

# Relocating and decentralizing cloud computing to reestablish confidence

Marc Triboulet

Director, NSS NON STOP Systems

To build a network of nearby “data centers”: that is the concept advocated by Non Stop Systems (NSS) and the Nuage consortium to bring information and its users closer together and to rethink the cloud for the benefit of local authorities and small and medium enterprises.

REPORTING BY PHILIPPE PELAPRAT

**Cloud computer raises questions in terms of security. What is your vision in this domain and how do you reassure IT managers about the supposed risks of cloud hosting?**

**MARC TRIBOULET:** The rapid development of cloud computing generally results in moving data further away from its users, delegating the data management responsibility to third parties and in the end instilling a sense of insecurity, in particular if the data is out of the country. As our actions are directed towards small and medium enterprises and local authorities, the cloud must not imply the desertification of the district in terms of data hosting but quite to the contrary, it should signify development in the region, in small scale data centers located near users.

Various studies have shown that companies working in digital data offer better quality services when they are close to their clients, and that 80% of exchanges of data are conducted within an area of several dozen kilometers around the involved parties. Our model offers multiple advantages, one of which is to anchor skills and employment in

the region. Furthermore, it relies on an infrastructure that secures data thanks to an advanced protection technology – the heart of our trade – and interconnection of server centers bestowing a high level of redundancy. From the viewpoint of reliability, NSS responds to criteria similar to those of militaries or banks, without penalizing users in access to their data.

**What is NSS's development strategy and its commitment to the Nuage project?**

**M.T.:** With seven other partners, at the initiative of the ADEN (Association pour le Développement de l'Économie Numérique – Association for the Development of the Digital Economy), we have formalized our approach in the Nuage (Cloud) project and obtained the support of the FSN (Fonds National pour la Société Numérique – National Fund for the Digital Society) in the framework of the Investments of the Future program.

The key idea is to build, in close collaboration with local authorities, a decentralized network of data centers capable of rivaling the current offers of the largest software developers and editors and to attract the interest of all the actors of France's economic and industrial base. Hosting that is rooted within the local districts is, in our opinion, the indispensable and strategic complement of ultra-high speed fiber networks developed at the initiative of elected officials in the framework of DSPs (Délégation de Service Public – Delegation of Public Services).

Our data centers will be built on proven, non-proprietary, high-performing, ecological and economical solutions. The high-tech corporations and laboratories united in the Nuage consortium wants to restructure the cloud on Internet fundamentals, that is on the network, not on a hyper-concentration of means.

We also want to pool engineering, software and hardware solutions and put the operational environment at the disposal of users, be they local authorities or private entities. Our project is being developed in a collaborative



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fashion and we are open to all types of initiatives and to other data centers, on the basis of a set of criteria we are now in the process of determining and that will be normalized.

**How has your family history influenced your approach as an entrepreneur?**

**M.T.:** From my grandfather, a resistance fighter and minister under de Gaulle, I inherited the sense of the State and national independence that disposes me not to accept just anything in the name of the dominant global vision. My father, an officer in the French Navy, was trained and participated in the computerization of the armies while the technology of the time was under American domination. From his experience I gained a passion for informational security and a sharp sense of protecting the interests of France.

#### Some of NON STOP Systems' achievements

**Cogep:** consolidation and replication of data between sites

**JTEKT-HPI:** saving and replication of data

**Un jour ailleurs:** development of a business recovery plan

**Institute of Blind Youth:** rationalization and virtualization of the information system

**Lötschberg tunnel (Switzerland):** very high availability computing

**Zurich ringroad (Switzerland):** security for an ERP in remote cluster