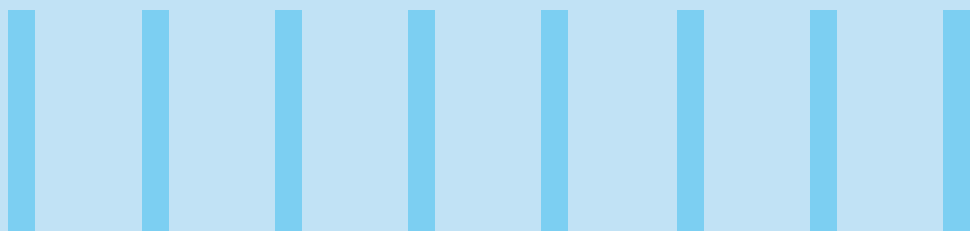# INFOSYS COBALT CLOUD COMMUNITY – AN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

Enhances cloud services with a knowledge-based approach

Innovation is an imperative in the digital economy. The Coronavirus pandemic reinforced strategic business priorities: collaboration between partners within and beyond the enterprise, visibility into risk factors across the ecosystem, and resilience of the supply chain as well as enterprise systems. The pandemic also proved that digitization is an imperative for sustainability. Large-scale adoption of digital technologies is a catalyst for enterprises to become more resilient and responsive to contingencies and disruptions.

Use cases range from remote workstations and IoT tracking systems to preventive maintenance of physical assets and advanced analytics for a 360-degree view of a fragmented, multi-polar global supply chain. Digital enterprises can refine business processes and address challenges by capitalizing on historical data as well as Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools, Machine Learning (ML) models and digital twinning systems. Digital models learn from a rich trove of data and simulate thousands of scenarios to account for diverse events and risks, and their cascading effect on the supply chain, business processes, operations, and stakeholders.

Data is the bedrock of digital solutions to address business challenges and enhance resilience. Data from multiple sources is integrated, aggregated, analyzed, and monetized in near real time. However, the investment required to capitalize on the exponential volume of data via AI, ML and smart analytics can be prohibitive.

A collaborative environment for business growth

The cloud (public, private, and hybrid) rationalizes the cost of data lifecycle management for digital enterprises. Companies adopting the cloud gain the capabilities to accelerate go-to-market, innovate more easily, and scale up operations more efficiently, while mitigating technology risk. The adoption of an appropriate operating model increases revenue / margins across business domains, enriches the experience, and delivers business value.

A cloud-first enterprise amplifies innovation across the value chain by connecting data, applications, enterprise systems, and partners in real time. By being an integral part of a multi-cloud ecosystem, enterprises can adopt new ways of working, simplify workflows, and monetize data. In addition, it accelerates the deployment of new services and secure applications. Significantly, cloud platforms optimize resource utilization while improving the performance of applications, operational efficiency and the user experience.

A community for cloud-first enterprises

The Infosys Cobalt Cloud Community is an innovative approach to enhance the resilience of business enterprises. The first-of-its-kind enterprise community blends cloud and technical expertise to solve complex business problems. Created by Infosys in partnership with clients, partners and academia, the Community provides a comprehensive technology ecosystem for cloud builders. It serves as a playground for community members to learn and capitalize on a rich knowledge repository, thereby accelerating the cloud journey of enterprises.

It assimilates relevant entities; technology, industry and domain assets; knowledge tools; and skillsets required to resolve business issues, develop new business solutions and create tangible value.

Further, it is aligned with the CxO agenda of global enterprises: scalable infrastructure, business agility and responsiveness, innovation at scale, and superior stakeholder experiences while minimizing capex and opex.

The Infosys Cobalt Cloud Community supports cloud adoption by providing an ecosystem to help enterprises migrate to the cloud and grow business in the cloud. It offers 'lego' technology blocks, frameworks, solutions, products, knowledge assets, accelerators, and an app store to facilitate seamless cloud services. This also empowers global enterprises to leverage a multi-cloud environment and become more agile and smart.

A community that nurtures assets and resources

The Infosys Cobalt Cloud Community develops reusable assets for a smooth cloud journey. It leverages cross-industry knowledge to create assets for sustainable business development. A digital catalog comprising more than 14,000 assets across business functions, industry verticals and sub-verticals supports cloud adoption for strategic projects as well as daily operations. The assets are classified into four broad categories: learning, knowledge, engineering, and business. This classification enables members to easily search for and retrieve assets that address specific requirements, and use a single or a combination of assets.

Assets in the Infosys Cobalt Cloud Store are refined and curated to ensure that the repository is updated and relevant for every enterprise. Solution blueprints and preconfigured assets in the digital library can be consumed through flexible pricing models. Members of the Infosys Cobalt Cloud Community use frameworks, platforms, services, AI / ML models, process bots, and code snippets to create high-level domain- / enterprise-specific solutions.

Ready access to proven methodologies, approaches and best practices accelerates solution development while mitigating

risks. The repository offers reference architectures and process models for smooth project implementation in a cloud-first ecosystem. The tight integration of components in the Cobalt Store provides community members a single-click deployment of the asset environment for solution enhancement and prototyping. The assets are tagged (IP, open-source, copyright, etc.) to simplify access and consumption.

A community that shares knowledge

The Infosys Cobalt Cloud Community adopts a collaborative learning approach to build assets and enhance skills. Members provide unique value by capitalizing on hyperscalers offerings by developing next-generation solutions and fill vital whitespaces not addressed by cloud providers such as AWS, Google, Microsoft, Oracle, and IBM. Sharing ideas, information and insights between enterprises and experts helps consolidate capabilities and transfer learning. Experiential knowledge of the Community brings business enterprises closer to cloud systems.

IT professionals, cloud product developers, solution architects, and DevOps / AIOps experts distill best practices and share knowhow to drive innovation. The Community also connects business leaders, domain specialists and technology practitioners of clients, academia and partners, which enriches the talent base with niche expertise.

The secure cloud infrastructure and collaborative environment of Infosys Cobalt Playground enables community members to create assets easily. It allows members to network with peers for incubation, prototyping and testing innovative digital services and cloud applications. The Cobalt playground offers a fully managed and secure platform for curating existing assets as well as integrating multiple assets to develop business solutions. Curated assets can be published as a community asset.

Users can mine collective knowledge as well as industry- / issue-specific assets to validate ideas and enhance cloud services. The resources enable both experts and interns to discover emerging issues / opportunities, explore use cases, and add to the repository of digital assets. It addresses knowledge requirements of users as well as enterprises, be it to prepare a cloud transition plan or develop cloud solutions to improve logistics planning or achieve sustainability goals.

A community that enhances quality of assets

The Infosys Cobalt Cloud Community fosters continuous learning, complies with guidelines, and undertakes due diligence to align asset development with business requirements. Common standards and robust asset strategies make it easier for geographically distributed members to work together on different service requirements and a shared asset pipeline. It helps conceptualize, calibrate and incubate high-quality IP for mission-critical deployments. Further, it ensures that co-created assets address the efficiency and security requirements of operations in hybrid and multi-cloud environments.

A team of cloud consultants and researchers moderates activities of the Community, curates assets, and defines

standards for each asset class. A rigorous process for curation ensures excellence across parameters such as engineering performance, quality, security, financial governance, and regulatory compliance. A 25-point checklist, which includes user ratings and availability of relevant supporting collaterals, is used to approve assets before it is published on the app store.

The Infosys Cobalt Community empowers cloud developers to create advanced assets with the help of technical experts, consultants, and digital learning content. Members can leverage Infosys Lex, a cloud-first mobile learning platform powered by Infosys Wingspan, to imbibe relevant skills or assimilate knowledge based on interests, skillsets, and job roles. Learning modules can be consumed anytime, anywhere via any device. The talent transformation and reskilling platform includes content developed by Infosys as well as third-party sources. A voice-enabled assistant enhances the learning experience for cloud professionals.

Standardization, transparency and real-time collaboration help the Infosys Cobalt Cloud Community minimize lead times for development of assets. The rich ecosystem deepens the engagement with members while empowering them to contribute to the repository of cloud assets for digital enterprises across industries.

About the Author

Saju Sankarankutty

Vice President and Delivery Head, Cloud, Infosys

Saju has two decades of experience in IT infrastructure and Cloud in the space of consulting, advisory, solutions, sales, and delivery. At Infosys, he heads the Service R&D and Automation Products and Platforms for Cloud and Infrastructure Services. His industry experience makes him a Cloud and Infrastructure transformation leader and a Cloud computing expert who has advised Fortune 200 companies on strategy. He has played various leadership roles and built successful teams, managed cutting-edge technology, nurtured a partner eco-system for business growth and demonstrated content, entrepreneurial and thought leadership.

Infosys Cobalt is a set of services, solutions and platforms for enterprises to accelerate their cloud journey. It offers over 14,000 cloud assets, over 200 industry cloud solution blueprints and a thriving community of cloud business and technology practitioners to drive increased business value. With Infosys Cobalt, regulatory and security compliance, along with technical and financial governance comes baked into every solution delivered.

Infosys®

Navigate your next

For more information, contact askus@infosys.com

Infosys.com | NYSE: INFY

Stay Connected