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# Cloud Computing & Market Research - Opportunity or Threat?

A satellite image of Earth showing a large expanse of blue oceans and white clouds. The image is overlaid with several semi-transparent blue rectangular shapes of varying sizes and orientations, creating a layered, abstract effect.

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## Agenda

Cloud Computing is transforming the world of IT enablement with both public & private organisations turning towards various flavours of Cloud capabilities to meet their needs. What does this mean for Market Research in the context of provisioning, opportunities & challenges, and the impact Cloud could have on how MR is conducted in the future?

- What is Cloud?
- Cloud and Market Research
  - Provisioning
  - Opportunities
  - Challenges
- What effect could Cloud have on Market Research in the future?



What is Cloud?

## 3 Ways to Deliver IT Capabilities

**Software, hardware,  
& networking**



**Pre-integrated  
systems & appliances**

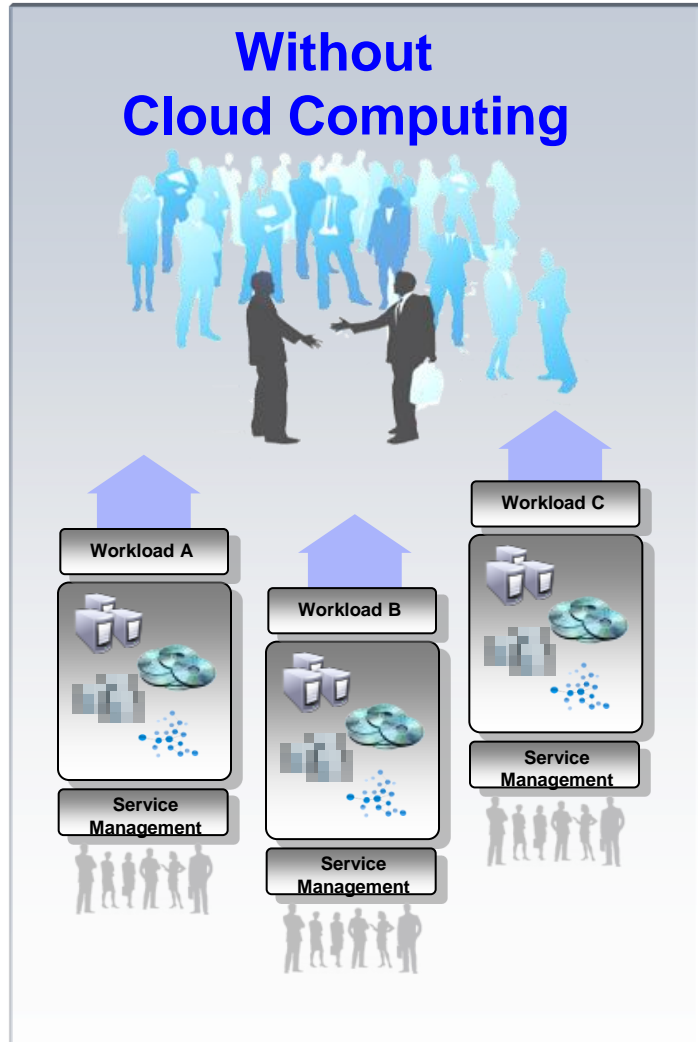


**Provided  
as a service**



**Cloud computing is a new model for  
delivering and consuming IT capabilities**

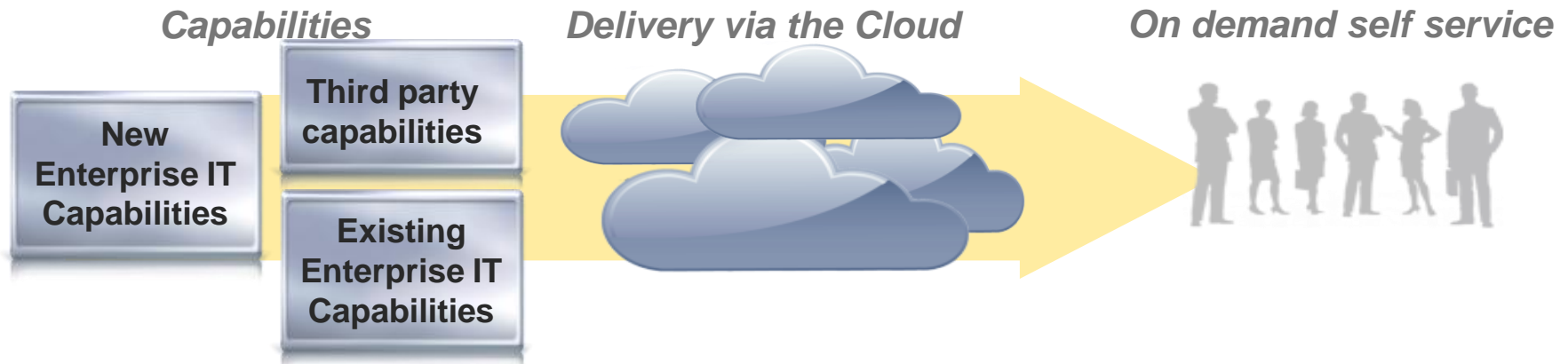
## Cloud Computing - Highlights



- Enhanced availability
- On the network
- Standardized services
- Automated management
- Virtualized resources
- Rapid scalability
- Location independent

## Cloud computing is a new delivery model

***Cloud enables customers to consume IT as a service, without burdening customers about how the service works behind the scenes***



### Key Characteristics

1. Self service
2. Standardization
3. Automation
4. Rapid elasticity
5. Variable cost model

### Service Models

1. Infrastructure as a Service
2. Platform as a Service
3. Software as a Service

### Delivery Models

1. Public cloud
2. Private cloud
3. Community cloud
4. Hybrid cloud



Cloud and Market Research

**Provisioning**

There is a greater need for IT to help address business challenges



## Doing more with less

Reduce capital expenditures and operational expenses



## Reducing risk

Ensure the right levels of security and resiliency across all business data and processes



## Higher quality services

Improve quality of services and deliver new services that help the business grow and reduce costs



## Breakthrough agility

Increase ability to quickly deliver new services to capitalize on opportunities while containing costs and managing risk



## There is a spectrum of deployment options

Third-party  
hosted

Third-party  
hosted and  
operated

Enterprise  
data center

Enterprise  
data center

Enterprise

Enterprise  
A

Enterprise  
B

Users

Private cloud

Managed  
private cloud

Hosted  
private cloud

Shared cloud  
services

Public cloud  
services

- Private
- Implemented on client premises
- Client runs/manages

- Third-party operated
- Enterprise owned
- Mission critical
- Packaged applications

- Third-party owned and operated
- Standardization
- Centralization
- Security
- Internal network

- Mix of shared and dedicated resources
- Shared facility and staff
- Virtual private network (VPN) access
- Subscription or membership based

- Shared resources
- Elastic scaling
- Pay as you go
- Public Internet

## Private cloud

- Owned and managed by the enterprise
- Limits access to enterprise and partner network
- Drives efficiency, standardization and best practices
- Retains high degree of control, privacy and security
- Enables business to more easily customize services
- Reduces deployment time for new services
- Accessed from "inside" the firewall

## Private cloud

### Wedding Reception



- More specialised menu
- You get your own plate
- Dishes are made for you
- You only have to share with people at your table
- You can have it made the way you want it
- You can add bits or have them omitted
- You control the environment

## Public cloud

- Owned and managed by service provider
- Limits access to subscribers
- Delivers select set business process, application or infrastructure services on a “pay per use” basis
- Highly standardized
- Limited customization options
- Accessed from "outside" the firewall

## Public cloud

### Self-Service Buffet



- Standard menu
- You get your own plate
- But...dishes are made for everyone
- You have to share food delivery with other people at other tables
- You **can't** have it made the way you want it
- Standard cost – eat as little or as much as you want



## Cloud and Market Research

Provisioning

**Opportunities**

## Opportunities

- Impact of multiple devices recording data
- More offerings to Market Research consumers from software service providers
  - More specialised capabilities in the market place
  - Framework can facilitate exploration of new techniques as low-risk adoption of capabilities is easier
  - Easier to be innovative
- Interest in Cloud adoption - projects that require MR in this area
  - Commercial projects – i.e. Opinions on Cloud, usability etc.

## Opportunities

- Cloud platforms can be developed without having to build independent infrastructure at various geographical locations
  - Easier to service new clientele in new markets
- Deploy custom services faster than on traditional platforms (.Net, etc)
- Any production issues can be diagnosed with greater ease
- Research in areas with poor communications infrastructure – synchronize to cloud-based repositories
- Rapid response to events – need collection, feedback, & monitoring capabilities fast



## Opportunities

- Have internal capabilities - extra capacity sometimes
- Adopting new technologies in the MR space - low risk, cost-effective way to evaluate
- Open channel to market - Enhance agency/client relationships



## Cloud and Market Research

Provisioning

Opportunities

**Challenges**

## Challenges - General

- Don't want to share – require dedicated resources – appropriate Cloud model
- Impact on optimising processes or bringing new MR service deliverables to market
  - Apply more cloud resources - not design something for efficiency
- Own internal IT infrastructure / resources
  - Can signify greater control / security / “status”
- Rush to the Cloud market
  - Vendor applications not designed for Cloud computing – could contain “vulnerabilities”

## Challenges - General

- Control and accountability – manage internal systems
  - Fear of being held to ransom by 3<sup>rd</sup> party Data centres
- Self-Service delivery model empowers individual researchers yet may lead to bypassing quality control on deliverables
- Possible to circumvent IT – SaaS applications can be below threshold that allows direct purchase
  - Would users understand the implications?
- Will Cloud-based functionality & MR specific applications make agencies unnecessary?

## Challenges - General

- May require additional IT skill sets with an appreciation of Cloud
- Cloud plan offered may prove too expensive for large-scale data handling and processing due to commercial charging models
  - Depending on the Cloud / SaaS charging model - may promote “meter watching” prohibit creativity
- Existing software licences hosted in a Private Cloud - do terms and conditions of software usage provide for this deployment methodology

## Challenges - Legal

- Off-shore Data Centres – is the MR data being handled appropriately?
  - Cloud providers subject to the laws of the country in which they are located
  - Importance of location on legal rights and obligations
  - If different jurisdiction – legal protection may be limited
  
- Customer is often not told:
  - Where the data is stored?
  - Who has access to the data?
  - What security protocols are used?
  - If there are any business continuity practices – disaster recovery?

## Challenges - Legal

- Regulation – no international standard code of practice in Cloud
  - U.S. Patriot Act affect privacy of survey data
  - Safe Harbor = part of general requirements for EU data privacy
- Compliance with industry standards - You may be certified but the Cloud provider and/or the data centre may not
- EU law - sending personal data abroad
- Current laws for existing electronic communications may not apply to Cloud computing
- Give MR data to a service provider - your responsibility for compliance with regulations (Industry & Governmental)

## Challenges - Legal

- Collection, storage and management of Market Research data
  - Personal Identifiable Information (PII) and Sensitive Personal Identifiable Information (SPII)
  - Safe Harbor
  - Data Protection & Data Privacy
  - Sarbanes-Oxley or other regulatory rules
  - External audit standards for Data Centres



## Challenges - Service Level Agreements (SLA)

- What do these cover?
  - Application – to what level of expertise?
  - Environment – Security both IT and physical
- Cloud deployment models, that incorporate multi –tiered virtualized environments, can present problematical issues for ensuring application wellbeing and performance
- Virtualisation – theoretically great - if one goes then they all go
- Cloud provider may not have adequate provision for capacity peaks
  - If excess demand on the system - where from?

## Challenges - Service Level Agreements (SLA)

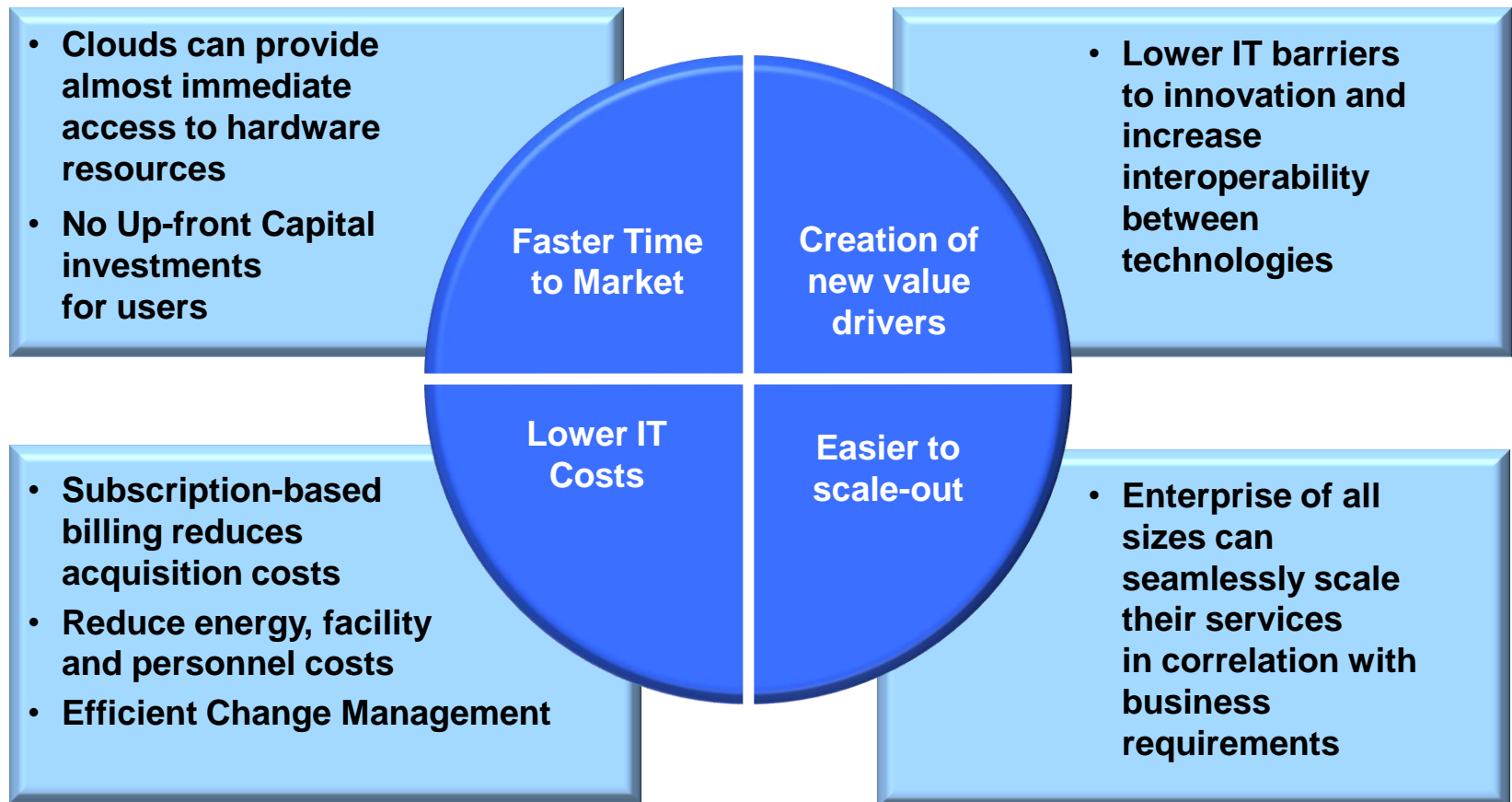
- It's not that easy to prove underperformance ?
- Organisations may have issues related to amalgamating processes and support for on-premise and cloud applications
  - If problem with application or Cloud infrastructure – who does what?



Cloud and Market Research

**Future?**

## Future - Cloud computing model creates value



## Future

- Cloud - operational restructuring
  - Large MR agencies – Managed Hosting models
  - Smaller agencies and MR departments powerful assets on tap
  - Cloud storage – sharing and connectivity
  - Cloud virtualisation - run “older” or more specialized programs
- SaaS has been dominant in data collection – now more apps
  - Analytical tools
  - Social Media tools
  - Qualitative tools
- Increase in Bandwidth
  - Connectivity + optimised GUI's = true hosted capabilities

## Future

- Development and expansion of connected devices
  - Consumers data/ assets/preferences - move to the Cloud
  - 4G mobile networks
  - Cloud-based music applications to run on multiple platforms
  
- Offshoot technologies
  - VSaaS (Video surveillance as a service)
  - Intelligent video analytics - not just for security
  
- Social Media
  - Move from Panels to Communities/Blogs/Social Networking sites
  - Real-time research – mining the blogosphere
  - Issues with Privacy
  
- Developing markets
  - Cloud infrastructure to facilitate localised services / instruments / & methodologies

## Future - Conclusions

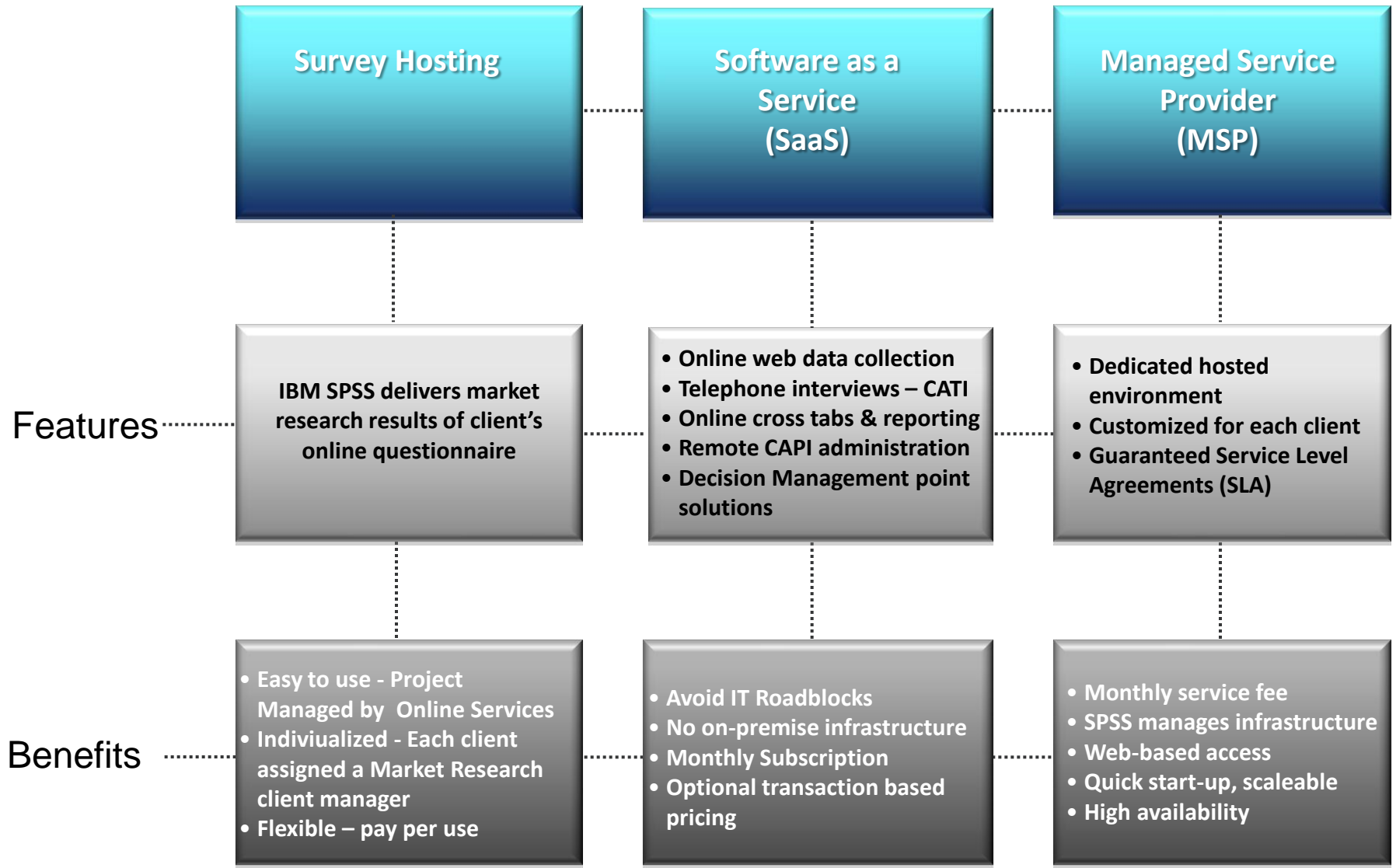
- Improved adoption of Analytics – Cloud opens up on-demand
  - Reduced need for internal communication - less data input
  - Authorized users - same GUI and same data – less error
- Cloud computing power
  - New services → wider deployment → more feedback potential
  - Linking data from many sources and channels
  - Data already available for research - analytics
- Safeguards
  - Cloud redundancy - disaster recovery and business continuity
    - Recent natural catastrophes and “unplanned” outages

## Future - Conclusions

- Data Integration possibilities
  - Need for Market Research data to be more linked with the strategic, tactical , and operational decisions of the organisation
- Legal , Policy & Privacy
  - Ethical standards - extracting from Cloud-based Social media
  - Regional legalities – movement across borders
  - Cloud - trusted and endorsed?
  - Technology accelerating faster than the controls
- Standardisation – comparing like for like
  - Transparent SLA's – lot of implied “good will”
- Cloud-based apps and processes – not a substitute for professionalism



## Current IBM SPSS Cloud Offerings



## IBM SPSS Contact Info

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# Q&A



Thank  
you!