

# 7 Serious Business Risks Eliminated by Cloud ERP



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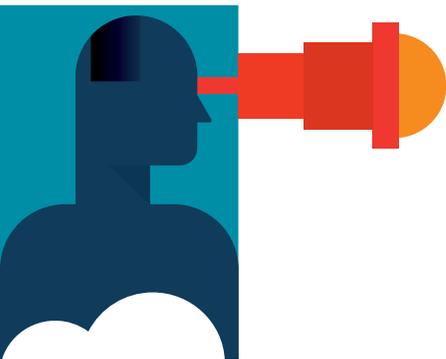
If you haven't moved your business management systems to the cloud, you're far from alone. Taking a measured approach to ensure your corporate data and assets are protected is just good business. But, while keeping servers with valuable corporate data in house might **feel** more secure, your networks and in-house systems could be holding you back and putting your business at risk.

**Cloud ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) provides more security, more functionality, and more flexibility to protect your assets and help your organization actively compete in today's world.**

In this eBook, we'll look at the risks that your organization faces every day and show you how Cloud ERP can help mitigate those risks and unlock opportunities. Read on to see how you can harness the potential of the cloud to grow your organization.

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# 1. Simplify compliance with industry and government regulations

Keeping pace with government regulations, industry standards, and corporate quality initiatives has become an overwhelming challenge for small and medium-size businesses. In addition to the many levels of standards and regulations your organization needs to comply with, the electronic data handling laws continue to evolve. You need expert advice.

## Look to experts on compliance

The leading cloud ERP providers ensure that the proper tools, security and agreements are in place to support compliance. Through automated workflows and audit trails, a cloud financial management system provides the documentation to reduce the risks and costs of compliance. With a fully integrated business management system, audit trails and user-based security are natively in place.

**Put the pieces in place to meet regulations like HIPAA, GDPR and industry regulations with cloud ERP, ensuring that you can:**

- **Implement data security, privacy and portability protocols.**
- **Provide thorough documentation and security for audits.**
- **Assign, track and record compliance and assessment-related activities.**



## 2. Protect customer, employee, and corporate data

No business can afford to ignore the security risks that can destroy a hard-built reputation and cost millions. In today's risk-filled digital environment, few organizations have the internal resources to provide the level of security needed to protect business and corporate data effectively. A ransomware attack can virtually close a business down if CRM and ERP systems are held hostage.

### A higher level of security

Accountable to governing organizations as well as to clients, cloud providers are required to maintain high levels of security. Supported and managed by security experts, cloud ERP will keep your data safer from the electronic and environmental threats that can bring down your business. Cloud computing can improve your organization's overall business systems' security, especially for devices.

**Cloud-based ERP supports better security with:**

- **Reliable data backup and detection tools that identify suspicious behavior using analytics.**
- **Secure access for mobile users across platforms and devices.**
- **Protection of critical corporate and customer data from a ransomware attack.**



## 3. Deliver customer experiences that keep them coming back

As disrupters enter your industry and build on digital opportunities, your customers—whether consumers or commercial—expect your organization to keep pace. Your employees can't deliver great customer experiences if they are burdened with disconnected systems. Both customers and employees will grow frustrated and take advantage of what the disrupters have to offer.

### Centralize and connect customer data

With cloud ERP, you can centralize and connect data from across your organization to support better customer experiences. With access to key information about customers at their fingertips, employees can provide efficient, personalized service. Connected systems bridge department silos to eliminate the bottlenecks and miscommunication that undermines good customer service.



**Cloud ERP with connected data allows you to deliver better customer experiences by:**

- Creating a single source of information, from order history to shipment dates, so employees can provide answers quickly.
- Empowering workers in the field—from service technicians to home health workers—with relevant information, resources, and complete customer context.
- Providing insights into trends and preferences that allow you to react quickly to the changing needs of customers.

## 4. Uncover opportunities to build revenue

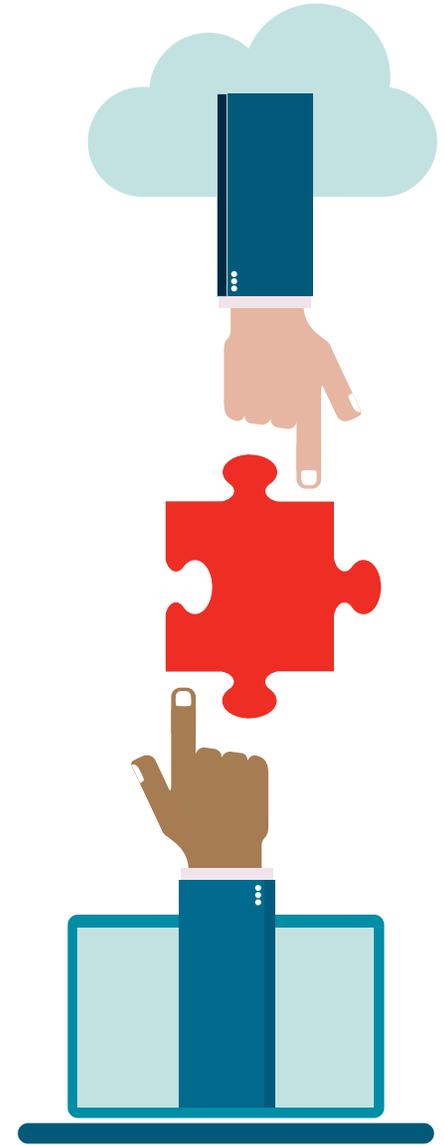
When your finance team spends all their time entering numbers into spreadsheets, they don't have time to put that data to work. Data provides a strategic advantage and your competitors are ditching the spreadsheets for analytics that turn digital information into profits.

### Data is a strategic asset

Cloud ERP centralizes your business data and integrates disparate systems, eliminating redundant spreadsheets and departmental silos. With consolidated data, you can use cloud-based analytics and machine learning to understand customer trends and explore new revenue opportunities.

Using data as a strategic asset, you can:

- Use customer preferences and market trends to inspire product design.
- Explore digital business models to capitalize on emerging markets.
- Increase sales win rates by using machine learning to prioritize leads.
- Build loyalty by resolving emerging service complaints before they impact more customers.



## 5. Improve operations with data-driven decision making

If your business data is spread across systems that don't connect or locked up in spreadsheets, you are making decisions with incomplete information. Separate systems used to manage sales, finance and operations makes it impossible to have a single comprehensive view of the business. To keep pace in the digital world, your organization needs to connect systems so that data can flow end-to-end.

### Improve operations with data-driven decisions

By connecting data across accounting, sales, purchasing, inventory, and customer service, cloud ERP gives leadership teams and managers a holistic view of the business. With an end-to-end perspective, you can identify bottlenecks in processes, compare location performance, and spot emerging product trends.

With connected data, you can make better decisions to:

- Eliminate inefficient business processes in finance, sales, service, and operations.
- Optimize inventory levels, using forecast data to predict when and what to replenish.
- Manage resource and staffing levels to align with capacity and sales.



## 6. Support a modern, mobile workforce

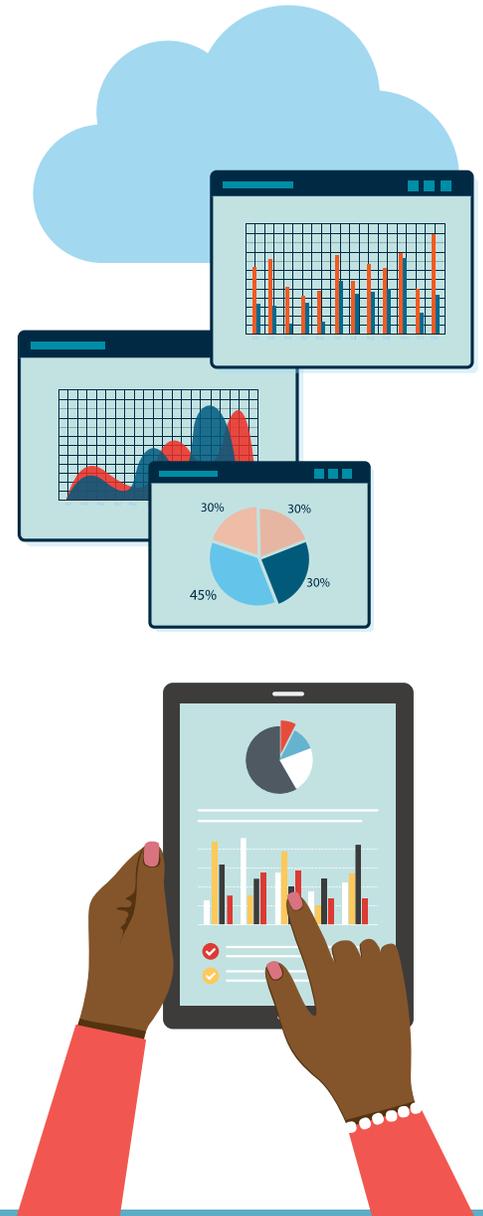
If your business is still tied to paper, it will get harder and harder to attract good employees. This generation of workers expects business processes to be easy, with information right at their fingertips when they are closing a sale, working on a project, or checking on shipments.

### Enable the next generation of workers

Through cloud-based ERP, workers can connect to the systems and information they need to produce high-value work. When giving workers who are comfortable working from home, in the office, and on the road easy access to secure business systems, you need a system that supports mobile devices and flexible work styles.

**No matter the size of your company, you can support a secure, mobile business environment to:**

- Provide mobile-friendly apps that support truly productive work—like entering data, accessing information, or approving transactions.
- Give your team self-serve options, from easy-to-use reporting tools to administrative hubs.
- Provide project portals, inventory data, and customer information that empower remote employees to provide excellent service.



## 7. Decrease opportunities for human error through automation

No matter how skilled and how careful your employees are, mistakes are going to happen. Whether it's entering data into spreadsheets, providing price quotes or purchasing inventory, if your employees are working outside of automated systems, they are going to make mistakes. And those mistakes can cost your business customers, profits, and reputation.

### Improve productivity and reduce errors

Of the many benefits of cloud ERP, automation of manual tasks and integration of data can provide the biggest returns. Connecting data across the organization reduces the need for manual data entry. Automated workflows ensure that orders move through the system quickly or that purchases are approved by a supervisor. As you improve productivity and reduce errors, your employees will be able to manage higher transaction volumes—allowing you to grow the business without growing payroll.

Through the automated processes provided by a cloud ERP system, you can:

- **Eliminate dependence on error-prone spreadsheets.**
- **Reduce the opportunity for employee fraud with tight internal controls and approval workflows.**
- **Keep customer service issues from falling through the cracks when they move across departments.**



# Reduce Risk by Moving to the Cloud with a Trusted Partner

Innovation and digital transformation are driving the shift to cloud. End-customers are not only migrating workloads to the cloud but are investing in cloud to support new capabilities as they evolve their businesses. Modern technology solutions support the requirements of modern businesses that want intelligent, intuitive solutions to help them achieve their goals of better insight into their organization, planning for the future, and positioning to stay competitive.

**iCepts Technology Group, Inc** has the distinct designation of being a **Microsoft Certified Cloud Solution Provider (CSP)**. We have the knowledge and experience to help your company get ready and take advantage of all of the benefits of the cloud has to offer.

## Next Steps:

- Learn More about [Cloud Business Solutions](#)
- Discover [Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central-Cloud ERP System](#)
- Visit our [Cloud Business Management ERP Articles](#)
- Contact Us at 717-704-1000 or [info@icepts.com](mailto:info@icepts.com)



## About iCepts Technology Group, Inc.

Since 1980, iCepts Technology Group, Inc., a 100% Employee Owned Company, has been working with companies in wholesale distribution, manufacturing and other industries with proven supply chain management and technology solutions.

Our continued goal is to leverage our many years of vast industry experience along with our technology knowledge in partnering with organizations like yours in order to achieve greater efficiencies, streamline operations, and gain access to vital business reporting to stay competitive plus profitable.

Our current technology solutions include:

- **Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central**
- **Microsoft Cloud Solution Provider (CSP)**
- **Microsoft Dynamics NAV Support for all versions**
- **HighJump Warehouse Management Systems**
- **HighJump WMS to ERP Integration Services**
- **Microsoft Office 365**
- **Cloud Business Solutions**
- **Infrastructure Technology Solutions**

Over the years, we have implemented hundreds of systems and can help your company determine the appropriate technology fit. We provide start to finish services for the solutions we represent including in-depth process analysis, implementation, training, security and networking.

Naturally, we also provide ongoing support for years after implementation to help our clients succeed. We are your "one stop shop" for your business technology needs. Discover why customers have been with iCepts for so long: our vast industry knowledge, friendly personnel and superior customer service!

### **Contact iCepts Technology Group, Inc.**

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