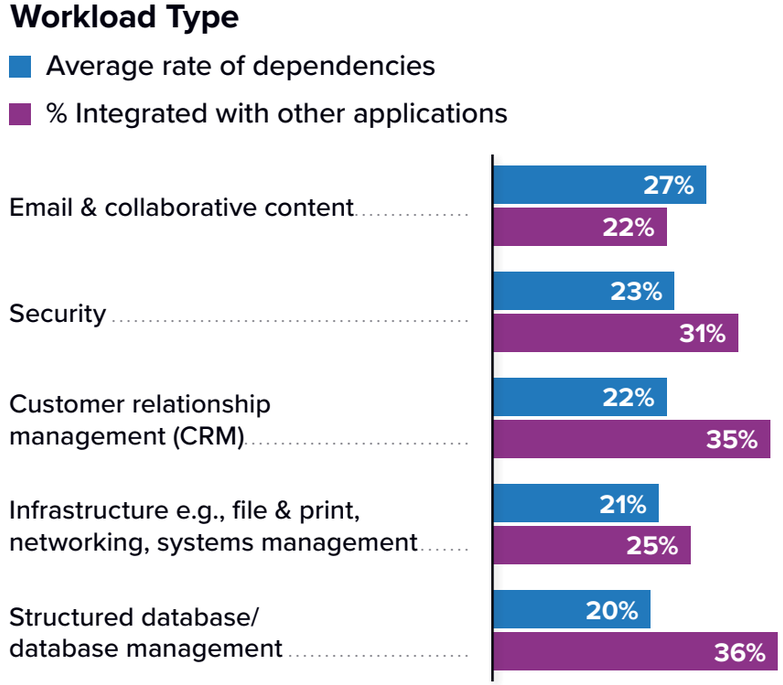
CHALLENGE #1

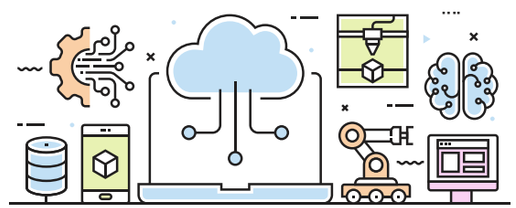
Increasing Interdependencies of Applications and Data

The shift among developers to modular application design, microservices and containers leads to a quickly expanding, disaggregated IT application portfolio where **interdependencies between applications and data rise dramatically for enterprises.**

- **High:** Complex set of interdependencies with other applications; multiple stakeholders involved
- **Medium:** Some dependencies on other applications but its fairly simply to manage
- **Low:** No real dependencies on other applications







Rapid rise in distributed yet interconnected workforces has driven **intense dependencies on collaborative workloads.**

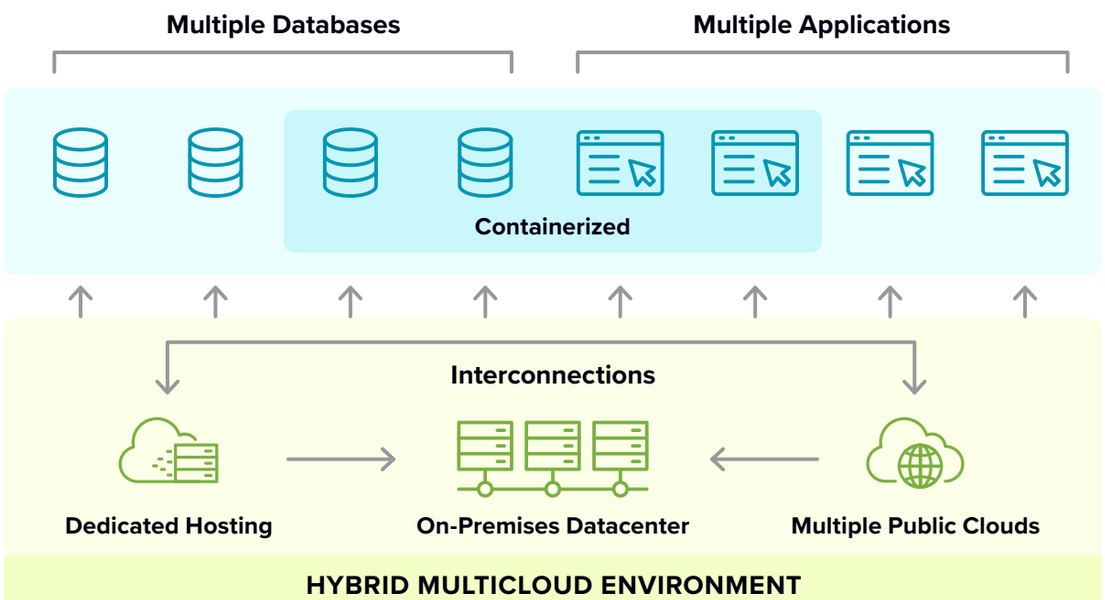
Increase in cybersecurity threats and size of attack surface generate **network and application-level security integration.**

Note: all numbers may not round up to 100 due to rounding. Source: IDC's *1Q22 Cloud Pulse Survey*, May 2022

CHALLENGE #2

Maintaining the Resiliency of Multicloud Environments

Hybrid and multicloud are fast becoming the "de-facto" standard — ensuring configuration compliance and application performance requires **network interconnect, tools and processes that facilitate seamless automation and management. Interconnected cloud architectures are important** because cloud-native applications and hybrid/multicloud infrastructure resources can no longer be adequately managed using traditional configuration, migration, troubleshooting, monitoring and change control strategies.



37% of enterprises connect to their cloud environments through a **dedicated cloud onramp/interconnect** inside a colocation environment.

Over one-third of enterprise firms cite **increased application resiliency** as the reason for migrating applications to a service provider's environment.

Source: IDC's *1Q22 & 2Q22 Cloud Pulse Survey*, May/July 2022

The Benefits of an Interconnected Cloud Strategy

Interconnectivity

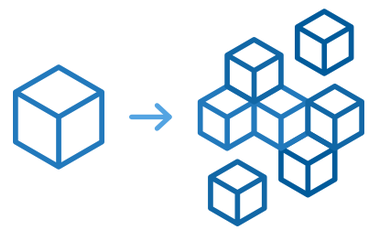
- **Ensure secured connectivity** across distributed digital infrastructure with ecosystem of clouds, customers, partners and service providers.
- **Enable direct connectivity** to cloud providers for critical applications and workloads for reliability and performance.
- **Use software-defined interconnection** for on-demand network connections between datacenters and the edge nodes.
- **Look for a vendor or provider with global interconnectivity** to support global digital business.

Interoperability

- **Embrace application interdependence and interconnection** to take advantage of the dynamics of modern cloud environments.
- **Move applications and data** from poorly designed cloud architecture to new and better run environments.
- **Support applications and data using containers and cloud-native technologies** across more than one cloud, public or private, for agility and future application design.
- **Look for a vendor or provider that partners and connects with a diverse set of products** and service providers in the growing cloud ecosystem.

Integration

- **Understand the business processes and impact on workflows** to take advantage of the native features and functionalities in cloud solutions.
- **Have a cloud architect to help plan and design** the IT infrastructure, networks and cloud migration to minimize system integration risk across different cloud types.
- **Secure access to data sources** across the distributed industry ecosystem of cloud solutions for analytic or AL/ML workloads.
- **Look for a vendor or provider with strength to deliver integrated workload management** and governance across distributed and heterogeneous cloud-centric digital infrastructures.



The number of modular/disaggregated software "suites" that use **microservices and container engines is steadily increasing year-on-year** as monolithic/siloed design use decreases.

Source: IDC's *1Q22 & 2Q22 Cloud Pulse Survey*, May/July 2022

About the Analysts

Rory Duncan
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Rory Duncan is Program Vice President for IDC's BuyerView primary research portfolio. In this role, Rory and his team build insights for and create relationships with key IDC clients and vendors globally, providing analysis of buying trends and deployment choices for cloud, AI, security and edge infrastructure technology and services, including within the service provider ecosystem. Aside from primary research, he develops written reports and client presentations, as well as leads consulting projects.

More about Rory Duncan

Penny Madsen
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Penny Madsen is a senior research director for IDC's BuyerView research, focusing on Cloud Pulse, which provides quarterly insights into cloud adoption and investment trends. Her research covers software and infrastructure trends, offering insights that help leading vendors and infrastructure providers to develop strategy for future customer deployment scenarios.

More about Penny Madsen

Message from the Sponsor

Equinix & Microsoft for Enterprise Resiliency

A hybrid cloud infrastructure enables enterprise resiliency by delivering public cloud interconnection at scale.

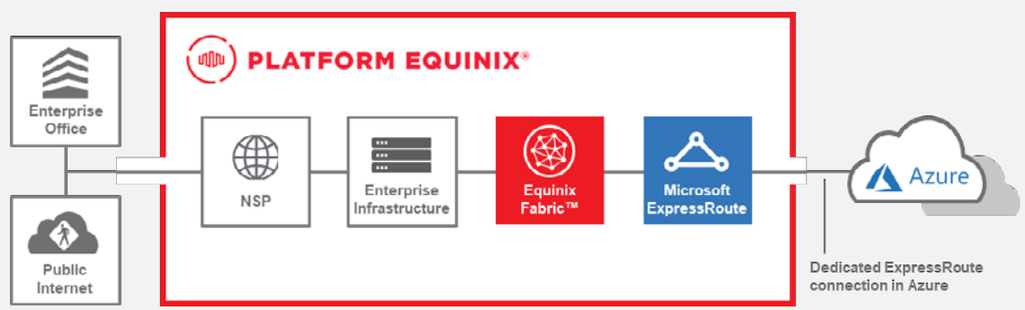
Equinix provides a solid foundation for cloud migration through network optimization from legacy resources, with secure, dedicated SDN connectivity in low latency proximity to Azure through Equinix Fabric.

Enterprise customers will benefit from the cloud-adjacency Equinix provides to Azure for critical hybrid workloads and applications that require low latency and flexibility.

When combined with Azure ExpressRoute, Equinix Fabric enables seamless, on-demand, direct access to Microsoft Azure.

Please contact Equinix at info.Microsoft@equinix.com for more information.

- **Microsoft Azure ExpressRoute:** Provides private, dedicated, high-throughput network connection to Microsoft Azure and is available in Equinix data centers in 36 metros globally.
- **Equinix Fabric:** An advanced interconnection solution that offers software-defined direct connections to multiple cloud services from a single physical port.



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