

Critical Mission

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FEATURED ARTICLE

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Windows Intune *An Introduction for the Busy Manager*

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.

What is Windows Intune?

Mobile employees, remote workers, desktops and laptops running different operating systems – Windows Intune is the comprehensive cloud-based solution for taking control of your Windows desktops and providing better support for less money. PC management, malware protection, reporting, alerts, software updates and patches: Intune does it all from an access-it-anywhere web console, for a fixed monthly fee that keeps expenses low and predictable.

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.

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.

Reporting and Alerts

Windows Intune collects data about the state of all managed devices and the software and configuration inventory on each, and gathers it into one place in a central management web site you can access from anywhere, anytime. Wondering who is running which version of Office? Which drives are getting full? Who is up to date on software patches? No need to walk around with a notepad – Windows Intune knows all.

Better yet, Windows Intune monitors the health of all computers and provides proactive alerts *before* the problems get more serious.

Remote Diagnostics

Administrators can remotely connect to devices and force restarts and malware scans. Users can initiate a remote support request and invite an administrator to take control for more in-depth diagnostics.

Administrators can receive support requests via email and don't need to be constantly connected to the central console.

For a small additional monthly fee you have the option of a more comprehensive remote diagnostic utility, called the *Diagnostics and Recovery Toolset*, that can

handle situations like lock-outs and unbootable machines, along with file recovery and more.

Mix and Match

It's not an all-or-nothing decision to go with Windows Intune. You can purchase subscriptions for the subset of computers that are the most troublesome to support – laptops that are in the field most of the time, staff that work from home, PCs in a distant branch office – any combination that makes sense for you.

What's the Catch? What's the Cost?

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

Now more than ever, you need to be focusing on moving your business forward and not wasting time on routine I.T. operations. PC management and security 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 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 our website at <http://www.altoconsulting.com> for more information.

Contact Alto 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.