

HPE Selects Azure As "Preferred Public Cloud Partner"

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HPE CEO Meg Whitman announces the company chumming further with Microsoft-- Azure is its "preferred public cloud partner," while HPE will be primary infrastructure and services supplier for the Microsoft hybrid cloud.



"Microsoft shares our view of a hybrid IT approach for enterprises and we both see opportunity to simplify hybrid infrastructure for our customers," Whitman tells analysts and shareholders at the HPE fiscal Q4 2015 earnings call. "Our goal is to help customers source, manage, and consume services across traditional, private, public, and managed cloud environments."

The two companies will further detail the partnership at the upcoming HPE Discover Conference in London, but it will probably be similar to the [Dell strategy of wrapping pre-configured Microsoft cloud software in Dell hardware](#), making an "Azure-in-a-Box" product.

The announcement comes little more than a month after HP announced the [January 2016 shuttering of the HP Helion Public Cloud](#), a decision bringing plans to "double-down" on private and hybrid clouds. The cloud means big business at HPE, generating \$3 billion in annual sales, with further growth expected over the next few years.

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