

Research Findings

- 1.1 PRODUCTIVITY1
- 1.2 PROS AND CONS2
 - 1.2.1 Pros2
 - 1.2.2 Cons2
 - 1.2.3 Pro/Con2
- 1.3 MUST-HAVES2
- 1.4 CHALLENGES3
- 1.5 RISKS AND LIABILITIES3

1.1 PRODUCTIVITY

Data from various recent surveys associated with BYOD and productivity in the workplace are listed below. Due to the relative newness of this issue, there is not a lot of research to be found outside of that from vendors.

- 81% of college students believe they should be able to choose the devices they need to do their job (“Cisco 2011 Annual Security Report,” December 2011)
- 58% of IT decision makers think mobility and consumerization can deliver increased productivity and efficiency (“BT Assure: Rethink the Risk Summary,” April 2012)
- 84% of IT decision makers believe companies allowing employees to use personal devices for work enjoy a competitive advantage (“BT Assure: Rethink the Risk Summary,” April 2012)
- Nearly 4 in 10 of enterprise organizations surveyed have a history of BYOD-related breaches in security (“BT Assure: Rethink the Risk Summary,” April 2012)
- 62% of surveyed enterprises pay for employee devices and voice data plans (“BYOD and Virtualization, Insights from the Cisco IBSG Horizons Study,” May 2012)

- 72% of survey respondents are already formally supporting a BYOD program (“Good Technology State of BYOD Report,” October 2011)

1.2 PROS AND CONS

1.2.1 Pros

- Improved user experience due to device familiarity and device singularity (one device)
- Potential hardware cost transfer from company to employee
- Improved work from anywhere/anytime opportunities
- Workplace draw for young professionals, e.g., “Best Places to Work”
- Increased workplace productivity

1.2.2 Cons

- Potential loss of company purchasing power related to a reduction in bundling of traditional technology services (software/hardware/usage)
- Increased difficulty for in-house IT user support due to multiple platforms and devices
- Hardware and software compatibility issues with device to organizational software and infrastructure
- Increased mix of personal and company information; blurring the lines of company vs personal property
- Introduction of new data security/privacy threat opportunities

1.2.3 Pro/Con

- Hardware refresh: more frequent device upgrades containing the latest features and capabilities (depends on the equipment life cycle of the specific company)

1.3 MUST-HAVES

A clearly communicated BYOD program should contain the following elements:

- Definition of program eligibility: people, devices, and data/program/application categories
- Who pays and how? Device and plan usage (employee or company, full or partial, stipend [%] or expense)

- Who provides IT support? In-house or employee/device carrier?
- User responsibilities (rights, privileges, expectations)
- Company rights and privileges
- Security requirements
- Employee user agreement to manage expectations, clarify responsibilities, and address potential legal, employment, and privacy-related issues
- A Mobile Device Management (MDM) program (onboarding, tracking, identification, management)
- Employee awareness training and certification program
- A mobile security audit program (for tracking devices, users, and applications)
- Ability to remotely find (GPS), wipe, and/or kill all lost, stolen, or terminated devices
- Clear device and operational security requirements

1.4 CHALLENGES

When instituting a new BYOD program, companies may experience challenges related to the following:

- Gaining physical access to devices
- Installing and managing device security software upgrades and patches
- Wiping devices of company data associated with user-initiated device upgrades
- Recovering proprietary information from terminated devices and third party (cloud) storage
- Confiscating devices associated with investigations and/or legal discovery/holds
- Enforcing and monitoring acceptable use, data storage, software and hardware security compliance

1.5 RISKS AND LIABILITIES

The following risks and liabilities are possible when instituting a new BYOD program:

- Loss of security control; greater risk related to intrusion control/detection and malware susceptibility
- Data breach risk and related legal liabilities

- Managing and maintaining legal, regulatory, and contractual obligations
- The increased risk of external software applications (apps) introducing malware
- The risk for exposure of company data due to increased device use for non-business-related activities