

INFO SHEET:

10 questions to ask when evaluating a cloud network platform

Everyone is moving from legacy data centers to the cloud—albeit at different paces and scope. You may be early in your cloud transformation journey, with just a single application in a single cloud service provider (CSP) environment, or you may be much more mature, with applications spread across dozens of CSP regions globally. Wherever you are in your journey, the one constant is complexity.

This complexity results from a variety of challenges. The first is the reluctance to migrate away from legacy data center technology and strategies such as IPsec tunneling and hairpin routing. These technologies were built for a much more static world in which connections between client and server were mostly consistent. Monolithic application stacks reigned, and users logged in primarily from corporate headquarters.

Today's workforce is radically different. Users are mobile—working from home, a remote office, or customer sites. Applications are split into hundreds of microservices spun up on demand across multiple CSPs and physical data centers. These decentralized users and applications are at risk from increasingly sophisticated threat actors. Despite these challenges, expectations for a superior user experience continue to rise.

To take full advantage of the elasticity, scale, and economics of the cloud, organizations need to make sure their cloud network platform doesn't use these legacy data center technologies to connect cloud resources to the cloud networking platform. Instead of at the network layer, these connections need to be made at the application layer through cloud-native connectivity. This architecture model provides visibility into application constructs, endpoint connectivity, and user identity while eliminating the need to add connectors or agents—which contribute to network complexity and increase cloud spend.

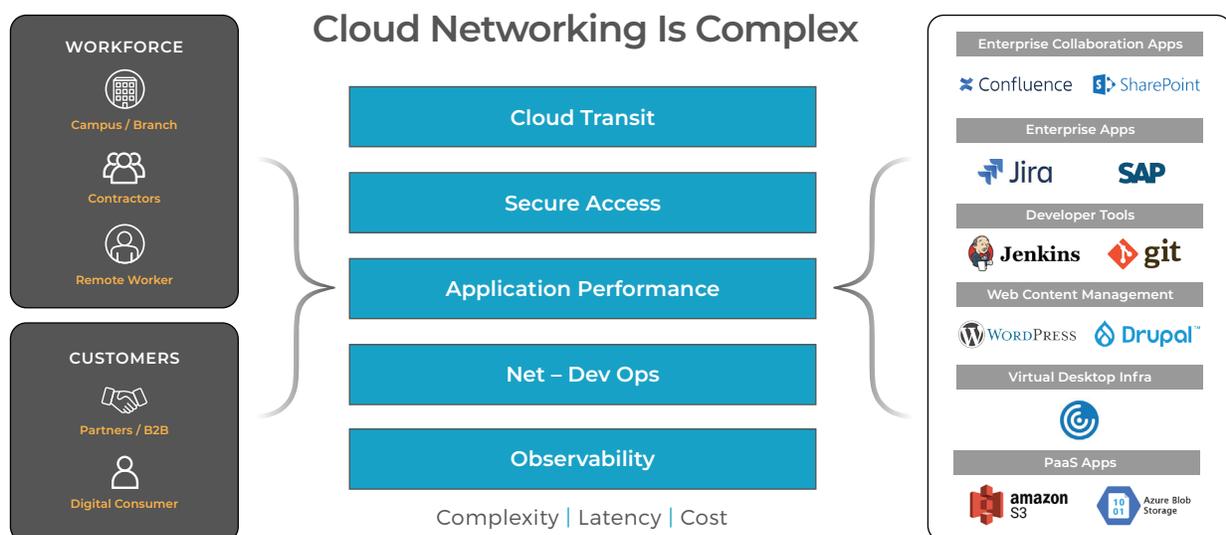


Fig 1: User and App diversity continues to create complexity

The following page has the 10 questions you need to ask when evaluating a cloud network platform, along with the Prosimo solution to see how we stack up.

Question

The Foundational Network for Experience

- 1** Does this cloud network platform work consistently well for IaaS workloads, PaaS, cloud-native endpoints, monolithic apps, and modern K8/meshes?
Prosimo works across all application types—including legacy monolithic applications, service meshes, Kubernetes-based microservices, APIs, and PaaS services offered by CSPs.
- 2** How much control will I have over my data? If the platform components (e.g., K8) run inside my cloud, who is responsible for lifecycle management?
Prosimo allows you to know exactly who has control over your data once it is outside your business's oversight. This allows you to gain assurances from your provider that data never leaves cloud boundaries to a black box SaaS platform where you have no visibility. Prosimo gives you a solid framework to support the data path in the cloud with complete lifecycle management of the components, including K8 cluster bootstrapping and orchestration, software upgrades, security patches, and bug fixes.
- 3** Is the solution cloud native or do I need to deploy appliances and manage high availability?
Prosimo replaces legacy appliance-based network management strategies, which are the leading cause of network outages. Our platform uses cloud-native constructs that auto-scale as you grow and work consistently across different cloud regions, edge locations, co-locations, and on-premises data centers.
- 4** Can I choose how to treat different applications based on underlying requirements around performance and cost?
Prosimo is application aware, allowing you to apply different policies, performance optimizations, and controls on traffic based on different SLAs and security requirements—essentially turning the cloud backbone into express lanes to achieve the required SLA.
- 5** What tools do you offer to monitor and manage my network infrastructure?
Prosimo gives you a single dashboard and a suite of tools to simply and cost-efficiently manage and secure your cloud deployments. This dashboard provides deep visibility and insights into performance at the application layer—including latency, packet loss, and application response time.
- 6** What level of security is my responsibility versus the responsibility of the cloud networking platform—across networks, apps, and users?
Prosimo acts as a central security control point for your cloud network, allowing you to consolidate your security stack to just a few trusted vendors. This allows you to seamlessly scale your security to include ZTNA, DLP, API protection, and other capabilities when needed.
- 7** Does the solution auto-scale up and down and cater to the performance and scale requirements of different applications and user loads?
Prosimo, architected for elasticity and scale, monitors user loads and underlying requirements of applications based on access patterns—regularly and proactively expanding/contracting deployed gateways in real time to accommodate changes in traffic load.
- 8** Is visibility and observability useful only for reporting?
Prosimo provides deep insights as well as the tools to seamlessly set and control application performance across multi-cloud environments. More than just a set of knobs, Prosimo automatically makes routing decisions and applies changes accordingly based on the telemetry data in real-time.
- 9** As my number of users and application footprint grow, will I get controls to expand my cloud appropriately?
Prosimo allows you to pre-provision and set up resources in advance of deployment—allowing you to take advantage of cloud elasticity and scale.
- 10** Can I draw a clear line in what is my network's responsibility versus my application team's responsibility?
Prosimo focuses your teams on what they do best. The cloud networking team can leverage the visibility and control into cloud networking provided by Prosimo to set up and manage infrastructure, while application teams can deploy their applications based on their guidelines.

To learn more: <https://prosimo.io/cloud-networking/>



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