

# Statistics

Every month, Arabian Computer News scours the web to find you the most statistics and figures you need to know to do your jobs well.

## Mid-East embraces cloud

Over 40% of enterprises in the UAE are planning on moving to cloud computing within the next 24 months, while 24% are planning to do the same in Saudi Arabia, according to the results of a joint-survey by eHosting Datafort and ITP Publishing.

### ITP/EHOSTING DATAFORT SURVEY

A SURVEY CONDUCTED by eHosting DataFort, in partnership with ITP Publishing, has revealed that more than 40% of organisations are planning to move across to cloud computing technologies over the next 12 to 24 months.

The *IT Trends Survey 2010* surveyed a total of 370 regional CIOs, IT managers and IT executives across 11 countries around the Middle East. The majority of respondents were from the United Arab Emirates, with 46% of respondents, and Saudi Arabia, with a further 24%.

Respondents were also from a range of industries, including IT (35%), government/public sector (10%), construction (7%), oil and gas (8%), trading and distribution (6%), banking and financial services (4%), shipping and logistics (2%) and aviation (1%).

To cope with the rapid changes undergoing the IT industry, 56% of organisations allocated higher IT budgets in 2010 than was predicted by analysts, according to the feedback provided by those IT executives that took part in the survey.

"The survey clearly outlines the emerging trends prevalent in the industry," said Yasser Zeineldin, chief executive officer at eHosting DataFort. "Today's CIOs face various challenges in managing their IT environments due to the need to improve business efficiencies despite the lack of skilled manpower and tight IT budgets. In order to overcome some of these challenges, they are increasingly looking at partnering with service providers



in order to capitalise on the skilled resources and standardised processes for the efficient delivery of IT operations."

The key areas of organisational IT investment identified by respondents included PC hardware (48%), network and security (46%), servers (46%) and backup and storage (43%). Twenty-nine per cent of organisations that responded to the survey were considering using an external datacentre.

"Interestingly, the survey has pointed out that using a service provider datacentre is increasingly gaining significant attention," added Zeineldin. "This has been highlighted mainly to reduce capital investments (35%), achieve better control of operational costs through fixed monthly subscription fees (35%) and an ability to scale or shrink dynamically (30%)."

Organisations were focusing on three main areas for 2010, these were business productivity, infrastructure improvements and cost reduction, with many of them pointing at a similar trend continuing into the current 2011 financial year.

Another key IT growth trend moving forwards is virtualisation, with just under a quarter (23%) of organisations in the Middle East already having implemented virtualisation and a further 36% planning to virtualise their IT infrastructure within the next two years.

In addition, according to the survey, the most common outages experienced by organisations are hardware or software failures at 34%, power disruptions at 29% and application infrastructure failures 16%. Thirty-two per cent of organisations are looking at investing in Disaster Recovery services in the next one to two years, because of this, the survey revealed. [ACN](#)

**Today's CIOs face various challenges in managing their IT environments due to the need to improve business efficiency, despite tight IT budgets."**