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**Information technology — Cloud  
computing —**

**Part 1:  
Vocabulary**

*Technologies de l'information — Informatique en nuage —*

*Partie 1: Vocabulaire*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 38, *Cloud computing and distributed platforms*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 22123 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

This document is the definitive reference for cloud computing, providing a consolidated cloud computing vocabulary consisting of terms, terminology and definitions.

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# Information technology — Cloud computing —

## Part 1: Vocabulary

### 1 Scope

This document provides terms and definitions for vocabulary used in the field of cloud computing.

### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

### 3 Terms and definitions

#### 3.1 General

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

#### 3.2 Terms related to cloud computing foundation

##### 3.2.1

##### **cloud computing**

paradigm for enabling network access to a scalable and elastic pool of shareable physical or virtual resources with self-service provisioning and administration on-demand

Note 1 to entry: Examples of resources include servers, operating systems, networks, software, applications, and storage equipment.

##### 3.2.2

##### **cloud service**

one or more capabilities offered via *cloud computing* (3.2.1) invoked using a defined interface

#### 3.3 Terms related to cloud deployment models

##### 3.3.1

##### **cloud deployment model**

way in which *cloud computing* (3.2.1) can be organized based on the control and sharing of physical or virtual resources

Note 1 to entry: The *cloud deployment models* include *community cloud* (3.3.2), *hybrid cloud* (3.3.3), *private cloud* (3.3.4) and *public cloud* (3.3.5).

### 3.3.2

#### **community cloud**

*cloud deployment model* (3.3.1) where *cloud services* (3.2.2) exclusively support and are shared by a specific collection of *cloud service customers* (3.4.2) who have shared requirements and a relationship with one another, and where resources are controlled by at least one member of this collection

### 3.3.3

#### **hybrid cloud**

*cloud deployment model* (3.3.1) using at least two different *cloud deployment models* (3.3.1)

### 3.3.4

#### **private cloud**

*cloud deployment model* (3.3.1) where *cloud services* (3.2.2) are used exclusively by a single *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) and resources are controlled by that *cloud service customer* (3.4.2)

### 3.3.5

#### **public cloud**

*cloud deployment model* (3.3.1) where *cloud services* (3.2.2) are potentially available to any *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) and resources are controlled by the *cloud service provider* (3.4.3)

## 3.4 Terms related to cloud computing roles and activities

### 3.4.1

#### **party**

natural person or legal person, whether or not incorporated, or a group of either that can assume one or more *roles* (3.4.11)

### 3.4.2

#### **cloud service customer**

##### **CSC**

*party* (3.4.1) which is in a business relationship for the purpose of using *cloud services* (3.2.2)

Note 1 to entry: A business relationship does not necessarily imply financial agreements.

### 3.4.3

#### **cloud service provider**

##### **CSP**

*party* (3.4.1) which makes *cloud services* (3.2.2) available

### 3.4.4

#### **cloud service user**

##### **CSU**

natural person, or entity acting on their behalf, associated with a *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) that uses *cloud services* (3.2.2)

Note 1 to entry: Examples of such entities include *devices* (3.14.4) and applications.

### 3.4.5

#### **cloud service partner**

##### **CSN**

*party* (3.4.1) which is engaged in support of, or auxiliary to, *activities* (3.4.8) of either the *cloud service provider* (3.4.3) or the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2), or both

### 3.4.6

#### **cloud auditor**

*cloud service partner* (3.4.5) with the responsibility to conduct an *audit* (3.14.10) of the provision and use of *cloud services* (3.2.2)



**3.4.7****cloud service broker**

*cloud service partner* (3.4.5) that negotiates relationships between *cloud service customers* (3.4.2) and *cloud service providers* (3.4.3)

**3.4.8****activity**

specified pursuit or set of tasks

**3.4.9****peer cloud service provider****secondary cloud service provider**

*cloud service provider* (3.4.3) who provides one or more *cloud services* (3.2.2) for use by one or more other *cloud service providers* (3.4.3) as part of their *cloud services* (3.2.2)

**3.4.10****functional component**

functional building block needed to engage in an *activity* (3.4.8), backed by an implementation

**3.4.11****role**

set of *activities* (3.4.8) that serves a common purpose

**3.4.12****sub-role**

subset of the *activities* (3.4.8) of a given *role* (3.4.11)

**3.4.13****device platform cloud service**

*cloud service* (3.2.2) offered by the *device platform provider* (3.14.13) to support the *device platform* (3.14.5)

Note 1 to entry: An *application marketplace* (3.14.6) can be an example of *device platform* (3.14.5) *cloud service* (3.2.2).

**3.4.14****cloud service developer**

*cloud service partner* (3.4.5) with the responsibility for designing, developing, testing and maintaining the implementation of a *cloud service* (3.2.2)

**3.5 Terms related to key cloud computing characteristics****3.5.1****measured service**

metered delivery of *cloud services* (3.2.2) such that usage can be monitored, controlled, reported and billed

**3.5.2****tenant**

one or more *cloud service users* (3.4.4) sharing access to a set of physical and virtual resources

**3.5.3****multi-tenancy**

allocation of physical or virtual resources such that multiple *tenants* (3.5.2) and their computations and data are isolated from and inaccessible to one another

**3.5.4****on-demand self-service**

feature where a *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) can provision computing capabilities, as needed, automatically or with minimal interaction with the *cloud service provider* (3.4.3)

### 3.5.5

#### **resource pooling**

aggregation of a *cloud service provider's* (3.4.3) physical or virtual resources to serve one or more *cloud service customers* (3.4.2)

## 3.6 Terms related to cloud capabilities types and cloud service categories

### 3.6.1

#### **cloud capabilities type**

classification of the functionality provided by a *cloud service* (3.2.2) to the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2), based on resources used

Note 1 to entry: The *cloud capabilities types* are *application capabilities type* (3.6.2), *infrastructure capabilities type* (3.6.3) and *platform capabilities type* (3.6.4).

### 3.6.2

#### **application capabilities type**

*cloud capabilities type* (3.6.1) in which the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) can use the *cloud service provider's* (3.4.3) applications

### 3.6.3

#### **infrastructure capabilities type**

*cloud capabilities type* (3.6.1) in which the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) can provision and use processing, storage or networking resources

### 3.6.4

#### **platform capabilities type**

*cloud capabilities type* (3.6.1) in which the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) can deploy, manage and run customer-created or customer-acquired applications using one or more programming languages and one or more execution environments supported by the *cloud service provider* (3.4.3)

### 3.6.5

#### **cloud service category**

group of *cloud services* (3.2.2) that possess some common set of qualities

Note 1 to entry: A *cloud service category* can include capabilities from one or more *cloud capabilities types* (3.6.1).

### 3.6.6

#### **communications as a service**

##### **CaaS**

*cloud service category* (3.6.5) in which the capability provided to the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) is real time interaction and collaboration

Note 1 to entry: *CaaS* can provide both *application capabilities type* (3.6.2) and *platform capabilities type* (3.6.4).

### 3.6.7

#### **compute as a service**

##### **CompaaS**

*cloud service category* (3.6.5) in which the capabilities provided to the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) are the provision and use of processing resources needed to deploy and run software

Note 1 to entry: To run some software, capabilities other than processing resources may be needed.

### 3.6.8

#### **data storage as a service**

##### **DSaaS**

*cloud service category* (3.6.5) in which the capability provided to the *cloud service customer* (3.4.2) is the provision and use of data storage and related capabilities

Note 1 to entry: *DSaaS* can provide any of the three *cloud capabilities types* (3.6.1).