

Rich Snippets

- Subscription-based Software
- Office 365 is here to stay
- Cryptolocker follow up

Subscription Solutions

Once upon a time, we paid a subscription fee and got the daily newspaper delivered to our doorstep, then that subscription fee paid for access to the news on the internet. Subscriptions are evolving again. Companies like Adobe and Microsoft are moving faster and faster away from having their customers make large capital investments every few years to monthly subscriptions and pricing for immediate access to their latest products. And even if users were at once out-raged, they haven't abandoned the products.

Here are some benefits (and some counterpoints below) to subscription based software and applications:

Always Smaller Cloud-based access***	up-to-date Initial	versions* Cost**
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*While cloud based subscriptions typically include support, the more complex and the larger your user base the more IT management is necessary

**Over time the small monthly fee will start to eclipse those larger, one-time payments, but because of the on-going support for the product and version updates the cost balances nicely for at least the first few years.

***Local and Cloud access to shared files is revolutionary for today's workforce. Access to files from virtually anywhere is a big win... as long as you have internet.

Whatever the subscription or promises, do the research and understand the near term gains and long term goals of moving towards subscription based solutions.

Cryptolocker Update

We reported over the summer on a serious virus affecting machines and data. White hat hackers have developed a cure for that virus. More information is available [here](#) or from your Agility Primary Consultant.

Questions, comments, feature requests? Call us at (877) AGILITY
Would you like to change your subscription? Email 'opt-out' to webmaster@agilitynetworks.com

Office 365

As much as our world has shifted culturally over the past decade, technology undoubtedly has changed dramatically. It's just the nature of the beast! It continues to shape the way we work, communicate, play and live our lives. By now, everyone knows or has heard of Microsoft's cloud-based solution called Office 365 –officially launched back in June of 2011. But just in case, it's a way for businesses to not have to worry about an infrastructure on premise and instead, have their Office suite of products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, One Note Publisher), Exchange, SharePoint, Lync all managed by Microsoft out there in the cloud. It's a subscription based plan and features vary based on your choice of subscription.

The popular plan for small to mid-size businesses (25-300 users) is the Office 365 E3 which costs roughly \$20 per user a month. The subscription offers more than just software. It includes a 50GB full Exchange mailbox, the full Office suite of products which can be locally installed on a PC or Mac, as well as Windows tablets and iPads– up to 5 installations, OfficeOnline, Yammer, OneDrive with 1TB storage per user for central storage, SharePoint collaboration site (up to 10GB baseline plus 500MB per user). This is all backed up by Microsoft's 99.9% uptime guarantee.

Of course, Office 365 is not for everyone. Many people still dislike subscription-based software. However, the Office 365 market is growing -- and growing fast -- and if you compare pricing, you may find that it is actually a very good value. We can provide a full 30 day free trial for up to 25 users and help you understand your options. If interested or curious, just ask your Agility consultant