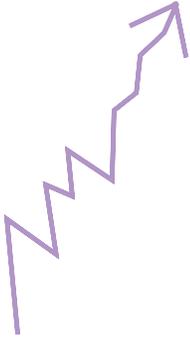# Whitepaper

In-House vs. Virtual Servers

TCO analyses have shown that the cost of managing and maintaining hardware ends up being more costly than moving to the cloud.

Managing on-site, physical servers is expensive and time-consuming. This time, money and energy should be focused on growing your business, not on maintenance of your infrastructure. That's where virtual servers come in. This moves your business to a service-based model, or cloud computing. You receive the same resources and power you need to continue working efficiently while devoting more time to business development and strategy. Take a look at how in-house and virtual servers compare.

In-House vs. Virtual Servers: Do you know the difference?

Scalability

In-House
It's not easy to scale with in-house servers, which are inflexible. Once they reach maximum capacity, you have to purchase more equipment, and this adds up quickly.

Virtual
By virtualizing servers, you can scale up and down quickly in response to countless factors, like growth, seasons, holidays, etc. On-demand scalability means flexibility and agility for a business.

Cost

In-House
Physical servers are more expensive because it's difficult to optimize your resources. It's hard to guess exactly what you need, and oftentimes businesses spend more than necessary on equipment that ends up going unused.

Virtual
Implementing virtual servers results in hardware, human resource and energy savings. Virtualization leads to lower equipment, power, management and hardware costs.

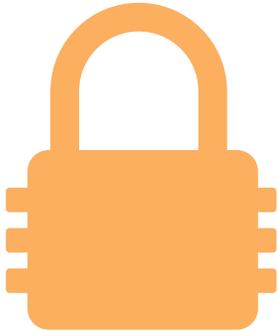# Deployment and Provisioning

In-House
When you add a new physical server, it takes away valuable time from running your business. You purchase the equipment, load it with the operating system and security, and then connect it to your exising network.

Virtual
Your business can develop a standard virtual server build that can be easily duplicated. This speeds up overall deployment of your servers, decreasing the time it takes to launch new products or services.

Security

In-House
With in-house servers, you don't receive the same 24x7x365 reliable support that you get with a provider. Your security is limited to what you can afford.

Virtual
When dealing with virtual servers, it's easier to use a universal security model for all of your equipment. This ensures that all of your servers receive the same level of security, which is high when you work with a cloud provider.
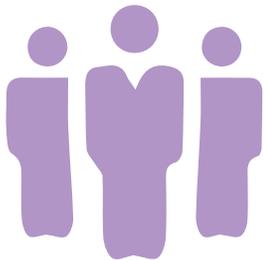
Customized

In-House
With physical servers, you invest in assets and services that end up going largely unused. This is a waste of money and it's a one-size-fits-all solution.

Virtual
With virtual servers, the solution is tailored to the needs of your business. With a pay-as-you-go model, you get the resources you need, exactly when you need them.

IT Team

In-House
The IT staff in a traditional business spends most of its time fixing bugs and updating resources, when it should be working on business strategy.

Virtual
Virtualization means that your IT team can focus on value-added tasks such as development and planning, rather than running around fixing equipment all the time. The responsibility moves to your cloud provider.

"With a pay-as-you-go model, you get the resources you need, exactly when you need them."
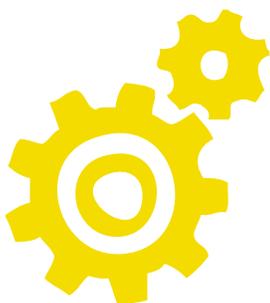
Disaster Recovery

In-House
There are dozens of ways to lose equipment and data, and with in-house equipment, the risk is higher. If a disaster strikes, you could lose all of your servers in one sweep.

Virtual
You can be back up and running in no time with virtual servers. If one machine fails, its work will continue instantly on another machine. You will be able to resume business as usual via an Internet connection, even during a disaster.
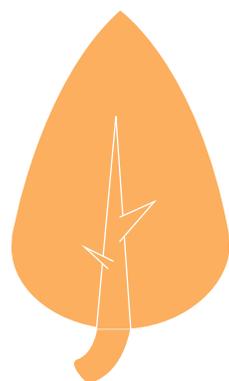
Manageable

In-House
With physical servers, you have more items to manage, leading to greater risk and wasted time that should be going to business innovation. This is also a more complex process.

Virtual
Virtual servers have advanced management tools, making it easy to monitor and adjust your resources. This results in less error and saved time.

Go Green

In-House
It's more difficult to preserve your business communications with in-house Exchange because your users have limited access.

Virtual
By moving to virtual machines, you lower monthly power and cooling costs in the data center - and less energy usage is great for the environment. Additionally, you can reduce your overall footprint, as you require less hardware and less space overall.

For More Information Contact Us Today

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