



## How safe is your data?

### A Pegasus Business Guide

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#### **Is your data more secure in a cloud environment than on premise?**

As more and more businesses move to a cloud solution, one of the major concerns SMEs have is over the security of their data in a cloud deployment. It's easy to see why: stories of data breaches appear in the media on a regular basis. KPMG reported that 30% of global senior executives had concerns relating to data loss and 26% had concerns over general security risks.\*

But with increasing cloud adoption, it's hard to deny that cloud computing has many benefits: no upfront software licence and hardware costs, no hardware constraints, the ability to run an agile business as long as you have an internet connection, the ease of adding new users as needed, and 24/7 access.

But even with major advantages in terms of cost and flexibility, the question of security is one that needs to be addressed: in reality, is your data actually safer on premise than it is in the cloud?

This guide will help you make an informed choice and decide if it's right for your business.

# Things to consider as you look at moving to a cloud solution



## **Our on-premise solution is safer because it's in our building**

*We have complete control over our in house system with our IT team managing the physical servers and cooling fans and maintaining the data. We can even stop data from leaving our server room.*

Believe it or not, most security breaches originate within the organisation. A cloud solution can offer you greater protection.

Unauthorised access to a hosted data centre is extremely rare, and the majority of breaches from in-house systems are within their own firewalls. Cloud hosting providers protect their customers and alert them to any issues. In addition, hosting servers are kept in multiple locations, offering an extra layer of security compared to the risks associated with storing data in a single location.

## **Having our servers physically accessible means better protection from viruses**

*Security threats are not a major concern as software updates and patches are under the control of our IT staff who keep it up to date.*

The providers of a hosted environment deploy anti-virus protection rapidly to hundreds of customers without the intervention of internal IT staff. They undertake the time-consuming tasks of ensuring they are up to date with emerging threats and the latest protection and applying security patches, leaving your internal IT staff to focus on other tasks within the business.

## **Our on-premise server is more reliable because we can fix any issues ourselves**

*Because we manage our own servers in our building, we can ensure uptime and maintain them ourselves if required.*

Cloud solutions actually guarantee uptimes as they experience fewer disruptions to service and have 24/7/365 monitoring.

Due to their scale and size, hosting partners tend to have fewer service disruptions and faster recovery times which leads to reduced downtimes and therefore greater cost benefits to the business through continuity of service.

## **Conclusion**

Cloud vendors typically offer a much higher level of data centre and virtual system security than most organisations can build and maintain themselves. The leading cloud providers have made huge investments in their security tools and procedures to benefit and protect their customers, allowing them to get on with running their businesses.

## **Further assistance**

- Make sure your data is hosted in UK data centres that hold ISO 27001 certification.
- Be honest about your IT team's expertise and capacity to manage data risk. Devolving that responsibility to full-time specialists at your hosting provider means you can avoid the cost and distraction associated with the risk.
- Choose a cloud vendor that supports the right login credentials, authentication and data encryption using TLS and SSL so as not to undermine the integrity and security of your system.



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