# Enterprise Cloud Security: Questions You Need to Ask

When evaluating whether to add a new cloud-based product to your business intelligence architecture,

you need to consider your organization’s data security requirements or mandates. This checklist can help drive further discussions around cloud-based products and components and how they fit into the security requirements of your broader IT architecture.

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| **General questions** | |
| Where is the product deployed: on-premises, cloud, or hybrid? |  |
| What cloud service model is used by the cloud component(s) of the product (IaaS, PaaS, SaaS)? |  |
| If using a PaaS or SaaS product, what other cloud providers are involved, and what is their responsibility for your security needs? |  |
| Can the cloud component of the product access all required data sources? |  |
| **Preventive controls** | |
| Is data encrypted while in transit and at rest, when used by or accessed by the product? |  |
| What roles or individuals at the cloud provider can access data that is stored in the cloud, but owned by the cloud consumer? |  |
| What regulatory compliance mandates has the cloud provider been certified against? |  |

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| **Preventive controls (cont’d)** | |
| Does the product support role-based access for its users? |  |
| What methods of user authentication are supported by  the product? |  |
| Where are standards or certifications needed in your  cloud infrastructure? |  |
| **Detective controls** | |
| What auditing capabilities exist in the product as it relates to access and usage of the product? |  |
| How often does the provider perform vulnerability scans on their product? |  |
| **Corrective Controls** | |
| What backup/ recovery methods exist for the product and/or underlying data? |  |
| In the event the cloud provider experiences a security breach, what are the processes in place to notify impacted consumers? |  |

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| **Other questions** | |
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| **Notes** | |
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