NETAPP
2020
PREDICTIONS

With the widespread adoption of hybrid multicloud as the de-facto architecture for the enterprise, organizations everywhere are modernizing to deliver tangible business value around data-intensive applications and workloads such as **AI-driven IoT** and **Hyperledgers**.

Shifting from on-premises to public cloud services, private clouds, and moving from disk to flash – sometimes concurrently – opens the door to enormous potential, but also the unintended consequence of IT complexity.

In 2020, the industry must prioritize simplicity. Vendors must match evolving business models with modern, flexible technologies, such as commodity hardware and software-based **Infrastructure Virtualization**, and provide choice in consumption options.

The next decade will see data-driven transformation like never before. To keep up, keep it simple.

PREDICTION 1

5G makes AI-driven IoT a reality

- Lower-cost sensors, maturing AI apps = compute-intensive edge environments
- High bandwidth, low latency environments enable intelligent, instantaneous decision-making
- Edge devices become bigger, more diverse (e.g.: connected solar farms)
- More data centers at the edge and software such as AIOps will be necessary to monitory complex systems

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PREDICTION 2

Enterprise-distributed indelible hyperledgers push blockchain beyond buzz

- Hyperledgers will transform wider industries on a grander scale than cryptocurrency/bitcoin has transformed finance
- Companies will invest in differentiated apps to collaborate on critical data sets, like a healthcare transformation with universal patient records
- Use cases validating hyperledgers will drive additional widespread adoption of the technology across society

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PREDICTION 3

Infrastructure virtualization wins vs. hardware-based composable architecture

- Commodity hardware performance, software-based virtualization and micro-service software architectures continue to improve rapidly
- Hardware-based composable architectures will be relegated to niche datacenter roles
- Organizations will invest in combos of modern HCI (including disaggregated HCI) and software-based virtualization and containerization

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