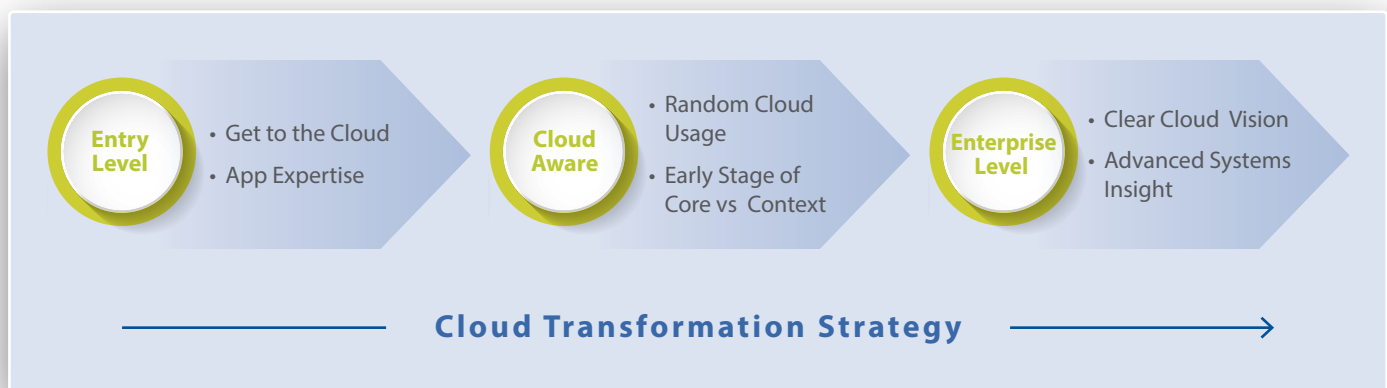# What is your **CLOUD MATURITY** level?

How much more could the right cloud services bring you today? To find out, you first need to know your current level of cloud maturity. But wait, did you even know there was such a thing? Here's how LOADSPRING™ defines cloud maturity and its three main levels:

1. **Entry Level.** You are just starting the process with a few apps in clouds or via a SaaS contract but do not have a defined strategy or decision making process.

2. **Cloud Aware.** OK, you've taken a "cloud first" approach. However, decisions are not strategically driven, or based on a defined process. This can cause you to run into issues around a lack of control of vendors, integration deficiencies, software license management nightmares, and others.

3. **Enterprise Level.** Here, your cloud choices are strategically driven to minimize cost; maximize performance, expertise and value from vendors; seek additional managed services, and more.

Entry Level
- Get to the Cloud
- App Expertise

Cloud Aware
- Random Cloud Usage
- Early Stage of Core vs Context

Enterprise Level
- Clear Cloud Vision
- Advanced Systems Insight

Cloud Transformation Strategy

You can build on each level to move up to the next one. You may find that your focus changes as you transform your enterprise into a cloud power user. One thing won't change, however. LOADSPRING Cloud service and support excellence will always be there for you.

We have an analogy that we've found to be very apt for the cloud solutions we supply and the project companies that use them. It goes like this. Our LOADSPRING engineers are your Cloud Sherpas. They're with you every step of the way to maximize your success at each level. So, let's take a tour of the places we can help you get to as you move up the cloud maturity scale.

Entry Level

Logically, we'll start at the entry level. We'll give you three guesses for what is uppermost in most people's minds at this level, but you'll probably only need one. Yes, it's cost. The big driver at entry level is the reduction of internal costs like:

- Application and infrastructure knowledge and support
- Database and infrastructure licenses
- Infrastructure and application upgrade requirements
- Data and system backups and restores
- Security patches, upgrades, and certifications.

The right cloud solution helps project enterprises like yours get these costs under control in several ways:
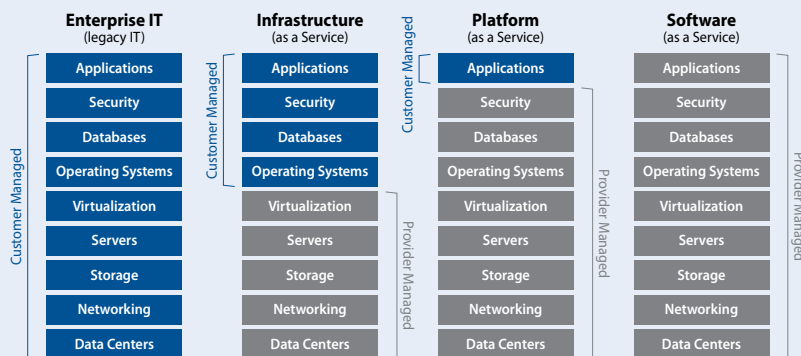
- There is little or no capital expenditure, and expenses can be billed easily to projects
- Application portfolios can be rationalized based on data about how you are really using them
- Cloud-based, centralized applications offer economies of scale and ease of use
- Your contracting is simplified and streamlined, for further savings
- Application downtime decreases, your productivity increases.

How? Say hello to LOADSPRING Cloud Sherpas! Our project cloud specialists can help clear away the fog and drive you and your projects towards digital transformation for better results, faster. We work with you to define and accelerate your cloud strategy, rationalize your tools, and create the critical data reporting for improving your return on investment.

Your enterprise can move from inflexible operations nailed down to legacy IT, to flexible cloud architectures like Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) and Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS). The more you move towards service models, the closer you get to pure pay-as-you-go models with no Capex, only Opex (a great way to get your CFO's vote for cloud solutions like LOADSPRING). And the easier it becomes to innovate in the services you provide to your own customers.

Strategic Alignment Questions:

- What is your current cloud strategy?
- What applications are you moving to the cloud and when?
- How do you evaluate cloud options (performance, uptime, security, cost)?

Key Drivers:

Cloud Strategy Development	Cost	Infrastructure & App Knowledge

Cloud Strategy Organization
Strategies that deliver a Competitive Edge

	Enterprise IT (legacy IT)	Infrastructure (as a Service)	Platform (as a Service)	Software (as a Service)
	Applications	Applications	Applications	Applications
	Security	Security	Security	Security
	Databases	Databases	Databases	Databases
	Operating Systems	Operating Systems	Operating Systems	Operating Systems
	Virtualization	Virtualization	Virtualization	Virtualization
	Servers	Servers	Servers	Servers
	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
	Networking	Networking	Networking	Networking
	Data Centers	Data Centers	Data Centers	Data Centers

Customer Managed / Provider Managed

Strategy, business requirements and applications alignment with the right cloud offerings.

Entry Level (continued)

Of course, the execution needs to be just as good as the plan. This is where generic cloud providers often fall short. They leave you out of breath as you run around trying to plug the gaps in their services. By comparison, the LOADSPRING CLOUD PLATFORM has all the oxygen your enterprise needs with:

- Specialist IT support with project and engineering application knowledge

- Database, application, and internal project management expertise

- Security management

- Backups and disaster recovery

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- Specialist IT support with project and engineering application knowledge

- Database, application, and internal project management expertise

- Security management

- Backups and disaster recovery

- Implementation and integration capabilities

- Multi-vendor application support.

LOADSPRING can build your cloud infrastructure platform in minutes or layer on top of an existing cloud infrastructure, if you already have one. It then takes us just days to customize the perfect cloud for you.

Cloud Aware

Your organization has now embraced the cloud, but you have apps everywhere.

You're using different types of cloud or SaaS solutions with too many vendors, and data is almost impossible to integrate. There is no decision process around deployment options just a cloud-first strategic plan. A strategy without the analysis needed to make the right cloud type selection for every application. But you can build on the advantages you acquired at entry level and move up to become cloud aware. Our LOADSPRING Cloud Sherpas are at your side to help you achieve additional flexibility, integration, and performance, all with a better user experience.

- Fast testing and decision making around new applications help you respond better to market requirements and industry trends

- Rapid roll-out of new applications to all users who need them

- Adjusting usage as projects come and go, together with flexible timing for maintenance and upgrades, lets you combine cost-efficiency with high performance

- Improving the user experience, as performance can be proactively monitored and issues resolved

Using one global unified cloud platform like LOADSPRING enables easy and secure access to your 'best in class' applications for your project and engineering teams.

- Apps and clouds come together, in integrations that range from the simple to the complex, according to your needs

- With our data centers on different continents, we also resolve potential data sovereignty issues

- Your users gain in confidence as well as efficiency, using this new power platform to embrace innovation and help your enterprise take an even bigger competitive lead in its market.

> **Strategic Alignment Questions:**
> - What is your current Cloud Strategy?
> - What type of Cloud options do you deploy today?
> - Do you have a Cloud consolidation strategy to eliminate "Cloud Fog"?
> - What applications are you moving to the cloud and when?
> - How do you evaluate Cloud Options (performance, uptime, security, cost)?
> - Do you need to maintain multiple versions of an application?
>
> **Key Drivers:**
>
> Cloud Strategy Development   Security   Performance   Flexibility & Intragration

After a day's trekking upwards through clouds and leveraging these advantages of flexibility and integration, you'll probably be looking forward to a good night's sleep. LOADSPRING won't stop you. In fact, we'll help you sleep even better because you'll know that we build industrial strength security and disaster recovery into our services. For instance, our global class A data centers are certified SOC 2 Type II, but we go further still with portal penetration testing and application penetration testing to keep cyber Yetis and other marauders out of your resources.

Enterprise Level

Now, you're on your way to real control, strategic decision making that increases ROI, and provides real added value benefits to your local and global users.

Just as cloud-aware builds on entry level, so enterprise level builds on cloud aware. Reliability, cost-effectiveness, flexibility, integration, and security are already great things to have. Up at the enterprise level of cloud maturity, you continue to get all these advantages, but now with added performance, clarity, control, and enterprise adoption and support.

Did you know that the LOADSPRING CLOUD PLATFORM is around 60% faster than generic clouds? Here's how we do it:

- LOADSPRING experts make sure that applications are tuned for optimal performance. This also improves software adoption and utilization, helping your projects and business to run better.

- We continually adjust our infrastructure hardware to maximize application performance

- Our LOADSPRING Private and Global Cloud product option helps improve performance for globally dispersed teams. Our Cloud Sherpas can help you speed up in the cloud anywhere on the planet.

- Automated performance testing is available to maintain performance as usage and data increase.

Strategic Alignment Questions:

- What is your current Cloud Strategy?
- What type of Cloud options do you deploy today?
- What applications are you moving to the cloud and when?
- How do you evaluate Cloud Options (performance, uptime, security, cost)?
- Do you need to maintain multiple versions of an application?
- How are you rationalizing your app usage portfolio to ensure adoption and ROI?
- Do you expect early warning indicators for app and infrastructure performance?

Key Drivers:

Cloud Strategy Development	Security	Performance	Enterprise Adoption & Support	Central Command/ Control/Reporting
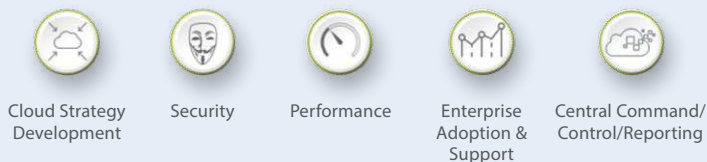
Enhanced clarity comes from adding business intelligence (BI) capability to project applications and integrations. LOADSPRING's Insight capability helps you not only to further improve your ROI, but also to reduce your risk. Our BI enables faster and better decision making from complex integrations of different systems and clouds. You can more quickly meet the everchanging needs of your line of business.

At an even higher level, enterprise adoption and support can help you drive digital transformation for project and engineering teams. In addition with control over the number of clouds and cloud vendors you need to manage you can streamline support and internal IT can focus on their Innovation projects.
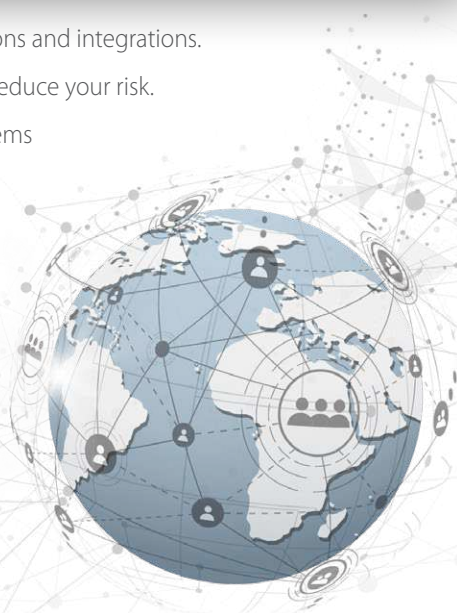
Enterprise Level (continued)

Naturally, you'll want to direct these enterprise-level capabilities towards measurable improvements too. That's fine. Our LOADSPRING Cloud Sherpas understand "bionic" too: the precise application of leading-edge technology to help people work better and achieve more. Here are a few examples, using the LOADSPRING CLOUD PLATFORM:

- Access and viewing for executive and management leaders of critical data from multiple locations simultaneously, for better, faster decision making

- Enterprise reporting (from management overview to deep dive) of project status gives you all round visibility.

- Productivity monitoring to show where people are working and which applications they are using, thus helping to optimize licenses, control costs, and plan better

- A single location in the cloud for your teams to work on any hosted application, enter and retrieve data, track project progress, and get industry-leading support from LOADSPRING Cloud Sherpas

- The continually growing capability of your enterprise to innovate for better business and more of it

- CIO dashboards outline security threads twarted, application penetration testing, and uptime.

Conclusion

Is there yet another level of cloud maturity—a sort of cloud nirvana, perhaps? At LOADSPRING, we'll do our best to help you get there as well! At the same time, we know how important it is to have our feet on the ground as well as our head in the clouds. Our pragmatic, value-oriented approach has led us to become the leading cloud services provider for project enterprises, serving 100,000 global cloud users and $250 billion in global products with a 95% customer renewal rate (you may detect a hint of pride on our part here).

In summary, the LOADSPRING CLOUD PLATFORM is the ultimate project portal, whatever your level of cloud maturity. And regardless of your starting point, you can rely on LOADSPRING to Sherpa you to the next level too.

Get a free demo of the LOADSPRING CLOUD PLATFORM for your enterprise today!
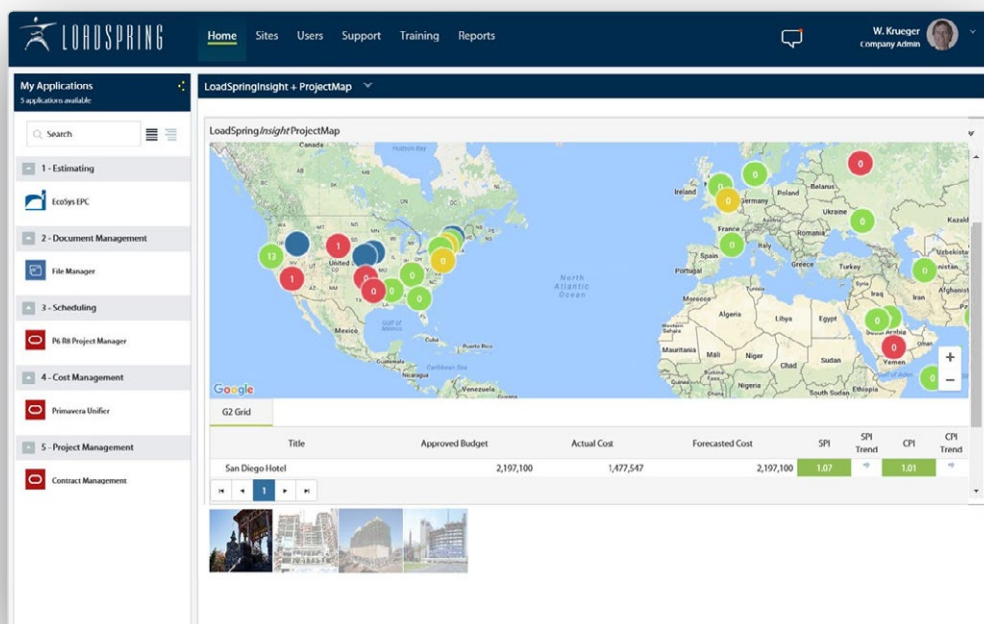
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