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**UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL STORAGE: FROM PRODUCTS TO PLATFORMS**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Nowadays all the companies irrespective of the domain and size (either by area or personnel), IT Infrastructure is needed for progress in this competitive era. And for this dedicated Server Room has to be present along with all the necessary equipment and servers such as File Server, Mail Server, Database Server, Modems, Routers, QPS (Query per Second to identify the load of the server), Switches, Internet Services and to look after all these, Maintenance Engineers are needed for daily monitoring.*

*For making the above scenario possible, companies need to spend a lot on it and to avoid such heavy spending on it, Cloud Computing came into existence.*

*Keywords: Cloud Computing, SaaS, PaaS, IaaS*

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**1) INTRODUCTION**

**History**

- Concept developed in 1950 at IBM called as RJE (Remote Job Entry Process).
- In the year 2006 Amazon delivered first public cloud service called AWS (Amazon Web Services).

**Definition: Cloud Computing** means storing and using data and programs over the Internet instead of your computer's hard drive. The **cloud** is just a representation for the Internet.

The services are provided and consumed over the Internet and are charged for by the **cloud** customer on an as-needed or pay-per-use business model.

In other words, we can say that Cloud is something, which is present at remote location and it provides the services over network, which can be either public or private (WAN, LAN or VPN). Various applications such as e-mail, web conferencing, customer relationship management (CRM), all run in cloud.

**2) Why Cloud Computing is needed:**

Traditional Computing method:

- Need to own the desktop/s and to store the data need to be owing personal server.
- Infrastructural expenditure like server cost, rent, admins to take care of server/s.
- Operational expenditure like salaries of employees maintaining the server, electricity charges, cooling charges for server, frequent updation of hardware and software.

**Benefits of implementing Cloud Computing:**

- Location
- Availability
- Accessibility