

# Azure identity and access

**Use the cloud to own way less and do way more**

Although the world has changed significantly in the past few years with applications and services shifting from on-premise to the cloud, the principles of identity and access haven't changed very much. What has changed is that identity has become more important and soon may be one of the few elements you can control.

Identity is no longer simply about providing access to employees on-premise from PCs. Employees, partners and customers now need apps and services to be available everywhere from almost any device. It is challenging to provide this service securely and in a timely fashion.

Oxford Computer Group (OCG) can help you ensure the right people have access to the right things at the right time, while maintaining protection, compliance, security and efficiency. Using Microsoft Azure, our identity solutions provide timely, manageable services on- and off-premises.



**With Azure it's easier to be collaborative, connect stakeholders, develop new products, get information and feedback, and find new business channels.**

## How Azure and other Microsoft products can help you

New systems and services for marketing, finance, management and HR are increasingly moving into the cCloud. With Azure it's easier than ever to offer richer collaborative experiences, connecting with suppliers, dealers and customers to develop new products, better access to information, timely feedback and find new business channels.

### Here's what Azure can do

- Access many applications with one identity – making the most of a single cloud directory
- Manage identities and provide access to cloud applications – manage user provisioning and single sign-on
- Monitor and protect access to enterprise applications – safely extend enterprise applications to partners beyond the existing boundaries
- Empower the user with personalized access and self-service – make it simple and secure, improve efficiency and reduce costs
- Cloud identity and platform services – make it easy to build and deploy development and test environments

### Many applications, one identity

With the proliferation of cloud applications, life can get complicated for users with lots of credentials and locations to remember. One well-managed identity for each user, irrespective of the IT landscape that user operates in, must be the Holy Grail. Microsoft Azure Active Directory (AAD) offers one identity repository to support many cloud applications.

Azure directory-as-a-service provides sign-on and access to many cloud applications from one location. This prevents proliferation of credentials and improves security.

Organizations already running Microsoft Office 365 may already have access to the service but may not be using it. It can be managed from your existing on-premise directory with identities being projected to the cloud to support even more applications. These apps can include pre-integrated cloud applications and we can add custom cloud-based apps.

We have already provisioned seven million seats into this directory service, so if you need help with this, rest assured we've got the know-how, tools and good advice.

## Manage identities

Within AAD there is an identity and access management console acting as a single place of management for cloud applications. These can be pre-integrated or you can add your own. Within this portal, cloud applications can be managed, user accounts can be managed and users can be assigned access to cloud applications. This can be integrated with your on-premise directory and with groups being used to define which users can have access to what, and which require provisioning to a given cloud application.

## Monitor and protect

If you want to provide access to on-premise apps from the cloud you can do this with Windows Server 2012 and Azure. To maintain security we have components we can include such as multi-factor authentication, encryption and rights management. And we have tools for reviewing and blocking access.

## Make it easy

If moving your services to the cloud means your users have to remember lots of usernames and passwords, and make requests to helpdesks to get them, we're making it unnecessarily difficult when it could be much easier. Identity and access is most effective when it's hidden.

With Azure we can provide single sign-on from one place for software-as-a-service (SAAS) applications. We can add self-service functionality to request access to applications or to change credentials, and can enrich the service by integrating with on-premise identity management.

## Build, deploy and manage

Windows Azure is an open and flexible cloud platform that enables you to quickly build, deploy and manage applications across a global network of Microsoft-managed datacenters. It can call up VMs, create complex environments and knock them down again with no on-going commitment. You simply pay the metered costs of use for as long as you need them. This is perfect for many, and usually brings significant savings in time and money. OCG will help you achieve this.

**"Re-thinking identity management should be the starting point for any organization looking to access cloud-based applications. I strongly recommend OCG's services."**

**Alistair Sandford, Senior Project Manager  
UWE, IT services**

**"When you can't control the where from or where to, or the how and from what, you can and have to control the who."**

**Alex Simons, Director of Program Management,  
Active Directory team, Windows Azure Division,  
Microsoft**

## Services and solutions

OCG is a Microsoft Gold Partner in Identity and Access Management with significant Azure service expertise. For organizations with Microsoft infrastructures, we can help prepare and manage your cloud deployment and get the best from new applications and services. We'll get your users access to the services they need accurately and swiftly. Our flexible, creative approach has, so far, helped hundreds of organizations get to the cloud with secure access for more than seven million users.

## Where to start

Let OCG work with you to discover what you're trying to achieve and what you need to do it. We do this by holding a workshop or an envision engagement with you and your stakeholders.

Having a full understanding of all the available options, your business needs and current environment, combined with who requires access, the complexity of your data and security framework, will help us determine what identity services should remain on-premise and which could benefit from Azure.

We will provide you with expert advice to help you make these important decisions and plan your journey to the cloud. The report your workshop generates will form the vital groundwork and be the basis of what you choose to do next.

**On-premise, private cloud, public cloud, bring your own device: we can help you embrace the cloud and provide a modern IT service that exploits its many benefits.**

**Let us guide you. Call us today  
+1 877 862 1617**