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77 PERCENT OF FEDERAL IT MANAGERS SAY MGT WILL HELP MEET DCOI GOALS

*Half of Federal IT Managers Say Data Centers Don't Meet Current Mission Needs;
New Report Highlights Lessons from Modernization Leaders*

Alexandria, Va., February 5, 2018 – [MeriTalk](#), a public-private partnership focused on improving the outcomes of government IT, today announced the results of its new report, “[Data Center 2020: Federal Modernization in Focus](#).” The study, underwritten by [ViON](#) and [Hitachi Vantara Federal](#), reveals that half of Federal IT managers say data centers don't meet current mission needs.

Fielded prior to the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) decision to extend the Data Center Optimization Initiative (DCOI) deadline to 2020, the study confirms that agencies were not going to meet the original deadline of September 20, 2018. Just 19 percent of Federal IT managers say their agency was very likely to meet the original deadline to close 25 percent of tiered data centers, and only 13 percent reported they were very likely to meet the requirement to close 60 percent of non-tiered data centers.

While Federal data center leaders say they prioritize security and compatibility with emerging technologies as they modernize their data centers, their progress in these key areas is falling short. For example, 39 percent give themselves an “A” for data center security, and just 10 percent give their data center an “A” for ability to support emerging technology.

“The data center modernization decisions agencies make today will impact their ability to take advantage of next-generation IoT and AI technologies. Being able to integrate and optimize these emerging technologies will provide critical data intelligence allowing our customers to increase their speed to mission success,” says Dave Turner, President & Chief Executive Officer, Hitachi Vantara Federal.

There is good news. Seventy-seven percent of Federal IT managers say the Modernizing Government Technology (MGT) Act will help agencies meet DCOI deadlines.

Across the board, agencies are considering new acquisition models to accelerate modernization efforts – 64 percent of Federal IT managers say their agency’s data center acquisitions are beginning to shift toward utility-based or pay-as-you-go/use models.

“The agencies making the most progress are laying the foundation for a flexible hybrid cloud environment,” said Jeff Henry, President, ViON Corporation. “They are implementing highly-scalable hyperconverged infrastructure. Many are using a Data Center as-a-Service model to reduce up front costs, implementation risk, and complexity.”

To meet the DCOI goals, the report recommends agencies ensure that their data center modernization strategy is applied agency-wide, create a modernization leadership team, and develop a formal vision for their future data center.

“Data Center 2020: Federal Modernization in Focus” is based on an online survey of 150 Federal IT managers familiar with their agency’s data center(s) and data center modernization efforts, in December 2017 and January 2018. The report has a margin of error of $\pm 7.97\%$ at a 95% confidence level. To download the full report, please visit: <https://www.meritalk.com/study/data-center-2020/>.

About MeriTalk

The voice of tomorrow’s government today, MeriTalk is a public-private partnership focused on improving the outcomes of government IT. Focusing on government’s hot-button issues, MeriTalk hosts [Big Data Exchange](#), [Cloud Computing Exchange](#), [Cyber Security Exchange](#), and [Data Center Exchange](#) – platforms dedicated to supporting public-private dialogue and collaboration. MeriTalk connects with an audience of 115,000 government community contacts. For more information, visit www.meritalk.com or follow us on Twitter, @MeriTalk. MeriTalk is a [300Brand organization](#).