Cloud usage in the enterprise is now widespread, and without sufficient security and monitoring, it is largely uncontrolled. This is because business users have been much quicker to embrace cloud-based services than IT professionals, who remain cautious due to security, privacy, compliance and reliability concerns.

Whether or not cloud computing is a strategic initiative for IT, and even if a comprehensive cloud strategy is currently in the works, users are going to send and receive data in the cloud. Therefore, IT needs to address cloud-based risks today.

Acting as a cloud service broker, also known as a cloud gateway, Axway API Gateway can help organizations immediately reduce and mitigate the risks associated with cloud-based services by promoting the use of approved services, centrally protecting and managing API keys and certificates, enforcing policies and monitoring use.

**Promote the use of approved services**

With the best of intentions, including increasing revenue, lowering costs and improving efficiency, business users are uploading sales, customer and product data into cloud-based services at a rapid rate— and exposing the enterprise to cloud-related risks along the way. To reduce these risks, IT departments should publish a list of approved services, articulate usage guidelines, and improve the user experience to encourage their use across the enterprise.

Axway API Gateway can improve the ease-of-use for cloud-based services by providing single sign-on (SSO) for all users, measuring and reporting usage to managers and providing API brokering for developers.

The API Gateway also simplifies API- and file-based integration between cloud and on-premise applications, helping IT to drive adoption of approved services that facilitate process and data flow between cloud-based services and existing systems.

**Axway API Gateway** is a next-generation technology that enables enterprises to standardize the API development and delivery capabilities required to provide business services via cloud, mobile and partner channels. Encapsulating application gateway, cloud service broker and identity middleware functionality in a unified platform, Axway API Gateway provides an agile API environment that leverages existing back-end applications, services and data to help speed time-to-market for new business services.

**Axway API Management Solution Pack** is a dedicated API management solution that works with Axway API Gateway to simplify all aspects of publishing, promoting and managing APIs in a secure, scalable environment.
Centrally protect and manage API keys and certificates

To integrate with a cloud-based service, an application needs access to the API key and certificate it uses for authentication and signing. The problem is that distributing API keys from cloud-based services to all of the applications that consume them is error-prone and insecure.

Acting as a cloud service broker, Axway API Gateway enables enterprises to store API keys centrally and delegate key management and signing to the broker. In addition, Axway API Gateway provides out-of-the-box integrations to Certificate Authorities and card- and network-based Hardware Security Modules (HSMs).

Enforce data security, residency and privacy policies

Uploading sensitive data into a cloud-based service can violate data security policies and jeopardize compliance with regulations that mandate privacy and data residency.

Axway API Gateway scans messages and data payloads to prevent non-compliant data from moving to the cloud. Functioning as a cloud data security gateway, it then enforces privacy and residency policies by blocking, routing, removing, masking, encrypting, or tokenizing any data flowing to the cloud.

Audit and monitor cloud-service usage

By design, cloud-based services are easy to buy. They can be purchased with a credit card, usage can be increased instantaneously and subscriptions are automatically renewed. These conveniences can easily lead to waste, neglect and ugly surprises. For example, a number of Amazon Web Service instances left running for a month can easily cost tens of thousands of dollars.

Axway API Gateway provides monitoring and reporting for cloud usage, which can help enterprises, groups and individuals negotiate more favorable terms with cloud-service providers, identify resources no longer in use, and more precisely associate expenses with projects.