Building your Cloud Road Map

Here are the simple steps to Getting There:

- Tap a cross-section of your stakeholders for a thoughtful analysis of benefits and costs, and then select a cloud strategy consistent with your IT service fulfillment model.
- Launch first with services that don't pose unacceptable risks to your organization, aren't business critical and where complexity of implementation is low (storage, unified communications and office productivity apps, for example).
- Leverage your user's familiarity with consumer cloud offerings to maximize the success of cloud adoption.
- Independent software vendors will bring new features to market faster with cloud applications, so follow those changes closely.
- Start planning today; understand your internal "cost to serve" per application, which will help determine ROI for public cloud solutions.
- When working with cloud providers, look for contracts that establish and enforce service levels and security standards.
- Work with a software licensing expert to clarify and resolve issues affecting applications your organization wants to move to the cloud.