

Top 3 Trends in 2012

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Which Should You Consider for 2013?

The Enterprise Assessments ResiliEnt performed in 2012 revealed concerns over IT trends common to public, private, non-profit, government and higher education organizations. In this article we'll review the top 3 trends and share our insights regarding each.

- 1.) **Big Data** – this was the buzzword of the year seemingly for every type of IT vendor; BI, ETL, hardware, software and RDBMS. Even the open source communities, like Apache™ were positioning software, like HADOOP® for managing “Big Data”.

The definition of “Big Data” has evolved over the last 12 months, but we believe there is now a general consensus on the three V's; high volume, high velocity, and high variety of information assets as defining elements of “Big Data”. The volume, velocity and variety of data being collected and aggregated and analyzed will likely grow, no matter your line of business. For this reason we predict Big Data will continue to be a top 3 concern of IT professionals in 2013.

ResiliEnt Insights: Perhaps you are thinking Big Data is not a concern because your organization does not have all three of the V's. We assist our clients by assessing their Information Asset /Data management strategies. Over time we have discovered even small or medium sized businesses could and in some cases should be moving to a “Big Data” platform. The recommendations in the assessments are always specific to the client's needs. These recommendations are for short, mid-range and long term goals. Will you need to make the move to a ‘Big Data” platform in 2013? We can help you assess this and other goals for growing your business in 2013.

- 2.) **Cloud Computing** – one of the results of outsourcing the management of Big Data has been the proliferation of cloud computing services available to businesses of all sizes. Cloud computing services allow even small to medium sized businesses a viable means for managing Big Data. The most common Cloud Computing services are:
 - Infrastructure as a service (IaaS)
 - Platform as a service (PaaS)
 - Software as a service (SaaS)

Early in 2012 there were just a few vendors really advocating SaaS. Gradually the offerings for IaaS and PaaS were added to the list of available cloud computing services. Today there are 10 types of “as a Service” (aaS) offerings defined. For this reason we predict the number of vendors offering a cloud computing “as a Service” will grow in 2013.

ResiliEnt Insights: Are you aware of the 10 types of “as a services” now available in “the cloud”? As we perform assessments we consider not only your current needs but also your needs for the future; however the recommendations are based on Best Practices and technologies/solutions available at that point in time. Periodic reassessments will assure you are considering new Best of Breed solutions that will be the most advantageous to your business in 2013.

3.) **Information Security** – while this was not a new concern in 2012 it was a top concern because of new trends in technology.

As many businesses considered options like outsourcing the management of Big Data in a Data as a Service (DaaS) cloud computing environment they had to reassess their security strategies. Additionally they had to consider the adoption of mobile devices like the iPhone™, the iPad™ and the Android™ Tablets. Gradually these personal devices became “tools of the trade” for many. This had IT groups scrambling to manage the volume, velocity and variety of mobile devices and applications being used to access business information assets. Securing your information assets should always be a top priority and therefore we believe this must be a top priority for 2013.

ResiliEnt Insights: New tools for managing mobile devices proliferated in 2012. Security as a Service (SECaaS) was born. When/if you outsource your data management or you implement a cloud computing “as a service” you will need to reassess not only your security strategy but also the security policies and procedures of the vendor providing the service(s).

Summary: Anytime you outsource it is an extension of your company and as such must be held to the same operating standards; must follow the same communication procedures; must adhere to the same security requirements and don’t forget those critical Service Level Agreements (SLA’s).

For years ResiliEnt has partnered with organizations to assess their enterprise strategies to ensure those strategies are growing and developing to ensure the enterprise continues to grow! For this reason, we at ResiliEnt will continue to monitor trends so we can continue to make the best recommendations to you in 2013.