

Architecture Solutions to Scale AI

2 MIN READ · SUMMARY OF A 15-MINUTE CONVERSATION

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The bigger picture

In Segment 2 of The AI & Infra Inflection Show, Rajaneesh Kurup of Equinix and Ng Ling Kok of Orange Business discuss the shift from cloud-first to cloud-right, why network flexibility matters, and what agentic AI demands from infrastructure.

Cloud-First vs. Cloud-Right (The Workload Fit)

Cloud still has a role, but not every workload belongs in the same environment

- **Cloud-first:** Fast for experimentation, but complex AI workloads can bring bill shocks and a higher public-cloud cost premium as they scale
- **Cloud-right:** Match workloads based on utilisation, performance and data sovereignty

NaaS 2.0 (The Network Shift)

As workloads spread across different environments, the network also needs to become more flexible and responsive. The shift is characterised by three things:

- **Programmability:** APIs and automation make connections faster to configure and change
- **Intelligence:** The network can respond to different workloads and traffic requirements
- **Ecosystem integration:** Connectivity links clouds, infrastructure and services as part of a wider architecture

Agentic AI (The Infrastructure Demands)

Agentic AI raises the requirements further because it does more than respond to a prompt. It reasons, makes decisions, and acts across systems.

- **Real-time trusted data:** Agents need current, reliable enterprise data to make decisions
- **Secure integration:** Agents need to interact across different platforms and data sources
- **Low latency + reliability:** Connectivity speed and reliability become critical as agents act across systems
- **Governance + observability:** Organisations need visibility into what agents are doing and the ability to react when something goes wrong

Flattening the Stack (The Architecture Shift)

The result is less about choosing one destination and more about giving the organisation control over where workloads and data sit, how they connect and how quickly the environment can adapt.

- **Before:** Cloud-first, slow-scaling networks, unclear data control
- **After:** Right workload, right location, connected ecosystem, clearer data control

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