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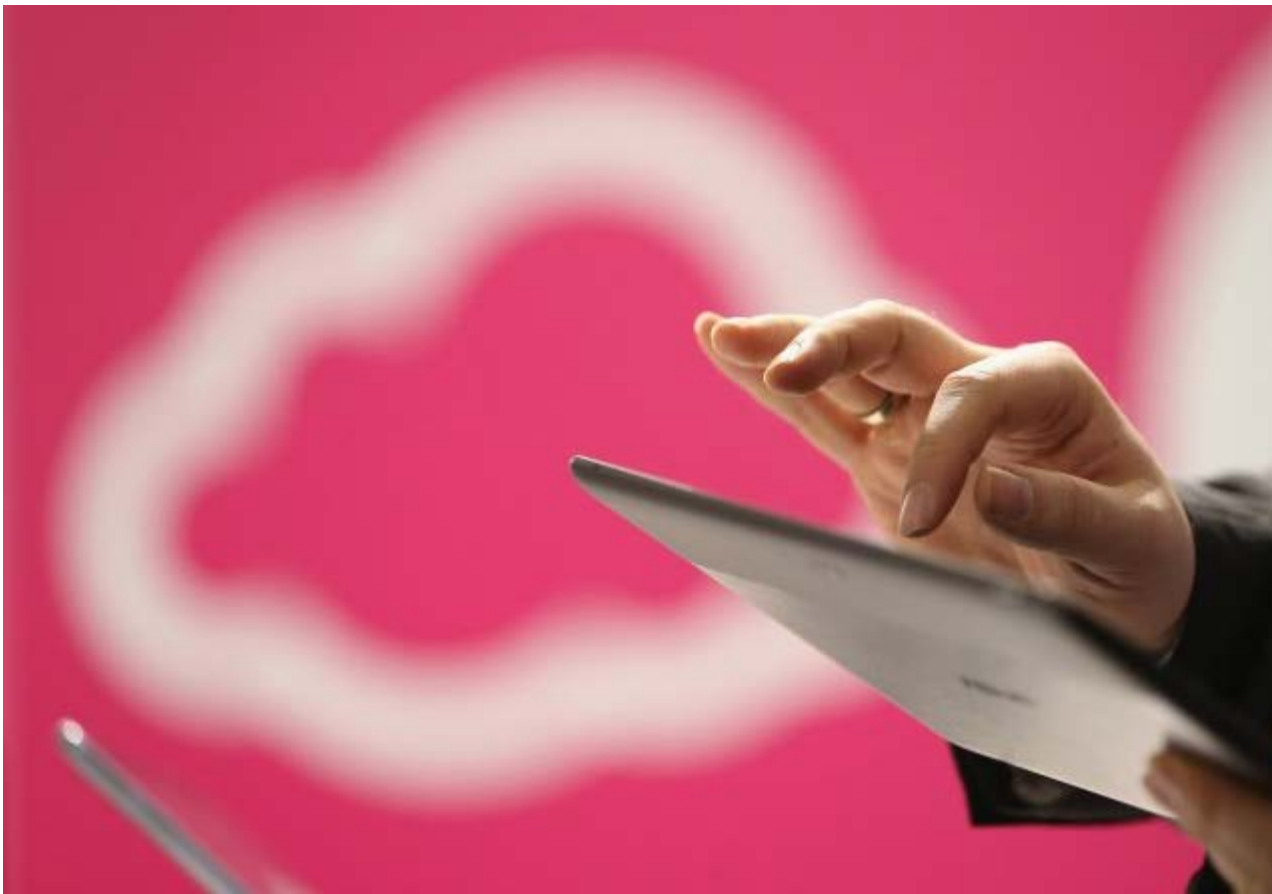
By the Blouin News

Technology staff

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Rackspace's hybrid cloud to help research origins of the universe

July 5, 2013 by [Erin Harrison](#) in [Enterprise Tech.](#) | [1 Comment](#) |



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Yes, cloud computing is helping companies achieve new efficiencies and greater scale, and in some cases, reduce costs. While these benefits are significant, they are nothing new. One of the *really* cool things that cloud does – and is not talked about as much – is to enable significant innovation among organizations tapping into this disruptive technology.

The latest example of this can be found in a new partnership between the European Organization for Nuclear Research – also known as CERN – and Rackspace, which is intended to literally help unlock the mysteries of the universe. To help the advance CERN's research in the field of physics, Rackspace is providing the Switzerland-based research group with a hybrid cloud solution based on OpenStack-powered public and private clouds.

During the year-long collaboration, Rackspace will provide a hybrid cloud solution that offers its public and private clouds powered by OpenStack, thereby helping CERN to conduct more in-depth research into the origins of the universe, explained Jim Curry, senior vice president and general manager of Rackspace's Private Cloud business.

"This is awesome because it gives us the opportunity to work closely with CERN to help fuel new, potentially ground-breaking research and particle physics innovation while also extending the reach of the Rackspace Hybrid Cloud," Curry wrote in a blog post.

As All Things D explained, "hybrid cloud is a term of art meaning that the hardware comprising the cloud lives in two places. The hardware that is on the customer's premises works in concert with the hardware the service provider maintains. That means that computing capacity can be brought to bear on big workloads as needed."

The new technology partnership with Rackspace will entail several joint initiatives, focused on creating a reference architecture and operational model for federated cloud services between the Rackspace Private Cloud, Rackspace Public Cloud and CERN's OpenStack powered clouds.

While the partnership will enable CERN to achieve its research goals, it also allows Rackspace to take a major step in broadening the reach of its hybrid cloud.

"This is a landmark moment for Rackspace, as we feel this is an opportunity to take our already mutually beneficial relationship with CERN to new heights" Curry said in a [company statement](#). "Through ongoing collaboration with CERN openlab, we will broaden the global reach of our hybrid cloud solutions, while simultaneously helping to set the pace of innovation within the field of particle physics."

In addition to supporting such a noble cause as unlocking the mysteries of the universe, the cloud is also [paving the way](#) for other organizations to achieve inventive business objectives that could have never otherwise been achieved.

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