

Accenture and Microsoft Launch New Hybrid Cloud Platform to Accelerate Enterprise-Wide Adoption

Accenture Hybrid Cloud Solution for Microsoft Azure delivers new level of agility, integration, and manageability to help enterprises realize the benefits of cloud

NEW YORK and REDMOND, WA; Dec. 8, 2014 – Accenture (NYSE:ACN) and Microsoft Corp. have expanded their long-standing strategic alliance with the introduction of the [Accenture Hybrid Cloud Solution for Microsoft Azure](#), a powerful hybrid cloud platform designed to bring new capabilities, economics and innovation to the enterprise. Working with Avanade, the companies are co-funding and co-engineering this platform with new hybrid technologies and services to help enterprises build and manage enterprise-wide cloud infrastructure and applications.

"Our expanded relationship with Microsoft represents a game-changing proposition that addresses the biggest concerns and complexities our clients face as they look to leverage the cloud," said Pierre Nanterme, chairman and CEO, Accenture. "With new demands being placed on IT departments every day, enterprises need to smartly connect their infrastructure, software applications, data and operations capabilities in order to become agile, intelligent, digital businesses. This unique collaboration with Microsoft and Avanade is one of Accenture's most strategic and important initiatives for driving enterprise-wide cloud adoption."

"Enterprises around the globe are looking for the right platforms and partners to help them transform and thrive in the mobile-first, cloud-first world," said Satya Nadella, CEO, Microsoft Corp. "The Microsoft Cloud, combined with Accenture's industry knowledge and implementation expertise, accelerates our customers' cloud adoption and unlocks new benefits, including powerful applications, data-driven insights and increased productivity."

This agreement is the most far-reaching collaboration between Accenture and Microsoft since the 2000 joint venture to launch Avanade, a leading Microsoft solution provider with more than 22,000 employees and more than US \$2 billion in global sales.

The Accenture Hybrid Cloud Solution for Microsoft Azure delivers new technologies to migrate and manage applications between private and public clouds in a controlled, seamless and automated way – on demand, at speed and from a single console. The solution integrates and builds on key capabilities from the three companies to help enterprises deliver "everything as a service," including:

- The [Microsoft Cloud Platform](#) of Microsoft Azure providing enterprise performance, hyper-scale and hybrid capabilities connected to Windows Server with Hyper-V, System Center and Azure Pack running in customer data centers.
- The [Accenture Cloud Platform](#) which supports multi-platform environments with self-service provisioning for any application. Its central dashboard controls cloud brokerage and management capabilities, and provides the enterprise-grade governance, reliability, security and operations enterprise clients expect.
- An end-to-end spectrum of professional services to help clients define and execute against their cloud goals, based on Accenture's specialized industry knowledge and proven business transformation experience — from strategy and transformation to migration, deployment and managed services.
- Avanade's deep bench of skilled professionals equipped with broad expertise in Microsoft technologies and a laser focus on unlocking business value in the enterprise.

One example of how the Accenture Hybrid Cloud Solution-Microsoft is being piloted is at Freeport-McMoRan, one of the largest international natural resource companies. The company is leveraging the solution to prototype a new Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) platform to improve mining operations by securely connecting, managing and capturing machine-generated data from the trucks, drills and other assets in the mine. The resulting platform will provide operations supervisors with a role-based mobile dashboard to analyze and react to near real-time situations in the mine. This capability will enable

supervisors to take immediate action on items that impact mine production, which ultimately drives revenue.

“As our business makes the transformation to digital mining, we are looking to capture the benefits of hybrid cloud and engaged Accenture and Microsoft to explore how we can accelerate our journey,” said Bertrand (Bert) Odinet, VP and CIO, Freeport-McMoRan.

For more information, visit www.accenture.com/hybridcloud

About Accenture

Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, with more than 305,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries. Combining unparalleled experience, comprehensive capabilities across all industries and business functions, and extensive research on the world’s most successful companies, Accenture collaborates with clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. The company generated net revenues of US\$30.0 billion for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, 2014. Its home page is www.accenture.com.

About Microsoft

Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq “MSFT”) is the worldwide leader in software, services, devices and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential.

About Avanade

Avanade helps customers realize results in a digital world through business technology solutions, cloud and managed services that combine insight, innovation and expertise focused on Microsoft technologies. Our people have helped thousands of organizations in all industries improve business agility, employee productivity and customer loyalty. Avanade combines the collective business, technical and industry expertise of its worldwide network of experts with the rigor of an industrialized delivery model to provide high quality solutions using proven and emerging technologies with flexible deployment models—on premises, cloud-based or outsourced. Avanade, which is majority owned by Accenture, was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation and has 22,000 professionals in more than 20 countries. Additional information can be found at www.avanade.com.

###

Contacts:

Hannah Unkefer
Accenture
+ 1 415-537-4848
hannah.m.unkefer@accenture.com

Rapid Response Team
Waggener Edstrom Communications for Microsoft
+1 503-443-7070
rt@waggeneredstrom.com

Jessica Brookes
Avanade
+44 783 340 4136
jessica.brookes@avanade.com