It gives me great pleasure to write this Foreword for this timely book, *Security, Trust, and Regulatory Aspects of Cloud Computing in Business Environments*. The book comprises 14 chapters arranged into 3 sections. The editor has put together an excellent collection of chapters on many of the important aspects of cloud security. In Section 1, “Cloud Security,” there are 6 chapters. The chapters deal with the basics of Cloud Computing and the security issues to be considered in selecting a cloud service provider. Moreover, the cloud security aspects are discussed from the perspective of the cloud user, cloud service provider, and cloud service vendor in another chapter. One of the chapters analyzes Cloud Computing from various perspectives such as trust, service-oriented architecture, virtualization, etc.

In Section 2, “Regulatory and Industry Compliance,” there are 4 chapters. These chapters deal with various regulatory aspects in USA such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX), Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA). These acts significantly protect information handling. Additionally, this part describes the requirements of the Payment Card Industry (PCI), which is global in nature. There is also a chapter on Cloud Forensics, which describes how one could trace the access requirements to stored data in internal systems.

In Section 3, “Trust Builders in the Cloud,” there are 4 chapters. There is a fine discussion on cloud provider selection by a potential customer based on Quality of Service criteria. Extending on this theme another chapter discusses data center site selection aspects from the perspective of green computing. The book concludes with the importance of identity management in the cloud and shows how trust aspects significantly enhance the cloud adoption.

The contributors to this compilation come from various parts of the world and bring their expertise from multiple viewpoints. The editor has selected the chapters covering a wide array of important issues in Cloud Computing. The title of the book clearly reflects the contributions contained in the book. I wish to congratulate the editor for an excellent job in assembling in one source a set of important content related to Cloud Computing in the business environment. The readers will find the content well suited for their understanding of the issues associated with security, regulatory compliance, and trust aspects of Cloud Computing.

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