# EMPOWERING YOUR MOBILE WORKFORCE

Accessing files on mobile devices and sharing them with external parties presents serious security risks for companies. However, most current solutions are either too cumbersome or not secure enough for the corporate environment.

This paper aims to provide a brief overview of the current problems in this area and to offer a potential solution for those problems. EasiShare is an enterprise sync and share product that allows documents to be opened on mobile devices just as safely as on a company's own network and securely shared with third parties as easily as sending an email. This allows companies to take advantage of the many benefits of using a mobile and outsourced workforce, without any risks.



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 2 Executive Summary
- 3 Why Users Need To Share & Access Files Remotely
- 5 The Problem With Consumer Grade Sharing Tools
- 6 Device Loss & Theft By The Numbers
- 7 Compatibility of EasiShare With All Major Platforms
- Sharing & Accessing Files Securely With EasiShare
- 9 Seamless User-Experience with EasiShare
- **10** Conclusion
- **11** About Inspire-Tech
- **12** References



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**



## The EasiShare Solution:

Mobile devices allow businesses to work more efficiently and collaborate with distant users. However, they also pose a serious security risk for sensitive files. Each time enterprise documents are accessed on a mobile device, unencrypted apps leave vulnerable data out of your secure network. Furthermore, users can easily lose mobile devices, potentially leaving sensitive data in the wrong hands. This poses a significant risk for companies sharing critical information.

For companies that want to benefit from collaboration with third parties, there are additional security risks. Users must send unencrypted files across potentially dangerous channels. That means files could be compromised in transit. Although some secure solutions to these problems exist, they are hampered by cumbersome interfaces and a lack of needed features. Because users recognize the immense benefits of being able to easily send and access files on the go, they will revert to simpler, consumer grade options that put those files at risk.

EasiShare creates an enterprise grade encrypted line between your network and mobile devices. This allows users to open documents on mobile devices as easily as if they were within your network, without any vulnerability to outside security threats. EasiShare also allows you to send files of up to 50 GB to third parties as simply as sending an email, and provides robust security with optional two-factor authentication and file level password encryption so there is no chance that they can be intercepted. Files are fully encrypted during the entire process, including syncing, sharing, and long term storage, so they can be easily shared without any risk of being compromised.

- ✓ Two-Factor Authentication
- ✓ File Level Password Encryption
- ✓ Link Expiry
- ✓ Revoke Sharing



# WHY USERS NEED TO SHARE & ACCESS FILES REMOTELY

# **Telecommuting & Mobile Working Are On The Rise**

Since 2005, the percentage of workforce telecommuting increased by 60% [1], with international mobile workforce expected to reach 1.3 billion by 2015 [2]. This creates a vast base of users needing to access everything from extensive schematics to the usual Word documents from their mobile devices, thus presenting a serious challenge for the IT department.

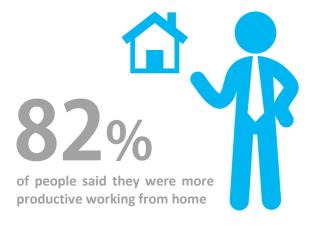
Companies are also expanding their reach to national and international markets. This necessitates more working during travel and greater communication between offices in different regions.

The trend of increased mobile device usage is also greatly affected by the greater proportion of employees working outside business hours. Workers now want to be able to respond to emails, take calls, and do work from home after the office has closed. This surging segment demands tools that let them easily collaborate with the home, office, clients and colleagues. It is important that they be able to work in the same fashion as they would within the office in order to maintain productivity.

## Mobile Workers Are More Productive

The mobile workforce offers many productivity benefits, including the ability to work outside normal office hours, greater traveling range, more flexibility in terms of talent pool, and greater employee satisfaction rates. More than 82% of people say they are more productive when working from home [3]. However, with increased mobility comes drawbacks. Mobile workers no longer have access to office resources and files. They are also less able to collaborate with colleagues.

One of the key ways to maintain productivity is mobile file access. This allows workers to function as if they were still within the office environment, increasing collaboration and reducing delay. However, in order to achieve ideal levels of productivity, solutions must be extremely easy to use, secure, and fast, and available online.



# THE PROBLEM WITH CONSUMER GRADE SHARING TOOLS

# Off-Premise VPN Access Is Too Difficult

VPN technology can provide a very secure connection with which to access files. However, it is also relatively hard to use, takes time to set up, and is slower than other options. In order for users to access the VPN on their mobile device, they must go through several rounds of settings in their phone, some of which are difficult to manage for the average person. Once properly set up, users can expect significant increases in latency and file transfer times, making many applications difficult. That means that users are not as productive since they are less likely to have quick, easy access to the information and files they need. It also means they are much more likely to revert to easier, unsecured solutions, like Dropbox.

## **Interfaces Are Not Intuitive**

People will always opt for the easiest, most intuitive file sharing option. Unfortunately, many file sharing tools offer interfaces that are not straightforward and thus, reduce productivity. This drives employees to use simpler consumer grade technology that may put files at risk.

# **Employees Want To Use Their Own Devices**

Today, the consumer market often drives the professional market. That means that employees already have their own mobile devices that they can use more efficiently than secure company devices. By 2018, Gartner estimates 70% of mobile professionals will conduct their work on personal smart devices [4]. Also, many companies are considering implementing a BYOD policy, but are rightly worried that this could pose a security risk for sensitive information.

# Users Need to Share Data & Documents

Many sharing solutions greatly limit the amount of data that can be transferred. Although FTP solutions do currently allow for the transfer of larger files, they are limited by their ease of use and age. In today's world of ballooning file sizes, users need to be able to send and receive large files freely, without worrying about compression or segmenting into smaller packages.



# THE PROBLEM WITH CONSUMER GRADE SHARING TOOLS

## **Usage Cannot Be Monitored**

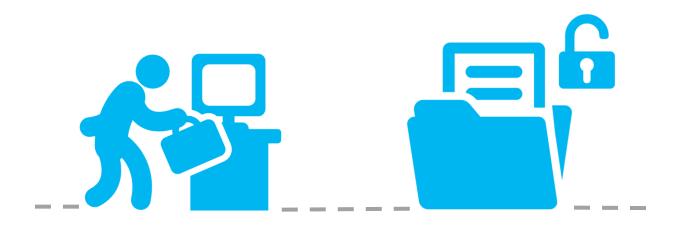
One of the most obvious risks of accessing files via consumer grade tools is that the company has no oversight over documents that are transferred out of the network. There are no central audits, meaning documents can be freely transferred or stolen without Information Security knowing about it.

Administrators have little to no control over who views, copies, and distributes files. Because there are no records, there is also no way to trace the problem back to the original culprit, meaning there is little to no incentive for employees to protect information. This clearly poses a major problem for all companies, particularly for those that are legally responsible for protecting sensitive data, such as those in healthcare, government, and finance.

## **Data Is Unprotected**

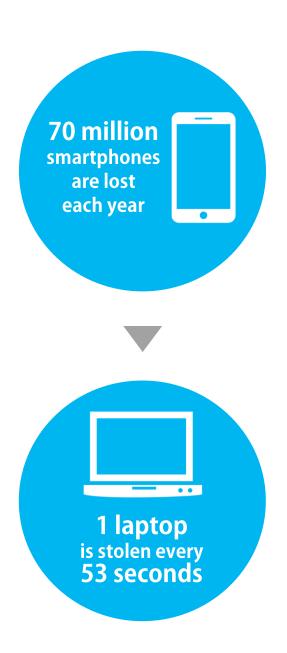
Many file-accessing apps do not use data encryption. Even if they do, it is not of high enough quality to deter serious security threats. They usually leave sensitive data on the mobile device long after the user is done with it, exposing files to unnecessary danger. Mobile devices are also easily lost. This poses a serious risk, as their data could fall into the wrong hands.

In addition to the lack of security on the device, enterprises must consider where their data is being stored as it is being transferred. Third party servers may not be properly protected and may also not comply with governmental regulations if sensitive information is being transferred.



# DEVICE LOSS & THEFT BY THE NUMBERS





## Consumer Apps Are Vulnerable to Loss & Theft

Consumer apps are still vulnerable to physical loss of devices. As cell phones become more advanced and valuable, cell phone theft increases. In 2013, cell phone theft rose by 23% in San Francisco and 8% in New York City [5]. Furthermore, users are far more likely to lose smartphones and tablets than other devices. 51% of companies reported that they had experienced data loss from lost mobile devices within the past 12 months [6].

Even if an app properly protects against malware, they are usually still vulnerable to physical loss. If an employee loses a mobile device with sensitive documents on it, many consumer apps do not provide a means of wiping the device. That means that data can easily fall into the wrong hands.

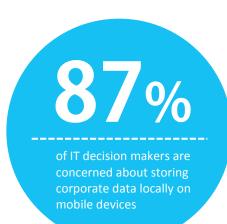
## **Devices stolen from**

Conferences 24%

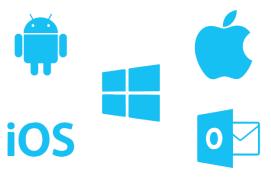
Office/ Workplace 52%

# COMPATIBILITY OF EASISHARE WITH ALL MAJOR PLATFORMS

In 2014, organizations reported that 50% of employee smartphones and 54% of employee tablets will be part of a BYOD program, but 87% of IT decision makers are either somewhat or very concerned about storing corporate data locally on mobile devices [7]. If your company is thinking about instituting a 'Bring Your Own Device' policy but worried that there isn't a secure way to access files on a range of user devices, EasiShare offers a solution. It is compatible with all major devices and allows for easy, secure access on them so employees can work with whatever technology they are most comfortable with.



## **EasiShare Is Compatible With:**



#### **Mobile Devices**

- Android (Phone & Tablet)
- iOS (Phone & Tablet)
- Windows Phone 8

## **Desktop & Laptop Computers**

- Mac OS
- Microsoft Windows (integrated to incorporate Active Directory)
- Microsoft Outlook

## **A Wide Range of Deployment Options**

Every organization has unique IT requirements and capabilities. That is why EasiShare was designed to be deployed in a wide range of settings, including on-premises, the private cloud, public cloud, hybrid cloud and in other hosted environments. This gives you the flexibility to use whatever storage solutions you already have, without the need to make additional investments.

# SHARING & ACCESSING FILES SECURELY WITH EASISHARE

In order to successfully eliminate the risks from sharing files with third parties and remote access via mobile devices, advanced and corporate grade security measures must be put in place. EasiShare provides some of the most effective security features so employees can easily collaborate from long distances, while ensuring that your company can always maintain control over sensitive data.

## **Robust Enterprise File Security Features**

### **256-bit AES Security**

EasiShare uses 256-bit AES that provides practically impenetrable security for mobile document storage. This is among the most effective encryptions in the world, making files nearly impervious to brute force or other attacks. In order to test every combination in a brute force attack, an algorithm would have to run through 2256 trials. The chances of this supercomputer finding the right key if it searched for the entire age of the universe are still practically zero [8]. In fact, 256-bit AES is so secure, it is the same encryption standard used by the U.S. Government to protect documents classified as top secret [9].

### **File Usage Control**

In order to make sure that data is not being stolen by malicious parties, EasiShare lets you audit documents, complete with the records of document access and sharing. This greatly reduces the incentive for employee theft, supports data compliance requirements, and lets you identify problems before they arise.

### **Total Admin Control**

One of the most significant problems with other mobile document access utilities is the lack of administrator control. EasiShare lets administrators easily control features, manage users, and block access from a central web console, allowing companies to maintain greater control over policies across different groups of users with varying risk profiles.

#### **More Secure External Sharing**

EasiShare external file sharing features twofactor authentication with SMS so you can securely share files externally without worrying if the file was intercepted by a malicious third party.

#### **Mobile Device PIN Protection**

All enterprise documents on mobile devices are protected with a PIN so that they cannot be accessed if the device is lost or stolen.

### **Remote Wipe**

Disgruntled employees or lost mobile devices can be a serious security threat. EasiShare lets administrators remotely wipe documents so data cannot be compromised.

# SEAMLESS USER-EXPERIENCE WITH EASISHARE

Users will only choose the secure option if it is as simple as consumer grade solutions. EasiShare brings enterprise grade mobile file access and 3rd party sharing into the new decade with ease of use features that make the workforce more productive.



## **EasiShare Features**

### **Online Document Access**

Travelling users need to be able to access documents on planes and other areas with poor connection. EasiShare lets you view and edit documents on your mobile device while online with changes syncing when the connection is restored.

#### **Intuitive Interface**

A secure tool is only effective if employees actually use it. That is why EasiShare's interface is designed to be intuitive and easy to use.

## **Continuous Sync**

Mobile employees need to be as up to date as employees in the office. EasiShare stays continuously in sync so employees on the go will always have access to the latest file versions.

## **Document Annotation**

Quickly take meeting notes within documents using your iPhone, iPad, or Android device and share your thoughts easily with EasiShare document annotation.

## **PDF Form Filling**

Why wait to get to a printer to fill out and sign urgent forms? EasiShare lets you complete forms on mobile devices so you can submit important documents faster.

## **File Versioning**

Keep track of file edits and never lose important work with EasiShare's powerful file versioning system.

#### **External Sharing**

EasiShare lets you securely share synchronized files and folders of above 50GB with third parties as easily as sending an email.

### **Total Integration**

EasiShare integrates with a wide range of devices, making sharing documents across platforms simpler. Its third party sharing component also works with Microsoft Outlook so you can send even larger documents.

## CONCLUSION

The growing mobility of the workforce, presence of unsecured third party apps, and increasing mobile threats pose serious risks for companies that need to share and remotely access sensitive files and documents. Most current solutions do not adequately address these problems as they either are not secure enough or are too difficult to use.

EasiShare offers a new approach to a growing problem: how to allow a mobile workforce to securely access documents and send files securely to 3rd parties. It's easy to use interface, robust security, and powerful file sharing and remote document access capabilities make it one of the most effective tools of its kind currently available.

If you want to learn more about what EasiShare can do to empower your workforce and keep files safe, contact one of our representatives today.

## **READY TO START?**



## **ABOUT INSPIRE-TECH**

Inspire-Tech is passionate about creating mobile solutions for enterprises. Founded in 2000, the company has re-invented communication services with RapidSMS SMS gateway service, provided modular-based EasiSMS for enterprise SMS management and established RapidRecall, a pioneering cloud-based emergency notification system. EasiShare, a secure mobile file management solution for enterprises and government, is the latest product added to the enterprise mobility suite of solutions.

Inspire-Tech fosters strong partnerships with leading technology companies, mobile carriers and local distributors. With over 20,000 users from leading financial institutions, chemical firms, education institutions and government institutions globally, Inspire-Tech's product reach is still counting!



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