
Working on the move



One of the greatest things about cloud computing is the mobility it offers busy, working people. Wherever there's an Internet connection, there's an opportunity to log onto cloud-based applications and work in real time. Almost all cloud-based services can be accessed from any web browser or mobile device, including the iPad®, iPhone®, or Android™.

For employers, this level of flexibility means travel time can be used more effectively and that savings can potentially be made on workplace overhead. Plus, of course, the costs of installing and maintaining software are reduced and in some cases eradicated. However, the fact that remote working is a great way to attract and retain the best people is perhaps the most important fact for employers. This is because for individual employees it means working from home, flexible hours, and avoiding rush hour. The ability to connect to the Internet and access everything you could from your desk improves work/life balance, whether that means more time with the kids or lower stress levels.

As well as helping people to work remotely on the move or at home, the cloud allows groups of colleagues to collaborate remotely. Two or more people can work on the same document from different locations. Or employees can access key software when visiting clients. Having all the data you need at your fingertips to illustrate ideas or back up a point of view is invaluable. Rather than waiting to get things done "back at the office," employees can complete tasks, amend figures, and input data in the cloud right there and then.

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