

DASH2



WHITEPAPER

# LOOK TOWARDS THE FUTURE WITH OFFICE 365 SUPPORT

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When you're looking at the future of your business and the IT you should implement, various solutions probably come to your mind such as VoIP, unified communications, the Cloud, etc... Does Microsoft's Office 365 come to mind? If it doesn't, it should, and it should be taken under serious consideration. Why? Well, Office 365 has transformed into the enterprise cloud leader of the industry in just a matter of a few months, reinventing itself as a cloud computing powerhouse. In fact, one out of every five corporate employees in nearly every enterprise uses an Office 365 cloud service. And these services are not used lightly; usage within enterprises has grown to over 320% in the last year.

Why is it so popular though? What benefits does this service provide? There are many, including, but not limited to, flexibility and convenience, security, and cost advantages. Let's explore them.

## WHAT EXACTLY IS OFFICE 365?

Office 365 is a subscription service which customers subscribe to on a monthly or yearly basis rather than buying software. This includes various applications you're probably already familiar with, such as Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. In addition to these services, there's also extra online storage space available, along with ongoing tech support at no additional cost. And, these applications work off of the Cloud, so all your data is centrally stored and easy to access from the web (by those that have the right credentials, of course).

## FLEXIBILITY AND CONVENIENCE

One of the great advantages that Office 365 offers your business is its extreme flexibility. As we mentioned in the previous paragraph, these services are hosted in the Cloud, so that means your data will be stored in a central location. This offers a variety of flexible and convenient options. First, it improves collaboration. For example, instead of collaborating with other employees or companies through faxes, emails, and phone calls, you can do it all via cloud platforms such as Skype or other file-sharing capabilities. Many business in the manufacturing, energy, financial, high tech, and business services utilize this Office 365 ability.

**"THROUGH 2020, 80% OF CLOUD BREACHES WILL BE DUE TO CUSTOMER MISCONFIGURATION, MISMANAGED CREDENTIALS OR INSIDER THEFT, NOT CLOUD PROVIDER VULNERABILITIES."**

— GARTHER





Second, the flexibility of this Cloud storage allows you to access your files anytime, anywhere, as long as you have a device and a strong internet connection. This contributes to the mobile workforce that is sweeping the nation and allows you to be way more flexible in getting your work done. For example, you can work from home, another city, another country, etc, and allow your employees to do the same. This also allows you to switch devices if you need to, which is a great option to have if your computer is down one day.

Third, if you're probably familiar with automatic saving, you're familiar with how lifesaving it can be for those accidental, yet crucial, human errors. This feature also helps greatly with simplicity and reducing confusion. What do we mean by that? Well, services that have this quality, such as Office 365, are designed to always have a "single source of truth," which means that no matter who signs in or where they sign in from, you will all be viewing the same, most up-to-date version of the document. Wherever there's less confusion in business, there's more productivity and efficiency, so this is definitely a beneficial tool to have in your workplace.

## SECURITY

Microsoft takes the security of Office 365 very seriously. It's one of their top priorities. They've actually made many investments to [protect Microsoft's cloud-based applications](#) from intrusions. Because the security of cloud-based applications is taken so seriously, some have even gone as far to say that [cloud](#) applications are more secure than on-premises software. In fact, security is no longer the top

challenge for the cloud. According to [research from Gartner](#), “Through 2020, 80% of cloud breaches will be due to customer misconfiguration, mismanaged credentials or insider theft, not cloud provider vulnerabilities.” All of this is to say that your data will be very safe in Office 365.

Office 365 also offers additional security settings that you can manage yourself, such as letting you identify who can view and/or edit a document, or who can access certain files. Your data will also be encrypted when it's at rest and transmitted, and regular backups are always run.

## **“OFFICE 365 IS THE FUTURE OF MICROSOFT OFFICE FOR ENTERPRISES.”**

### **COST ADVANTAGES**

As mentioned before, when you adopt Office 365, you will no longer be paying for hardware. This can save you a tremendous amount of money. However, this isn't the only way Office 365 saves you money. With this program, you don't have to worry about managing your services yourself. Microsoft will take care of maintaining and automatically updating all of your services so you will always have the latest versions of things.

With all this in mind about Office 365, it's no wonder that Microsoft occupies the top spot in cloud usage rankings by user count. Its simplicity, efficiency, convenience, flexibility, security, and cost-savings, will allow you and your business to be more productive than ever. Office 365 is the future of Microsoft Office for enterprises. Here at DASH2, we're ready to help you make that fast and seamless migration over. We have the tools to help you and your business look towards the future. Contact us to get started!



# DASH2

## CALL US

801.590.0500

## EMAIL US

[info@DASH2group.com](mailto:info@DASH2group.com)

## VISIT US

136 South Main St, Ste 630  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

2745 North Dallas Pkwy Suite 100  
Plano, TX 75093

[www.DASH2group.com](http://www.DASH2group.com)