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Just as with an Apple product launch, Google has had to do next to nothing to create buzz around its long-awaited Google Drive cloud storage service. The latest: Google Drive will launch next week.Of course, prognosticators have predicted much the same thing numerous times in the past, predictions that turned out to be wrong."Frankly, Google has been out to lunch on this," said Frank Gillett, an analyst with Forrester Research. "The real question is: What took you guys so long? And have to got anything original or is this a 'me too' play."Regardless of whether Google Drive does indeed launch soon, would-be users need to ask themselves a number of questions about their needs before choosing a cloud storage service.Google Drive will likely have many of the same features of other cloud storage and file synchronization services, such as data encryption and the ability to edit a file on one device and have those changes automatically appear on every other device you own.There are nuances, however, to each service. For example, are you the only keeper of a password, or will the service you choose also have a password -- and thus, access to your data if the government requests it?It's also important to know where your applications and data live now; That could point you in the direction of the service best suited to your needs."Rather than running out and signing up for Google Drive, ask yourself where you already have your email and content. You may already have a relationship with a company that does what you need," Gillett said. For example, if you're already using Apple's iLife suite of apps, then you can take advantage of iCloud. While iCloud doesn't offer synchronization of arbitrary files, it does support the iWorks suite."If you're deep into Microsoft and use the Windows Live Essentials & SkyDrive, that already does a chunk of those services," Gillett said. "If you're way into Google, then Google Drive will make sense."Liz Conner, an analyst with market research firm IDC, said cloud storage and synchronization service users should know exactly what the service is doing with their data. For example, does it replicate your files to their cloud, or actually migrate the data?"Be aware of the location of the file. When you put stuff into DropBox, it's no longer on your computer; it's been uploaded," she said. "Many people are unaware of that. Once they realize...it's no longer on their computer, but in a third-party data center, some people don't necessarily like that." Conner also advises users to find out how a cloud storage provider might use their data. "I don't want someone data mining by information for purposes I didn't intend it to be used for," she said.You may want to know whether the cloud storage service runs its own infrastructure, or if it uses another cloud storage provider's data center? Do you care?DropBox is thought to be on Amazon Web Services and SugarSync is rumored to run its own infrastructure, Gillett said. "Do you feel better that they're using an established third party that a lot in the industry have vetted...or would you rather not see them on Amazon?," he said.If you're outside of the U.S. and want to make sure your data is not subject to the U.S.A. Patriot Act, you may want to make sure your files are not within the country's borders. Today, many consumers have more than one device running on different OSes, such as a Windows laptops, an Apple iOS device or maybe an Android phone. Make sure the vendor supports the devices you currently have -- or may want in the future."My whole house Mac, so the Apple iCloud makes more sense for us," Conner said. "If your house is more of a mix, Android and iPhones, maybe a more OS-agnostic service would be better suited to your needs."Leading cloud storage providers such as DropBox, Box, SugarSync and YouSendIt, support multiple OSes, both mobile and desktop.It's also good to find out who the service is targeting. While Box still offers consumer-class services, it has gone after corporate users with features an IT administrator would want, such as the ability to remote wipe documents from mobile devices and manage access to corporate servers.File synchronization service SugarSync recently rolled out an iPad application for iOS users, allowing customers to synchronize data across Apple devices. It also supports Android, BlackBerry, Symbian and Windows Mobile applications.There are a growing number of cloud providers now and more are joining the herd every day. For example, traditional backup providers such as Mozy, as well as anti-virus vendors like Trend Micro, are adding cloud storage and synchronization services to their product portfolio. If you're already using a backup service, check to see whether the company's offering -- or plans to offer -- file synchronization.For example, Mozy's Stash provides users with unified access to files. TrendMicro turned its 2010 acquisition of U.K.-based Humyo into SafeSync. Citrix bought ShareFile, adding a business-class file storage and synchronization service.While all the services offer encryption, if security's important you'll want to ask: Does the company encrypt the file before it's sent over the Internet?One service that Google naturally may have a leg up on is search. Many of the current cloud storage services have clunky search engines that allow users to find files based on names or dates, but not content.What would be especially interesting, Gillett said, is if Google Drive not only allowed users to search data stores, but connected services such as Google Mail, as well as the physical device itself - all using the same interface.Four other companies already allow users to search multiple applications and devices. For example, FoundApp creates indexes on a user's computer so you can search Gmail, Google Docs, Drop Box and files on the computer itself. Other providers who offer multiple online or physical device search include: PrimaDesk, CloudMagic and Greplin."That would be really interesting," Gillett said. "If Google showed up to the party with a comprehensive search on all my services, plus the sync capability. That would be cool. I don't think they're going to show up with that."You'll also want to find out how much free capacity a cloud storage service is offering -- as opposed to extra storage you must pay for. Dropbox, for example, provides 2GB free; Box and SugarSync offer 5GB; Apple's iCloud offers 25GB, while Microsoft's SkyDrive provides 25GB with 5GB available for syncing to a local file folder in Windows."For all we know, Google Drive will share the same 7.7GB of space that you get with Gmail. Then if pay $5, you get another 20GB, which is cheaper than most," Gillett said.Lucas Mearian covers storage, disaster recovery and business continuity, financial services infrastructure and health care IT for Computerworld. Follow Lucas on Twitter at @lucasmearian or subscribe to Lucas's RSS feed. His e-mail address is lmearian@computerworld.com. See more by Lucas Mearian on Computerworld.com.Read more about cloud computing in Computerworld's Cloud Computing Topic Center. This story, "Services to Consider Before Signing up for Google Drive" was originally published by Computerworld. Note: When you purchase something after clicking links in our articles, we may earn a small commission. Read our affiliate link policy for more details. Adobe Systems released a security patch for LiveCycle Data Services, a development tool used by businesses to synchronize data between back-end servers and rich Internet applications built with Adobe Flex or AIR. The hotfix is available for LiveCycle Data Services 3.0.0, 4.5.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.0 and addresses a vulnerability that could lead to information disclosure. The flaw is tracked as CVE-2015-3269 in the Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures database and is rated important by Adobe. The issue is associated with parsing crafted XML entities and falls into a class of vulnerabilities known as XML External Entity (XXE). According to OWASP, a non-profit organization that produces guidelines for preventing Web flaws, XXE vulnerabilities occur when an application parses XML input that contains a reference to an external entity. The attack can be used to read sensitive files from a server, scan internal ports, access the server's local network and more. The impact depends on the type of extracted data. In some cases, such information could allow a hacker to plan or execute a more sophisticated attack. Adobe has also published a support article with detailed information on applying the patch to an affected LiveCycle Data Services application. The steps involve replacing a file called flex-messaging-core.jar and turning the allow-xml-external-entity-expansion option to false in the configuration file. Note: When you purchase something after clicking links in our articles, we may earn a small commission. Read our affiliate link policy for more details. ProsLe logiciel est très facile d'utilisation et très complet. Une belle découverte.The funcionality is brilliant, it's incredibly user friendly.ConsThere's a limit on the free version, which is understandable! The design of the platform is a little aged, but I don't mind just as long as it gets the job done =)Some of the screens sometimes 'hang' on my mac in safari, but it works fine in other browsers so it may be an issue with my mac. Adobe Sign has 447 reviews and a rating of 4.53 / 5 vs signNow which has 452 reviews and a rating of 4.62 / 5. Compare the similarities and differences between software options with real user reviews focused on features, ease of use, customer service, and value for money. Adobe Inc. is a technology company that creates software applications with a creative design edge. It aims to "change the world through digital experiences" and bridges the gap between art and technology. Adobe realizes that digital experience is both commonplace and vital for today's workforce and education. It offers platforms for students, teachers, designers, marketers, creators, videographers, and more. Adobe was founded in 1982 in California. Its first product was PostScript, a page description language for creating print-friendly documents (as well as a programming language). Adobe's creators also helped design fonts. Adobe began developing its famous Illustrator application in 1985. Adobe Flash was a platform for media content that has since been discontinued by Adobe. Its related product Flash Player is a software for viewing videos and other multimedia content on computers. Flash Player is one of Adobe's most famous computer products, allowing users to view Flash-created media content (such as videos and graphics) on their browser. At the end of 2020, Adobe decided to discontinue Flash Player as well. Adobe Products Adobe Creative Cloud Perhaps one of Adobe's best known offerings is its suite of creative design software. The Creative Cloud is available for individuals, but Adobe also offers it at discounted rates to students, educators, classrooms, and entire schools. Some of the Creative Cloud software options are listed below: Adobe Animate is a software for computer animation, graphic design, video game design, and more. Illustrator, mentioned above, is a graphic design platform for digital and print documents. Photoshop is an image editing platform that allows users to retouch images, change image features, and add drawings to images. Lightroom is a platform for editing multiple photos, creating albums, and sharing them with others in the cloud. Stock provides a collection of stock photos for designers to place in creative content. Premiere Pro is a software for producing and editing film content. InDesign is a document design platform for setting book pages, magazine spreads, and any other intersection of text and graphics. Adobe Marketing Adobe Analytics offers businesses web analytics with machine learning capabilities and integrates customer data from many different sources so that businesses have a timely view of customer needs. Adobe's Commerce Cloud offers B2B and B2C software that integrates with other Adobe platforms and connects to many connected applications and devices, including within Internet of Things. It's native to the cloud and integrates with other business software (such as CRM). Adobe Campaign provides a visualization of the customer journey so that businesses can use that data to create a stronger, more compelling campaign. Adobe Business Adobe Acrobat is the platform for creating PDF documents. Adobe Acrobat Reader and Pro DC offer other capabilities (such as editing and exporting PDFs to other formats). Adobe Sign is the company's e-signature platform. Businesses can implement Adobe Sign for important documents that need to be secure and must be signed by multiple users. adobe pdf services sign in