Written by Marco Attard 19 September 2014

Cisco's cloud ambitions continue apace as it acquires Metacloud, a cloud company with an OpenStack-as-a-Service model allowing it to deliver and remotely operate private clouds in customer data centers.



Following acquisition Metacloud will make part of the Cisco Cloud Infrastructure and Managed Services unit led by SVP Faiyaz Shahpurwala.

"[O]rganisations are shifting from an on-premise IT structure to hybrid IT-- a mix of private cloud, public cloud, and on-premise applications," Cisco says. "The resulting silos present a challenge to IT administrators, as choice, visibility, data sovereignty and protection in this world of many clouds requires an open platform. We believe Metacloud's technology will play a critical role in enabling our customers to experience a seamless journey to a new world of many clouds, providing choice, flexibility, and data governance."

Cisco is an OpenStack project member and contributor, meaning Metacloud slots in nicely within its <a href="Intercloud">Intercloud</a> plans. Announced back on March 2014, Intercloud involves OpenStack-based services such as laaS and PaaS, as well as services such as Meraki network infrastructure management and Hosted Collaboration Services (HCS), SAP HANA-as-a-Services, Microsoft Suite-as-a-Service and Virtual Desktop-as-a-Service.

It also involves a \$1 billion investment in cloud technologies.

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