

MULTICLOUD WORKING GROUP CHARTER

Mission Statement

The Multicloud Working Group's mission is to share broadened definitions, understanding and best practices around 'Multicloud' and 'Multicloud Operating Model' in today's multicloud ecosystem. This enables public sector organizations to understand and contend with the Day 2 operational complexities of the multicloud operating model they will encounter as they adopt and scale application, data, user experience, IT and security operations models in multicloud context.

Context

For many public sector agencies, multicloud initiatives are driven through the lens of data center consolidation, cloud smart initiatives, best of breed modernization capabilities, or expanding vendor pools and business opportunities across commercial cloud providers. Yet, beyond the simplicity of expanding access to cloud providers contractually, the reality of multicloud adoption involves myriad complexities to consider; both in initial cloud migration and in Day 2 operations. Many public sector agencies experience delayed cloud migrations, increasing labor cost across siloed teams with siloed training and tooling requirements, loss of workload portability, runaway cloud spend, and lack of enterprise visibility and operational consistency that results in a growing cyber attack surface. Lacking up-front awareness to ensure a consistent multicloud adoption and operations approach, many organizations are unwittingly executing a 'multiple siloed clouds' strategy. This Working Group will ensure public sector agencies are aware of the Day 1 and Day 2 multicloud complexities public sector procurement, architectural and cloud operations pursuits need to account for.

Scope

In FY 2022 the Working Group identified the problem of 'multiple siloed clouds' and documented the complexities that ensue at enterprise scale. Then, the Group devised comprehensive definitions for 'multicloud' and 'multicloud operating model' that help inform of the need for capabilities that enable consistent multicloud adoption and operations. These definitions, complexities of multicloud, and insights into architectures and technologies available to drive a multicloud consistency were documented in two whitepapers the Group authored and published. The Group also identified several common public sector multicloud operations use-cases and structured an outline /roadmap for continuing research and artifact creation around the aspects of 'Building, Running, Managing, Connecting and Protecting' a multicloud architecture.

Objective

In FY 2023 – the Working Group will use the aforementioned topic roadmap to continue providing templated multicloud capability needs documentation, exploring commercial capabilities available to provide consistent multicloud architecture and operations outcomes, delivering findings via iterative artifacts, market research documentation or videos for public sector utilization. These continuing efforts will:

1. Ensure public sector agencies are aware of approaches and technologies available for addressing multi-cloud complexity
2. Identify and document the most common public sector business/mission use-cases around agency apps and data that drive cloud implementations across on premises ops/data-centers, one or multiple Commercial Cloud Service Providers (CSPs), and the Edge;
3. Include perspectives/use-cases from a diverse group of large and small public sector agencies
4. Facilitate industry demonstrations of capabilities aligned to addressing public sector multicloud use-cases
5. Aligned to the aforementioned use-cases, identify and document best practices and high-level approaches for agency app portfolio cloud migration/adoption, rationalization, and ongoing multicloud operations; this may include highlighting exemplar enterprise implementations and quantifiable outcomes achieved
6. Propose draft requirements public sector cloud procurements may include to ensure proper up-front planning necessary for managing multi-cloud complexities

Deliverables

The Working Groups efforts will be made available for Public Sector consumption via:

1. White papers, blogs, webinars or other means of sharing the Working Group’s research and lessons learned
2. Multicloud capability matrices spanning ‘Build, Run, Manage, Connect and Protect’ aspects of the multicloud operating model. These may serve as draft requirements documentation for public sector use
3. Vendors submissions of the Working Group’s capability matrices as self-attestations to be used as living market research documentation maintained by the Working Group for agencies to leverage. Note: These documents will be dated and note that things may have changed since initial submission.
4. Recorded lab or vendor capability demonstrations made available for market research purposes

Working Group Membership

Working Group Chairs

Sid Sripada, GSA, Government Chair

Jeremiah Sanders, VMWare, Industry Chair

Manjit Singh, Agilious, Industry Vice Chair

Kapil Bareja, Advisor Chair

Working Group Chairs will:

- Attend and contribute to each Working Group meeting
- Prepare the meeting agenda, solicit topics for discussion, assign members to address discussion topics, and distribute meeting materials
- Share information of relevance; provide an update/introduction at the beginning of each meeting to encourage member engagement
- Define Working Group initiatives and activities
- Assist in forming and providing feedback on deliverables

Working Group Members

Working Group Members will:

- Participate in meetings, including exchanging technical information, experiences, and best practices to develop a shared understanding of the topic(s)
- Gather information and work on group deliverables outside of meetings as needed
- Provide feedback on draft deliverables as requested
- Co-lead or participate in Sub-Working Groups (breakout teams/project teams) as needed
- Provide input on meeting agendas as requested

ATARC Support

Elizabeth Wyckoff, Working Group Program Manager
Chris Kirkendale, Working Group and Lab Coordinator
Tim Harvey, Director of Government Engagement

ATARC support will:

- Serve as program manager for the Working Group
- Coordinate and drive group projects and deliverables forward
- Schedule Working Group meetings
- Develop Working Group meeting agendas along with the chairs
- Facilitate Working Group meetings along with the chairs
- Assist in distributing relevant documents and materials to Working Group members
- Send meeting minutes, post-meeting decisions, and action items to Working Group members after each meeting
- Assist in preparing final proposals/recommendations
- Provide marketing services for the Working Group (promoting completed deliverables, etc.)
- Develop strategies to improve Working Group engagement, including applicable cross-overs with other Working Groups and relevant events
- Coordinate Working Group Labs as applicable

Rules of Engagement

The Working Group rules of engagement are described as below:

- Meet bi-weekly from 2023 to 2025, or until amended by ATARC Support
- Follow the Working Group's ground rules developed in the charter
- Join Working Group meetings prepared and with requested action items completed
- Provide respectful and constructive feedback to yield the best decisions for the Working Group's objectives
- Final decisions are made by the Working Group Co-Chairs and ATARC Support

The Working Group will:

- Meet every other Friday from 11:30-12:30 PM EST, with supplemental meetings added as needed
- Form Sub-Working Groups (breakout teams/project teams) as needed
- Follow the group's ground rules developed at one of the Working Group meetings
- Strive to make decisions by unanimous agreement. All members of the Working Group have a voice and will be listened to.
- If a Working Group member misses a meeting, decisions will be made in their absence. The Working Group will decide on a case by case basis if a decision made in the absence of a member shall be revisited.

File Sharing and Collaboration Tools

Access to the ATARC Box Account is managed by ATARC Support.

Disclaimer: Products and communications by ATARC's Multicloud Working Group do not necessarily represent the plans or preferences of any company or government agency.