

The Benefits of Having Remote Offices

Working from outside the office has benefits for both the employee, as well as the employer. The best way to implement a work from home or remote office solution is to migrate to hosted desktops in the cloud.

Employees gain:

- **Better work-life balance** – more time with family and loved ones, creates a better balance between work and personal life. This fosters the mental health of workers, and can lead to better work. .
- **Increased productivity** – because employees have the ability to work in the way that they find is most productive for them, they can produce their best work. A Stanford study found that employees were 13% more productive when they had the ability to work remotely.
- **Autonomy** – employees are able to complete their work in whatever fashion they see fit. Because they gain flexibility, they are able to complete their work more effectively, and without the distractions that exist within the workplace.

Employers gain:

- **Reduced overhead** – because employees no longer need as large a physical office, the overhead in regards to office space can be reduced
- **Increased Employee satisfaction** – because employees no longer need to battle traffic and travel as often, the satisfaction levels are raised. In addition, being able to work on their own schedule, and in a comfortable environment creates feelings of satisfaction.
- **Reduced turnover and increased morale** – because employees feel as though they have a better work-life balance, they are more satisfied with their situations at home as well as at work. This leads to less burnout, and in turn lower rates of turnover
- **Reduced Environmental Impact** – employees no longer travel as much, as well as the fact that large office spaces are no longer needed.
- **Reduce unscheduled absences** – workers no longer get each other sick. As well as they are able to work from home even if they are feeling a little under the weather.
- **Businesses save money on workstations** – companies are able to implement BYOD (bring your own device) programs, and can save money on purchasing cheaper laptops over expensive desktops.

It is not just positives though, there are some downsides to having employees work from home.

Drawbacks:

- **Employees can begin to feel isolated** – because employees may spend their days alone with no contact with co-workers, this can lead to degradation in office atmosphere, and lead to feelings of isolation
- **Cost of setting up an office environment at home** – there is capital involved with setting up an environment within their home that fosters good work, and is free of distractions.
- **Distractions that exist at home** – employees may become distracted and take part in other activities during work time. Children or partners may be a distraction and lead to a decreased quality in work.
- **Security Issues** – one of the major issues with working from home is security concerns. Employees need to have secure and robust connection to shared company data.
- **IT Infrastructure needs to allow for it** – to have employees work from home efficiently, they need to be able to access all of the information that they would be able to at the office, while at home. This is where the cloud is beneficial to offices.

With cloud many of these drawbacks will disappear. When you migrate over to a hosted desktop in the cloud, your data is held in secure data centers, and employees gain instant access 24/7 to important files. There is no longer the need to spend lots of money on setting up an office environment in the home, because employees can access their full desktop through any device.

To allow employees to work from home, companies need to be able to adapt to working conditions, and allow for easy access to all of their work files. To facilitate secure access to important work files, with enterprise level security, migrating to a hosted desktop is the perfect solution. i-worx offers premium hosted desktops and enterprise level security for businesses looking to migrate to the cloud.