The First Project Decision—Which SaaS Cloud Approach?

The first decision to reach when starting a cloud project—before any analysis, justification and work is started—requires picking a cloud approach for SaaS applications. There are two distinct choices:

**All-Cloud**—With this choice, a company deploys a complete and comprehensive cloud solution that replaces their current and entire on-premises system. Often the project includes additional cloud capabilities that go beyond current on-premises functionality.

Watch retailer David Jones’ all-cloud journey from on-premises.

**Hybrid Cloud**—When this option is selected, the project delivers cloud applications that replace a portion of the current on-premises environment and /or adds additional capabilities. A major advantage: hybrid cloud projects can be limited and tactical which allows you to move quickly and take your first step to the cloud. One example: Durham University deployed Oracle Planning and Budgeting Cloud with on-premises Oracle E-Business Suite.

Read about Durham University and hybrid cloud for planning and forecasting.

There is always a right solution for every company; it simply requires a careful consideration of what is best for your organization in terms of goals, objectives and history. A few questions to consider:

1. Is your current on-premises system near or beyond its end-of-life? If your system has aged beyond its lifespan, it is a good time to do an all-cloud project.
2. Does your current on-premises system require infrastructure investments for hardware, facilities and other capital-expense components? Likewise, when faced with major infrastructure costs, consider a full move to the cloud.
3. Has your company recently finished an on-premises ERP upgrade project? Congratulations. Consider a hybrid cloud project to add more capabilities and experience firsthand the benefits of one or two modern cloud applications.
4. Is your current ERP system current but lacking capabilities? Rather than add more on-premises capabilities, deploy a hybrid cloud project that delivers the capabilities you need.

Oracle or one of its qualified partners can guide you to the right model.