

# Critical Mission

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## FEATURED ARTICLE

By  
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## FOCUS on Your BUSINESS *Office 365 and Intune Make it Easy*

*Your business needs your full and undivided attention. Why not offload routine I.T. hassles to the cloud? Let Microsoft cloud services manage the distractions.*

### **Stop Wasting Time on I.T.**

Organizations of all sizes spend a disproportionate amount of time performing routine I.T. management and support activities that would be better invested in sales, marketing, customer service, quality, or *anything* that drives the business forward.

Wouldn't it be better if all of your staff, I.T. folks included, were working on tasks that are unique to your business, tasks that add value, tasks that really mean something? It's time to shift routine I.T. tasks to the cloud where they're done quickly, efficiently and correctly.

### **iPad / iPhone and Other Mobile Devices**

Here's an example: there's increasing demand for mobile access to email and applications from devices like the iPad and iPhone. The #1 business application request on mobility devices is email. Unless you're running the most current version of Microsoft Exchange Server your users are stuck with an old, clunky, limited version of Outlook. Getting the full, familiar and highly-productive Outlook experience on all devices means migrating to a new mail server – a

daunting and often expensive task. Making the switch to Office 365 allows you to leverage Exchange Online and gain instant access to the latest and greatest features, with zero investment in server hardware or licenses. Office 365 is based on a low, per-user/per-month fee, putting you back in control of totally predictable expenses.

Better still: for a limited time, Alto is offering free migration for up to 100 users. You pay only for the monthly service and you're up and running on a new Exchange Online server with almost no effort.

### **Collaboration -- in the Cloud**

Office 365 is much more than just email and Office applications like Word and Excel. Depending on the edition you choose you can enable a distributed sales force, key suppliers, vendors, partners or even customers to collaborate with your staff, anytime, anywhere.

### **PC Management & Security – In the Cloud**

Worried about backups? Security configuration? Operating system patches? Malware protection? Asset inventory? The answer is YES, of course. These are universal concerns. Windows Intune brings all of these, and a whole lot more, into a single integrated management environment. Everything is managed from a central dashboard, including troubleshooting and assistance, so you can stop physically touching workstations and other devices every time there's a problem or a change to implement.

### **But We're not ALWAYS Internet Connected!**

Not everyone is always online. Offline operations are a key differentiator for Microsoft's cloud services.

Both Office 365 and Windows Intune have offline functionality, so you retain access to some features and benefits even when not connected to the Internet.

For example, if your computer won't boot or is having network problems – the optional Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack offers sophisticated offline recovery tools. Similarly, Office 365 comes in editions that include the standard Office applications running on your desktop along with offline document synchronization. If working offline is important, you have options.

### **What's the Catch? What's the Cost?**

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Contact Alto for a free return on investment (ROI) calculation – we'll work with you to plug in *your* assumptions and costs and see whether cloud technologies make sense for you. We're confident you'll see a fast and significant ROI.

Even better -- take advantage of a FREE 30-day trial of these technologies and see for yourself what the cloud can do for you.

### **Summary**

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Now more than ever, you need to be focusing on moving your business forward and not wasting time on routine I.T. operations. Shifting business productivity tools like e-mail and Office applications into the cloud makes a lot of sense. Same goes for PC management and security – these are commodities and not core business values. Let the cloud handle them better and more cost effectively. **Spend time, energy and money where it will benefit your company most.**

If you're curious about Office 365 or Windows Intune and want to learn more, Alto offers a consulting and other education opportunities designed to get you up to speed, fast on the concepts and address all your questions and concerns. Visit us online at [www.altoconsulting.com](http://www.altoconsulting.com) for more information.

Contact Alto at 952.831.6604 if you'd like a demonstration of any of the products or techniques discussed in this article. Our next webinar is devoted to these concepts.