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Session Eight: Cloud Computing

I have computers at Apple, at NEXT, at Pixar and at home. I walk up to any of them and log in as myself... I've got my stuff wherever I am. And none of that is on a local hard disk.

*Steve Jobs, (from a 1997 speech at the WWD Conference).
Co-founder and CEO of Apple Inc. (1955-2011)*

Until very recently it was normal for applications (such as Excel) to be installed onto the computer's local hard disk drive. It was also normal to save files (such as Excel workbooks) onto the computer's local hard disk drive (or a local networked hard disk drive).

In the world of cloud computing, both applications and files are stored on remote servers that are accessed (via the Internet) using web-based computing services. Steve Jobs' vision is now a reality!

Cloud computing provides many advantages:

- Files can be accessed from anywhere in the world, from any device that has a supported web browser (such as a smartphone, tablet or PC).
- Applications (such as Excel) do not need to be installed upon the hard drive of the device. You are able to run Office on any device, anywhere, providing that it has a supported web browser.

In this session you will learn how *Office on Demand*, *OneDrive* and *Office Online* work together to enable you to access Excel, and all of your files, on any device, anywhere.

Cloud computing support is by far the most important new feature of Excel 2013. This session will show you how to make the most of this exciting new way of working.

Session Objectives

By the end of this session you will be able to:

- Save a workbook to a OneDrive
- Open a workbook from a OneDrive
- Understand operating systems
- Understand Excel Online
- Open a workbook using Excel Online
- Share a link to a workbook
- Edit a workbook simultaneously with other users using Excel Online