

Skillsoft Reveals 10 Factors Organizations Must Consider When Developing Cloud-Based Learning Programs

New whitepaper highlights benefits of cloud learning, lists critical questions every learning professional should ask

NASHUA, N.H.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- In response to the increased demand for and deployment of cloud-based business systems, <u>Skillsoft</u> has published a new whitepaper highlighting the benefits of cloud-based learning solutions and the critical questions learning professionals should ask potential providers when considering a cloud implementation. The whitepaper, titled "<u>Learning in the Cloud: 10 Factors to Consider</u>," addresses advantages of the cloud from cost savings, to decreased delivery time, to global reach, and outlines the top areas for discussion regarding the architecture and management of a cloud service. Skillsoft is a pioneer in the field of technology-delivered learning with a long history of innovation and delivering solutions for its customers worldwide, ranging from global enterprises, government, and education to mid-sized and small businesses.

"Learning environments today are more complex than ever. Many LMS deployments are now global, spanning multiple locations. Implementing cloud-based learning solutions eases these geographic challenges and offers numerous benefits related to cost savings, implementation, management and more," said Mark Townsend, chief product officer, Skillsoft. "It's great to see that more and more learning professionals are adopting or planning to adopt cloud technology. Our objective is to drive this trend by providing all learning professionals with information and advice on the cloud so they are knowledgeable about selecting a learning implementation that best fits their organization's needs. Our whitepaper is an excellent tool for guidance through this process."

Select factors cited in the whitepaper regarding cloud-based learning include:

Cost Savings. Cloud-based learning architectures allow organizations to avoid upfront investments such as building out and supporting a technical infrastructure as well as the human capital costs of installation, configuration and ongoing maintenance. This becomes even more critical given that learning departments are under pressure to keep costs under control and do more with less.

Global Reach. Cloud computing companies invest heavily in architecting solutions that can connect with most users all over the world – a burden that used to be placed on an organization's IT department. With cloud-based learning, employees simply need a computer or mobile device, a browser and an Internet connection to have consistent access to valuable content.

Rapid Deployment. Cloud learning solutions can be up and running almost immediately

without involving an organization's IT department. Self-service features allow learning and development professionals to deliver learning directly to hundreds of employees within minutes. In today's business climate, new skills often need to be taught on the fly at the speed of business with no time for lengthy deployments.

Support When You Need It. Support services can extend beyond just technical and customer support to include providing expertise to assist learning professionals with delivering the skills development and behavior changes the organization needs. Common support services for cloud-based LMS include content installation, learning consultants, examples of best practices, program management, curriculum design and training needs analysis.

To view the full list of considerations for the cloud, <u>download</u> your complimentary copy of "Learning in the Cloud: 10 Factors to Consider." A detailed list of questions to ask potential providers when considering a cloud implementation is included at the end of the whitepaper.

To learn more about Skillport, Skillsoft's cloud-based LMS, view this <u>technical companion</u> <u>piece</u> or visit <u>http://www.skillsoft.com</u>.

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About Skillsoft

Skillsoft is a pioneer in the field of learning with a long history of innovation. Skillsoft provides cloud based learning solutions for its customers worldwide, ranging from global enterprises, government, and education to mid-sized and small businesses. Skillsoft's customer support teams draw on a wealth of in-house experience and a comprehensive learning e-library to develop off-the-shelf and custom learning programs tailored to cost-effectively meet customer needs. Skillsoft's courses, books and videos have been developed by industry leading learning experts to ensure that they maximize business skills, performance, and talent development.

Skillsoft currently serves over 6,000 customers and more than 19,000,000 learners around the world. Skillsoft is on the web at www.skillsoft.com.

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