

Stephen Ho, CEO of CITIC Telecom CPC

In 2013, we saw more technology convergence in platform-as-a-service (PaaS). The building blocks of cloud services in the infrastructure-as-a-service (IaaS) landscape were also entering the stage of maturity. Fierce competition within the software-as-a-service (SaaS) market has emerged and caused a certain level of complications in the market place.

For enterprises considering a move towards adopting cloud technology, security was still a major concern. However, these security concerns can be overcome when the selected cloud solutions that are built in the market have proper security features incorporated.

What the industry has to realize is that cloud computing consists of a very broad range of services and ultimately, re-

gardless of the size of the service providers' range of products or services, the winners will be those that provide solutions that are able to fulfil real business needs.

In 2014, the focus on cloud computing will move beyond offering many different types of services for different functions, to integrating the various building blocks of these services to provide viable solutions to enterprises.

Therefore, leveraging IaaS, SaaS or even PaaS (mainly for developers) and successfully integrating them for specific business needs is the most important step.



Lionel Lim, president of Asia Pacific and Japan, CA Technologies



The 'Internet of Things' gained momentum in 2013. Sensors are increasingly embedded into a wide array of devices spanning applications such as disaster management, healthcare and transportation.

In 2014, these technologies will drive additional demand for IT to manage, store, analyze and secure the data they generate. We also see the rise of experience-centric everything. User empowerment has driven the DevOps movement to bring developers, testers and business closer together, leading to the rise of experience-led design.

Exploitation of sensing technologies available in mobile and wearable devices will increase as the 'Internet of Things' takes hold. Consumerization will accelerate as enterprises embrace the rich, immersive user experience consumers are used to from mobile applications.

In parallel, the management of mobile or social IT will become more about managing and securing the mobile applications and mobile data than the devices themselves, all while preserving the user experience.

In 2014, IT will drive stronger engagement models between the business and the services it delivers. By focusing on delivering systems of engagement through mobility and multi-channel, atomized applications and relying more confidently on application performance management, IT is now moving more strongly into the role of a trusted advisor and service broker in this brave new world of complex IT.

Gary Newbold, vice president for Asia Pacific and Japan, Extreme Networks

Cloud and BYOD had a successful year in 2013 because the supporting technology and network, as well as the staff supporting the underlying infrastructure, were ready.

With cloud-hosted applications, the service providers have efficiently built their networks to scale using 10GbE technology and implemented network virtualization to decrease their costs. Next, the right applications that should be delivered over the cloud were chosen. Customers then were given the choice of a few services and applications that made sense to outsource.

For BYOD, the success of this trend meant taking a network-centric approach in security and network authentication. The result of volume deployment has yield-

ed increased flexibility for users and a path to the future of supporting any device.

Looking ahead, software-defined networking (SDN) has the potential to revolutionize enterprise networks by slashing the complexity and costs of network administration. Vendors are in a race to demonstrate support of applications while the

debate is still ongoing regarding northbound interfaces and the use of the OpenFlow protocol.

To migrate to SDN, switches need to support traditional functionality, an interoperable SDN controller and SDN protocols. This will add sophistication to switch design, and only proven network vendors are likely to be capable enough to deliver the innovation required.

