Public cloud governance remains a “grand challenge.”

Most organizations are still trying to solve public cloud governance, compliance and security.

DIY approaches (e.g., spreadsheets, written policy, tribal knowledge) are insufficient for delivering consistent, scalable governance and policy management.

Recreational “landing zones” across different clouds to achieve consistency requires streamlined processes.

Automation is the key to handling clouds consistently.

There are a huge number of IT choices available to enterprises; however, public cloud adoption continues to accelerate fastest.

Clouds have different security controls, risk postures and vulnerabilities.

Recreating “landing zones” across different clouds to achieve consistency requires streamlined processes.

Automation is the key to handling clouds consistently.

The emergence of automated cloud governance

Most organizations are still trying to solve public cloud governance, compliance and security themselves.

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Automation is the key to handling clouds consistently.

The cross-functional impact of multicloud means automated guardrails must support a range of use cases.

Embedding cloud guardrails inside infrastructure ensures:

- Cloud automation platforms provide organization-wide security policy/framework
- Operators can see any environment in any cloud plus all of the changes taking place
- ‘Cloud anywhere’ (public/private/edge) and multicloud create additional IT complexity and operational challenges

We do it ourselves with existing resources and toolsets

Purchased commercial software/tools/SaaS to bolt on to our cloud/hosted environment

Engaged a third-party managed/professional service provider to deal with the issue

Purchased services offered by our cloud/hosting provider to integrate into our environment

Other

We do it ourselves with existing resources and toolsets

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Other

Most organizations are still using their own tools to apply an organization-wide security/policy framework.

This document is an abridged version of a Pathfinder Report commissioned by VMware, titled, “The Public Cloud Governance Imperative,” September 2022.

Read the full paper to learn more about multi-cloud governance and policy management.