

Feature Story

Personal Cloud

We are probably already using applications on smartphones, tablets, or other devices to access, work on, download, store, and share files over the Internet. All these are made possible through personal cloud computing.

Personal cloud refers to the adoption of cloud computing for personal use, and cloud computing refers to applications and files we access and operate online through the Internet or the cloud. Such applications and files are usually stored at a remote centralized location, and accessible on the fly through mobile, hand-held, or other computing devices. The remote location may be our home, a data center, or anywhere else, with network access connected to the Internet. We can design our own cloud environment at this remote location for private storing of data, music, videos, and other media files, as well as share them with friends, family and colleagues. We can also access and manage this remote cloud environment, retrieve, edit, and send files, and do a whole lot of other activities using our own cloud-enabled devices from anywhere, at anytime.

Suppose we are now abroad, and we need to send a video clip to a colleague to follow-up on a project. The video clip is stored at our home in a storage device connected to the network. All we need to do is access our home network via an application on our smartphone or Internet-enabled device, retrieve the file, and e-mail it to our colleague. This mode of communication and sharing of files is what makes personal cloud so appealing, and fast becoming a way of life.

Sharing files over the Internet using remote access is not something new, and was already possible long before the existence of personal clouds. The difference between then and now is in those days, devices such as smartphones, tablets, networked storage, and other web-enabled devices were not yet available. Today, with devices like iPhone®, iPad®, and Android®, sharing and accessing files over the Internet through the cloud is easy, convenient, and can be done on the fly.

Many of us know the benefits cloud computing can offer. We are, however, also aware putting our personal data in the cloud space is not entirely safe. Security is always a key concern with the use of personal cloud. This is the why choosing the right provider for our personal cloud solution is important. Besides secure access, the solution should also be easy to set up and use, offer application for remote access via existing mobile and hand-held devices, and provide services like centralized control and management, video monitoring, and networked storage.

One of the cloud solutions available in the market known for its ease of use and setting up is D-Link Cloud. This solution offers secure remote access along with multiple services, and comes complete with a router, a selection of networked cameras, and storage. The router enables quick setup of private and personal cloud environment, the selection of cameras provides remote video monitoring, and the

network storage device stores data and media files. Only a few simple steps are needed to get the solution up and running. Connect the hardware—the router, network camera, and storage; register the products with mydlink (www.mydlink.com); use mydlink app on our mobile or hand-held device to access, share, view, and control all devices and content at personal cloud. That's a three step process as compared to 20 steps or more with other solutions that need manual configuration.

Once we have registered the products from D-Link Cloud solution with mydlink, we can stay connected to everything we have stored online, as well as monitor what's going on at home or at any place where the networked cameras have been installed. With this solution, privacy sharing, accessing, and viewing personal digital content on the fly is also possible. Controlling our network and its attached devices wherever we are, whenever we want, is simple with the use of the mydlink app. Enlarging storage space as and when we wish, in addition, frees us from the need to bring storage devices everywhere we go. There is no need for us to understand complex settings or the solution's technology backend to configure our personal cloud environment. Simply use the mydlink app or login to mydlink.com website with a web browser, and we can have full control of all that is needed for managing our personal cloud solution.

Now, we can enjoy peace of mind knowing our personal data is safe and secure. Whether we are out for an evening, at the office, or abroad, we need not worry about being unable to get hold of what's important to us, and we can keep a close and constant watch on what's happening far remote anytime, anywhere.