

Cloud Applications, A Challenge for User & Access Control

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For an IT department, working with cloud applications and their providers can present a number of new challenges. Where the IT department previously took a facilitating role that is now transitioning to a coordinating role. In addition, it can be significantly more difficult to control user and access privileges in cloud applications. The control over user accounts and roles — who has access to which cloud applications and data — is more complex than with applications that reside within the network. Below are some of the causes:

1. Large amount of information

The flow of information within the business environment is exponentially larger, and with greater frequency, than a few years ago. Organizations have to deal with a large number of users (employees, partners and even clients in some situations) and also many changes; for example, an employee leaves the organization. Previously, it was possible to perform necessary account management process during a pre-established and given time, like monthly or quarterly. Today, this is no longer feasible and the data must be refreshed weekly or even daily. Also a factor, custom scripts often do not work with cloud applications.

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