The Little Fuchsia Book of Office 365

Insight

Microsoft

Introduction

It's easy to forget the little — and not so little — things technology does for us at the office every day. In fact, we don't notice until the corporate network goes down or we leave a device at home. We can't accomplish work anywhere without technology because of how it's transformed the way we do business.

Technology has evolved from simple data to intelligence that helps businesses run better and smarter. Microsoft® Office 365™ is one such example. The cloud-based productivity suite blends business and technology, fulfilling the needs of modern companies and highly productive professionals.

Let's look at eight ways Office 365 benefits the modern workplace.

1. Improves efficiency

Microsoft® software is already popular in the business world, and users don't require basic training for Office 365™ applications. This gives companies a huge advantage going into a migration. And with continual updates, you never have to wonder if you're using the latest version.

2. Eliminates costly IT upgrades

Office 365 provides a fantastic opportunity to avoid a costly hardware refresh and the intensive labor around an Exchange upgrade by offloading that workload to the cloud. Whether you're using Exchange or SharePoint®, your staff will be able to focus on the business instead of being distracted by the infrastructure and migrations.

3. Simplifies management

As a cloud-based system, Office 365 requires minimal internal management and maintenance. Offloading the processing from on-premise servers to Office 365 dramatically reduces hardware costs. You can explore ways to redirect the extra time and IT resources toward internal projects.

4. Enables remote workers

In an effort to attract and retain top talent, many organizations are removing the constraint of physical location. Odesk estimates one in three professionals will be hired to work remotely by 2020.[1]

As workers increasingly seek positions with flexibility, the ability to facilitate collaboration and productivity from anywhere is crucial.

In alignment with this trend, Office 365™ offers:

- Exchange Online for email access
- SharePoint® Online for collaboration
- OneDrive® for storage and sharing
- Skype® for Business Online for meetings & instant messaging

And there's good reason to allow employees to work from wherever they want, whenever they want: It delivers real business value. Case in point: A Cornell University study found that companies offering flexibility in the time and place work occurs have one-third the turnover rate and a growth rate four times greater than more rigid organizations.[2]

5. Cuts costs in many ways

Chances are, you're using a mix of solutions that could easily be replaced by Office 365™. Instead of paying for a variety of tools, switching to one software suite could help you cut costs.

In addition, the implementation of Office 365 can create a ripple effect in a pool of commonplace expenditures. For example, only Office 365 supports translation software compatibility. Companies find translation software imperative in decreasing costs when translating content into other languages.

Security is also a key advantage, and, with Office 365, you won't see exorbitant fees for this benefit. You have the ability to scale up with minimal IT support costs while maximizing security and data flow.

6. Turns cost savings into revenue

Enterprise companies around the globe are leveraging Microsoft® Office 365 to reduce costs, decrease operational inefficiencies and increase productivity.

In a market of shrinking margins, increased demands and fewer resources, IT departments need to come up with ways to provide value, turning their cost centers into cost-neutral centers, at the very least. However, some companies are using chargeback models to turn their departments into profit centers.

By implementing a cloud-based solution as a single tenant approach, you can provide Office 365 services to the many divisions within an enterprise. Through a chargeback model, you can provide these same services to other units at a lower price than what it would cost to purchase Office 365 independently. As a result, the corporate body can make a small margin and turn a cost into a revenue stream.

7. Improves company culture

Flexibility and transparency are two values that can help businesses attract top talent. You can leverage OneDrive® to provide employees with controlled access to the files they need to use or share from anywhere in the world.

You can also increase transparency — and accountability — by sharing calendars via Office 365™ and integrating Yammer® tools. Using the cloud-based software suite's screen-sharing and advanced remote conference capabilities enables companywide collaboration.

8. Boosts productivity

It's no longer a new frontier — the cloud is becoming the standard in organizations. And many companies are transitioning data and workloads to the cloud. A 2015 survey revealed that 93% of businesses are leveraging cloud-based tools.[3]

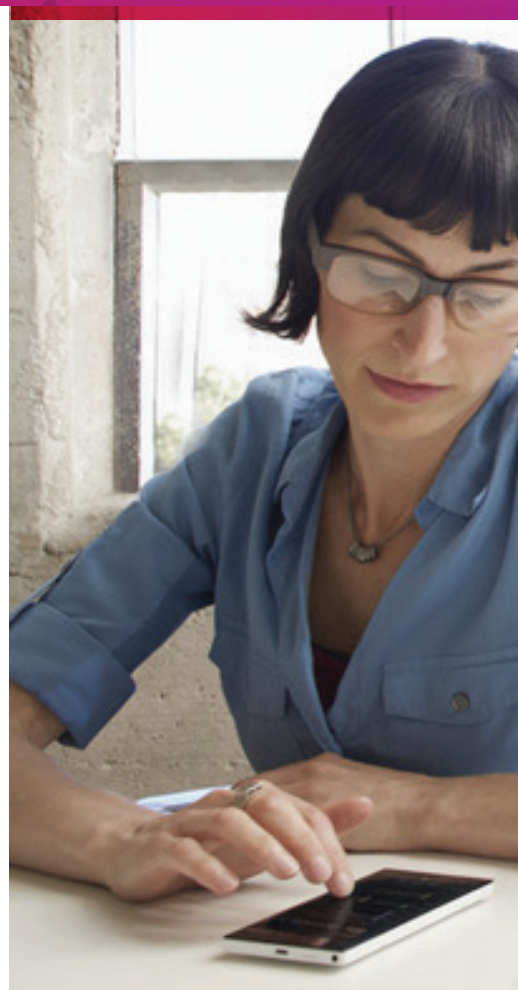
As a cloud-based productivity suite, Office 365 supports today's strategy to increase productivity while decreasing costs. Choosing the right provider can make it compliant and secure as well. When working with Office 365 through Insight, you can enjoy the benefits of cloud performance with a trusted industry leader, including:

- Verified compliance for major industry standards
- Assistance to comply with local industry regulations
- Built-in security controls, customizable to your needs
- Reliable upgrades and system support

Why Insight for Office 365?

Insight is Microsoft's largest Global Licensing Solution Provider (LSP) and has been providing Microsoft® solutions for more than 25 years. We put Microsoft at the center of our end-to-end strategy to help businesses run smarter. We collaborate to deliver Intelligent Technology Solutions™ that meet your strategic business needs and optimize your technology investments.

- Microsoft Gold Partner
- 80+ Microsoft Certified Professionals
- No. 1 Microsoft Global Services Provider License Agreement reseller
- 55+ Microsoft Certified Systems Engineers



About Insight

From business and government organizations to healthcare and educational institutions, Insight empowers clients with Intelligent Technology Solutions™ to realize their goals. We provide the guidance and expertise needed to select, implement and manage complex technology solutions to drive business outcomes.

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To learn more, call 1.800.INSIGHT or visit insight.com.

[1] Meister, J. (2013, April 1). Flexible Workspaces: Employee Perk or Business Tool to Recruit Top Talent? Forbes.com.

[2] Montini, L. (2014, May 27). Why Workplace Flexibility Attracts and Retains Top Talent (Infographic). Inc.com.

[3] Kepes, B. (2015, March 4). New Stats From the State of Cloud Report. Forbes.com.