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Simplifying GDPR Compliance in the Cloud Era

Top 5 capabilities to look for in evaluating cloud solutions

GET STARTED

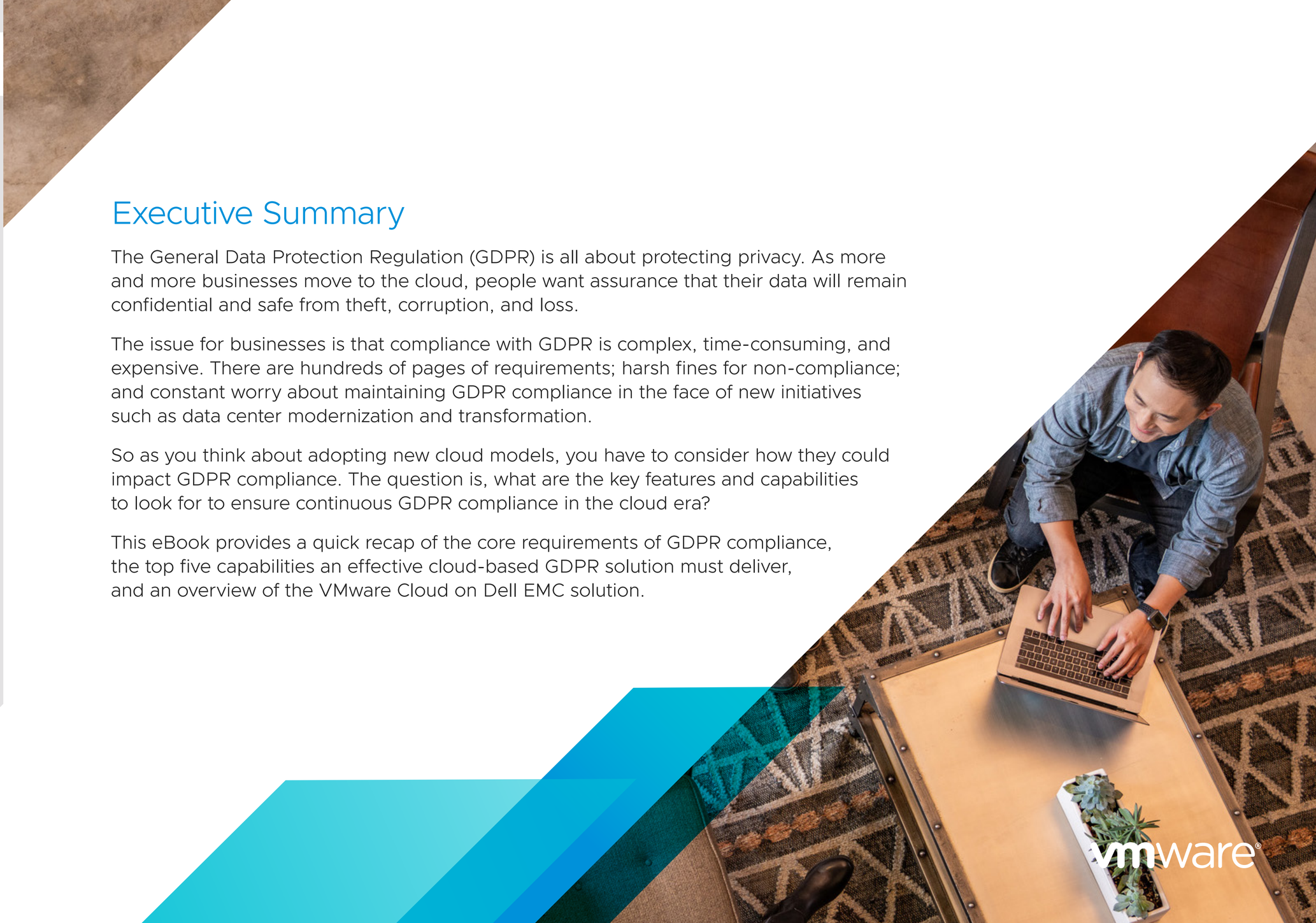
Executive Summary

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is all about protecting privacy. As more and more businesses move to the cloud, people want assurance that their data will remain confidential and safe from theft, corruption, and loss.

The issue for businesses is that compliance with GDPR is complex, time-consuming, and expensive. There are hundreds of pages of requirements; harsh fines for non-compliance; and constant worry about maintaining GDPR compliance in the face of new initiatives such as data center modernization and transformation.

So as you think about adopting new cloud models, you have to consider how they could impact GDPR compliance. The question is, what are the key features and capabilities to look for to ensure continuous GDPR compliance in the cloud era?

This eBook provides a quick recap of the core requirements of GDPR compliance, the top five capabilities an effective cloud-based GDPR solution must deliver, and an overview of the VMware Cloud on Dell EMC solution.



GDPR: What, Why, and How

GDPR is a legislative response to growing concerns about constant data breaches and ever-evolving security threats. The law was passed by the European Union in 2018, and it applies to any organization that targets or collects data related to people in the EU.

For practical purposes, GDPR applies to virtually all global enterprises and a large number of small-to-medium sized businesses—whether or not they’re based in the EU.

GDPR applies to any company that:

- Offers goods and services to EU residents
- Monitors the behavior of individuals
- Has employees in the EU

However, there is no reason to view GDPR compliance only as an imposition. It can also be a blessing. It can be the catalyst for moving more workloads to the cloud and eliminating CapEx, and it can force your organization to tighten its control over workloads that remain on-premises.

By meeting or exceeding GDPR requirements, your company can also demonstrate that it takes privacy and security very seriously—much the same way companies can improve their stature by exceeding environmental standards.

And of course GDPR compliance will help your company avoid the types of data breaches and successful attacks that result in unwanted publicity, disruption, downtime, expense, and a tarnished reputation.

GDPR Data Protection Principles[1]

1. **Lawfulness, fairness and transparency**
   Processing must be lawful, fair, and transparent to the data subject.
2. **Purpose limitation**
   You must process data for the legitimate purposes specified explicitly to the data subject when you collected it.
3. **Data minimization**
   You should collect and process only as much data as absolutely necessary for the purposes specified.
4. **Accuracy**
   You must keep personal data accurate and up to date.
5. **Storage limitation**
   You may only store personally identifying data for as long as necessary for the specified purpose.
6. **Integrity and confidentiality**
   Processing must be done in such a way as to ensure appropriate security, integrity, and confidentiality (e.g. by using encryption).
7. **Accountability**
   The data controller is responsible for being able to demonstrate GDPR compliance with all of these principles.

1. GDPR.EU website

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5 Capabilities that Facilitate GDPR Compliance

Capability 1

A “local cloud” option

Not all workloads are well suited to the public cloud—but building a private cloud can create its own problems for GDPR compliance. Private clouds require specialized skills and tools to manage, and they can lead to inconsistent practices that complicate reporting and audits.

One solution is a “local cloud,” which is pre-packaged infrastructure delivered on-premises and managed as a service. The local cloud combines the efficiencies of the public cloud with the control of a private cloud—without requiring anything new of the IT staff. This option streamlines GDPR compliance because it unifies reporting across environments.

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Capability 2

Secure service infrastructure on-premises

There are compliance advantages to moving workloads to the public cloud, but embracing the cloud model forces you give up a degree of control. Security becomes a shared responsibility, which makes it more difficult to track and account for the security of your apps and data. You have to trust the cloud vendor to deliver and reliably monitor and manage the security measures they have agreed to.

Keeping service infrastructure on-premises keeps control on-premises—in your secure facilities—which in turn makes it easier to document your compliance with all of the GDPR data protection principles.

With the right local cloud solution you have fast, simple access to all the records needed by auditors, so you can show them what they need to see, on demand.

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Capability 3

Customer data control retention

Another aspect of control that complicates GDPR compliance is the physical location of your customer data.

If you move workloads to a public cloud, the cloud provider is often responsible only for delivering specified SLAs. In many cases the cloud vendor may move your data, with or without your knowledge, to multiple locations—both foreign and domestic. This can complicate GDPR compliance reporting and disrupt the audit process.

Backing up data to the cloud also muddles GDPR compliance, for the same reasons. Keeping your customer data on-premises guarantees that you maintain control of reporting, and you can more easily show auditors the details of your data protection measures.

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Capability 4

A co-location option

As the traditional data center evolves, new options are emerging for moving workloads off-premises without giving up control. One such option is co-location—multi-tenant data centers that are physically located in close proximity but managed by third-party partners. Equinix is one such example.

The co-location option can allow your organization to place workloads based on regulatory impact, not just cost. For example, you can move workloads that require GDPR compliance to a co-location facility for the express purpose of harnessing the partner’s GDPR expertise, thereby avoiding the need to build that expertise in-house.

With this model the data remains at the co-location facility, so you retain control of its physical location, but you can offload many compliance-related tasks to specialists.

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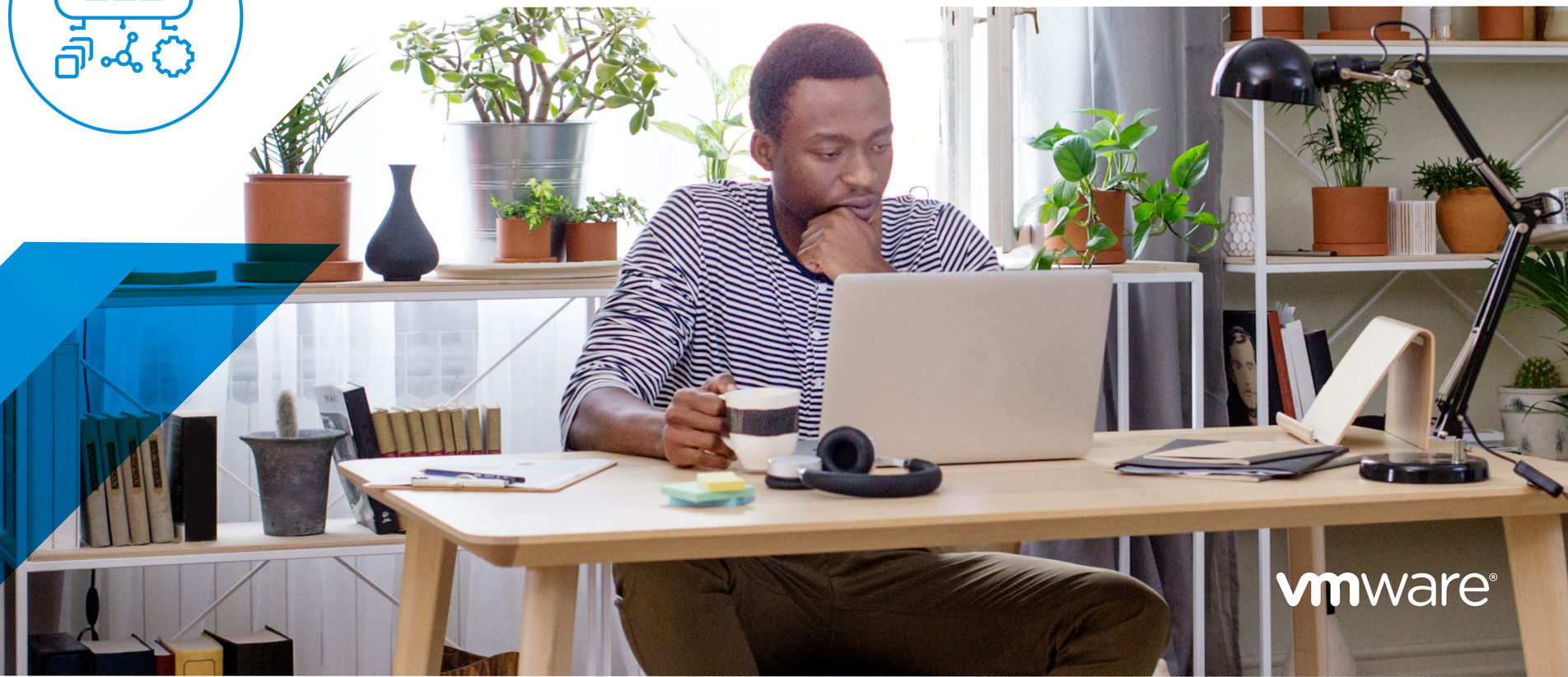
Capability 5

Taking it to the edge

Many of today’s use cases require high-capacity, high-performance compute resources at the network edge. In terms of GDPR compliance, it is critical to ensure that those resources are fully protected, and that security measures are fully documented for auditors.

It may be advantageous to look for a solution that provides visibility into all compute and storage resources, including the edge, along with advanced analytics and reporting. This will streamline the task of continuous compliance with GDPR and other regulations and standards.

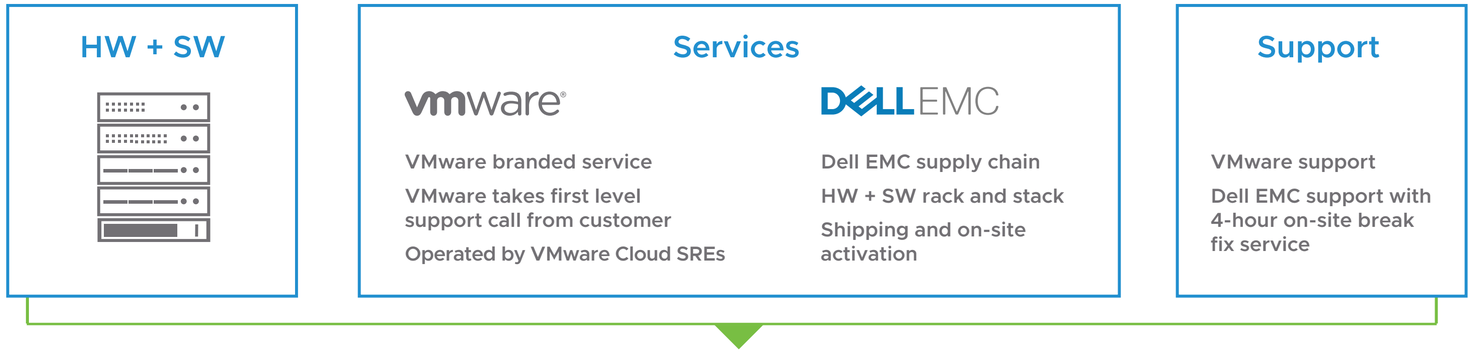


GDPR Compliance with VMware Cloud on Dell EMC

VMware Cloud on Dell EMC merges the agility and CapEx savings of the public cloud with the security and control of on-premises infrastructure. The advantage for GDPR compliance is simplicity.

The infrastructure is delivered, installed, maintained, and supported by VMware. VMware’s hybrid cloud control plane enables you to provision and monitor resources as you already do with existing VMware infrastructure, and it allows VMware to fully manage the hardware infrastructure remotely.

VMware supports your compliance process via ongoing, automated security updates and software patching, and by continually monitoring all service infrastructure—in the data center, in the cloud, or at the edge—and maintaining GDPR-related information centrally.



All inclusive service – HW, SW, support and managed services

- ✓ VMware branded service
- ✓ Jointly operated with the HW partner
- ✓ VMware is the “single point of contact”
- ✓ Freedom from asset ownership
- ✓ Subscription based pricing
- ✓ Choice of payment terms

Learn More

VMware can help you minimize your GDPR compliance effort and maximize the business value of both public and on-premises cloud models.

Take a closer look at the VMware Cloud on Dell EMC solution and get beyond the limitations of traditional options.

For information or to purchase VMware products, call 1-877-VMWARE (outside North America, +1-650-427-5000), visit **http://www.vmware.com/products**, or search online for an authorized reseller.

For detailed product specifications and system requirements, refer to the VMware Cloud on Dell EMC documentation available at **https://www.vmware.com/products/vmc-on-dell-emc.html.**

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