

# THE BEDFORD BRANCH OF THE BCS (BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY)



Bedford Branch

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://events.bcs.org/book/1845>

Wednesday 27 Jan 2016  
6.00pm for a 6.30pm start

Venue: Tavistock Suite, The Park Inn Hotel,  
2, St Mary's Street, Bedford,  
MK42 OAR (opposite Bedford College)

FREE  
TALK ON "HOW  
TO SELECT YOUR  
NEW CLOUD-  
PROVIDER"



"How to select your new cloud provider: A rigorous, effective and proven approach"

**GUEST SPEAKER:** MARTIN TATE  
Independent IT Consultant



# HOW TO SELECT YOUR NEW CLOUD PROVIDER: A RIGOROUS, EFFECTIVE AND PROVEN APPROACH

We are delighted to welcome Martin Tate to talk at the next meeting of the Bedfordshire branch of the (BCS) British Computer Society on Wednesday, 27 January, 2016. This talk will be held in the Tavistock Suite, The Park Inn Hotel, St. Mary's Street, Bedford, and you are warmly invited to attend. The talk will start at 6.30pm.

Most organisations under-estimate the risks when selecting IT solutions such as cloud provision. They use conventional product procurement approaches, or the informal "I'll know it when I see it". Martin Tate's presentation explains why ordinary approaches pretty much guarantee the best candidate will withdraw or be de-listed. He illustrates his methodical approach using an actual cloud selection – his first was in 2002, before it was even termed cloud – the winner was provably a better fit, but less than one-tenth the cost of the runner up.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

A 'poacher turned gamekeeper', Martin formerly worked for an IT provider and was trained to sell software. He has been an independent consultant for over 20 years, specialising in evaluating, selecting and procuring off-the-shelf solutions. He has personally run or rescued 52 selection projects and appraised over 1,000 candidate solutions. However, the most important statistic is zero – never once has an IT selection gone through his method and procured software that proved unfit for purpose.

BCS awarded Martin Chartered Fellow status in 2007 for eminence in the field of IT selections and in March published his book 'Off-The-Shelf IT Solutions: A practitioner's guide to selection and procurement'.

More recently, the International Requirements Engineering Board (IREB) published his article 'IT Requirements when Buying, not Making: Effective specifications to select off-the-shelf software' in the latest RE Magazine.

Guest speaker:  
Martin Tate



Bedford Branch



## AGENDA FOR MEETING:

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|--------|---|
| 6.00pm | Registration, refreshments and networking   |
| 6.30pm | Welcome and introductions   |
|        | How to select your new cloud provider:<br>A rigorous, effective and proven approach |
| 7.15pm | Opportunity to question the speakers  |
| 7.30pm | Opportunity for networking and discussion   |

For more details and to register your attendance:

 <https://events.bcs.org/book/1845>

There is free parking to the rear of The Park Inn Hotel. Parking spaces are also available at a £1 charge on the Bedford College Campus. There are also other free parking areas in the locality.