

Does InterAcct support Cloud Computing ?



One question asked of us by many new potential users, is does InterAcct supporting Cloud Computing?

The basic answer is yes, but first we must understand what Cloud Computing is, and what options are available to users.

Cloud Computing is storing information for a software application on a remote site to be able to access that data from remote locations. The term is being used by marketing companies to describe two different kinds of service.

1. An application that is designed to work over the internet in its self. Sometimes through a web browser or another tool directly connecting to the data. Example : Xero
2. A virtualization service allowing remote users to connect to through a terminal service to a virtual desktop that then allows them to run an application. Examples would include :
 - a. Microsoft Terminal Server
 - b. Citrix
 - c. Teamviewer

Under Example number 1, the advantage is that the software can be run from a variety of devices, but you can be limited in functionality and the service of hosting the data and the application are normally not able to be separated.

Under Example number 2, any application can be used to run remotely, and at some costs of software, services and hardware you can have your own server.

Alternately there are a number of service providers that will, for a monthly fee host this service for you.

Why go to the Hosted Cloud?

- You will no longer require server in your office, and all of the costs associated with this.
- Your data can be accessed from many locations at the same time
- You are able to scale the need of your service up or down over time depending on your needs, without capital outlay.
- Back-up services can be managed for you.
- Most hosted services have access to 24 hour technical support for their hardware, and have better “uptime” than most people would receive from local servers.

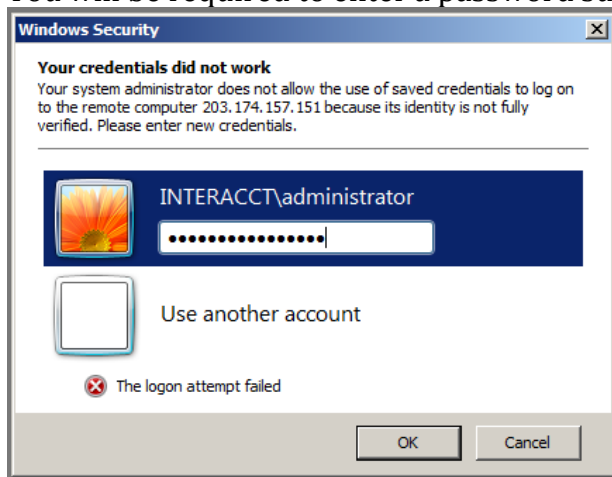
Why does everyone not move to the cloud?

- If you lose your internet connection you are unable to perform any work.
- If your service provider has hardware or connection failure, you are not able to work.
- Fears that if your service provider wishes to stop trading that you may lose access to your data.
- If your provider does not have an acceptable setup, or if you have speed issues with your Internet connection. Your access speeds to work may be slower than what would be available if you had your own server.
- Potential security risks for having remote access available for sensitive company data.

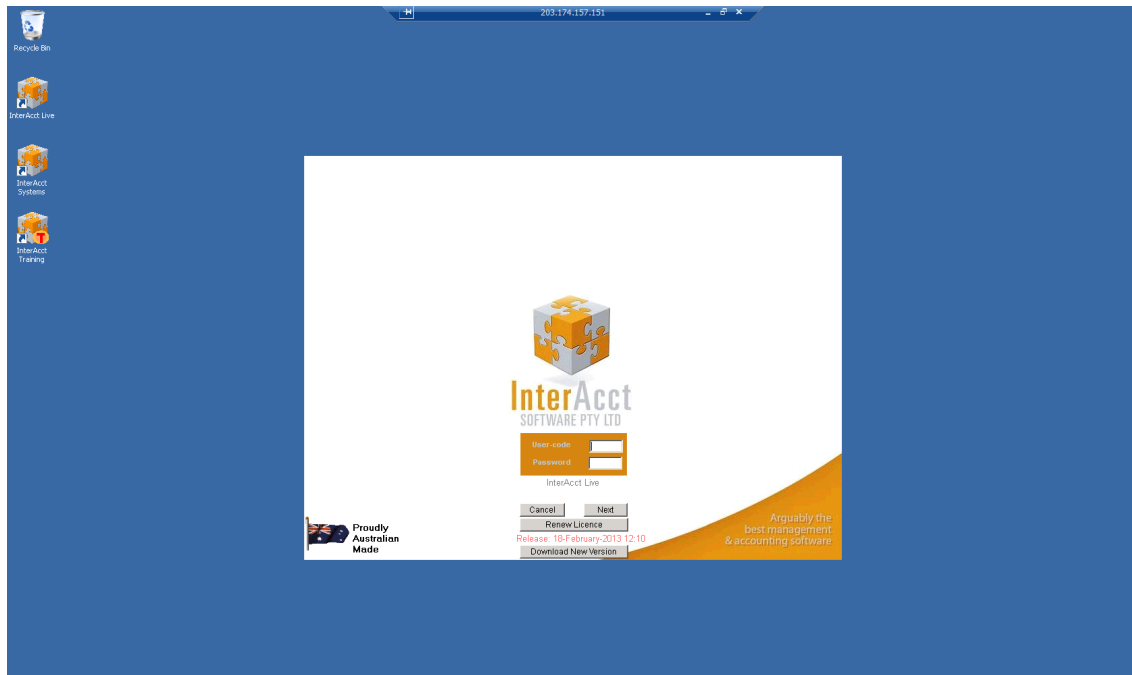
Hosting Servers, what are they like?

Logging into a remote server to your copy of InterAcct is simple.

You will be required to enter a password such as the screen shot below.



Then you will see a normal windows desktop. From here you can run InterAcct just as if it was in your office, with functions to email documents and print reports still available.



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