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What are Application Service Providers?

Application Service Providers allow customers to use and benefit from software without incurring the capital cost of the hardware and licences and having to fund the operational resources to run it. Expect the following characteristics:

Low Cost of Entry

No capital requirement when using the services of an ASP. You simply pay-as-you-go.

Eliminate Infrastructure

Associated hardware and services are no longer required.

Short Set Up Times

With nothing to purchase in advance the service can be set up in days.

Lower Ongoing Costs

Most businesses will find that the ongoing cost of the service is less than the cost of maintaining and upgrading their own system.

Back to Basics

Allow your I.T. staff to concentrate on core elements of the business.

High Specification

Hosted services tend to offer higher specified versions than would normally be chosen.

Expert Staff

Dedicated team of staff maintaining the systems to ensure high levels of service and reliability.

Secure Location and Data Centres

The data centres are secure and all data is backed up at a secondary location.

Summary

A hosted service offers flexible, scalable, secure and cost-effective solutions. All these benefits are delivered by hosted services such as Hosted Microsoft Exchange with Outlook.





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What is Microsoft Exchange?

Microsoft Exchange is an email centric system that provides integrated messaging capabilities, public folders for group discussions and supports activities such as group diaries, calendars and document sharing.

Background

Until recently Microsoft Exchange has been aimed at the larger corporate market due to the relatively high costs of implementation. Now for the first time, Microsoft Exchange is a cost-effective proposition for smaller businesses looking to benefit from collaborative working.

Outlook vs Exchange

If you own a copy of Microsoft Office, the chances are that you already use Outlook to manage your personal information; such as address book, email and calendar. By using Microsoft Exchange you can benefit from the features of Outlook, plus the ability to work collaboratively i.e. share information with other users.

Microsoft Exchange lets you access everyone's Outlook information, check to see when you can get together for a meeting, share important customer details and work together on proposals.

You can access your Outlook information, through a secure web interface using Outlook Web Access (OWA), allowing you to check emails, diaries and contacts from any Internet enabled PC.

Hosted Microsoft Exchange

By combining the economies of an Application Service Provider with the power of Microsoft Exchange, Telewest Business is able to offer you a genuine competitive advantage. The reduced total cost of ownership makes collaborative working an affordable reality.

- Effective collaborative working.
- Benefit from a powerful communication and information management tool.
- Access your information or your team's information from anywhere in the world via the Internet using OWA.
- No need for large set up costs or on-going maintenance.
- Specific I.T. expertise not required.
- Data backed up in real time.
- Automatic updates and virus scanned email.
- Free 24/7 support.
- Allows you to spend more time running your business.
- Set up new email accounts in minutes.

