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As a small business owner, have you ever wondered if it makes sense to outsource your IT functions? Perhaps you are in the process of tightening your budget to save money or your company may be growing and requires additional IT support. Outsourcing could be a beneficial solution for your business.

While larger companies can afford to have their own internal IT staff, small businesses may gain an advantage by outsourcing IT. First, saving money is on every business owners mind.

“IT operations and maintenance typically consumes approximately 70% of an IT budget. Maintaining cost effectiveness is a challenging requirement.”

- Source: Bill A. Schmidt, How IT Managed Services Can Improve Small and Medium Businesses. EzineArticles.com. 7 Dec 2009.

The cost of your IT operations and maintenance can be easier managed with an expert IT firm at the helm. Outsourcing helps reduce labor costs, for both internal staff and temporary staff hired for special projects. It also helps avoid large initial expenditures when starting and building your business, allowing for more capital to be invested elsewhere. But cost savings is only one of many benefits.

Another benefit is increased efficiency for your business. If you were to hire just one IT administrator to support your business, you rely heavily on one person's expertise. This could be a limiting factor to your business considering that if you outsource to a reputable IT firm, you get the knowledge and support of an entire IT staff with expertise in various areas. The best skill set of each IT expert at the company would transfer directly to your business. Also, many times the IT guy possesses sole knowledge of the IT functions, so if he were to become sick or go on vacation, your business may be scrambling for additional IT support. With outsourcing, your business would have access to a complete help desk at anytime for additional support.

IT projects would also be started and completed quicker with an outside firm providing their readily available resources. Handling the same project internally could be a longer, more costly process for training and/or hiring additional support to complete. The outsourcing firm handles a number of projects throughout the year for various companies it is supporting, whereas one network administrator who might do this process only once a year, may be a little "rusty" taking more time to complete the task.

Finally, outsourcing to a reputable, local IT company allows you as a business owner to focus strictly on your core business. You can become more profitable by focusing your resources and efforts on serving your customers, not worrying about peripheral activities that do not impact your bottom line.

Does IT outsourcing make sense for your company? Call us today for more information and some tips on "How to Choose an IT Outsourcing Firm."