



## TOP 10 TIPS:

# Harnessing Internet-based computing

- 1 Get familiar with Internet-based computing.** Internet-based computing, also known as cloud computing, is where application, infrastructure and platform solutions are provided over the Internet.
- 2 Weigh the pros and cons.** Lower costs and easy access make it a nimble solution for your business, though lack of control and bandwidth needs can create concerns.
- 3 Choose the service that best fits your business (budget).** Software as a Service, Infrastructure as a Service, and Platform as a Service are available options to your business.
- 4 Determine if your systems are “cloud ready.”** Do you have business functions appropriate for the cloud? Is your Internet connection able to accommodate the increase in bandwidth?
- 5 Understand the security risks.** Find out how your data is handled and develop a relationship that encourages transparency between yourself and your service provider.
- 6 Subscribe or pay-as-you-go.** Payment plans allow you to pay for access by company size or by the amount of storage space your business uses.
- 7 Commit to a trial period before purchasing.** Most vendors offer 30-day and 60-day trials before making you commit to a contract.
- 8 Ease into full “cloud” integration.** Migrate a few small business applications into cloud before you fully integrate your entire network online.
- 9 Monitor and measure your businesses response.** Identify how the change is affecting your business, specifically availability, performance, and total cost of ownership.
- 10 Improve your platform to fit your business.** Are you satisfied with your present service or are their ways your system can improve your efficiency model?

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