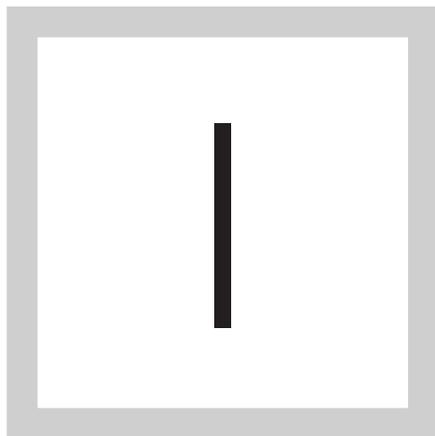


▶ *E-Guide*

WHAT ARE TODAYS IT MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES?

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IN ORDER TO STAY AHEAD in the business, it is necessary to implement technology that allows you to stay ahead and maintain a competitive edge. In this E-guide take a closer look at today's IT management challenges that will give you a better understanding of how to prepare for and implement tomorrow's IT infrastructure.

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KEEPING UP WITH IT INNOVATIONS

Are you thinking about today—or tomorrow? Or yesterday? Your business is growing. Your employees are demanding more. Your customers want top-notch service. Your data is getting bigger by the minute. New trends are emerging. Keeping up with your competitors not only means staying ahead of the business, but implementing technology that allows you to stay ahead and maintain a competitive edge. It all sounds rather straightforward. That is, until it isn't.

Staying ahead means keeping the future in mind at all times. Whether it be the latest mobile technology, hyper converged infrastructures, wearable technology or another future trend, there is no time to look back and fuss with old technology issues.

In a recent TechTarget survey of IT managers, Dell ranked highest as “a leader in IT management software” compared to HP and IBM customers. Not surprisingly, staying ahead with technology, including integrated software offerings, is one of many reasons Dell can take the top ranking. Knowing what constitutes an IT management software leader and what lies ahead

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is what differentiates Dell's converged infrastructure model from others. Taking a closer look at today's IT management challenges will give you a better understanding of how to prepare for and implement tomorrow's IT infrastructure.

Legacy systems: We've heard it before: Old, outdated legacy systems and infrastructure can't meet today's demanding users and new technology needs. So if legacy systems can't easily support mobile technology, network demands and yes, the Internet of Things, how is your business going to keep up with competitors? It's not as though you can just simply rip out your old systems and install a whole new infrastructure.

Growing business: Business is booming. Employees are being hired in all departments. This requires more systems for end users, increased support, increased network bandwidth and increased storage capacity.

Resources: New growth requires more IT support and expertise. Even if you had the budget to rip out the old infrastructure and deploy new technology, who is going to do it? This requires new skills and knowledge of the latest technologies, training and maintenance—all while keeping business running smooth, as downtime is not an option. Remote offices also need to be transformed, lest they be left in the dark and lose more business. Staffing can

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be a challenge, not to mention another chunk out of the IT budget.

You need to meet next-generation demands with yesterday's technology. A converged infrastructure can simplify IT management and allow you to build on existing data center infrastructures while provisioning for new technologies, more robust networks and more storage. Here's a sampling of how it keeps you ahead:

Automation: By automating simple tasks, you not only free up staff time, but you can also service many more users and systems with a click of a button. No need to travel to remote offices, and no need to go from desk to desk.

Scalability: As businesses and technologies change, a converged infrastructure can change with them. This includes more server nodes, more network bandwidth, and more maintenance. Flexibility is the key to making systems scalable in both corporate and remote offices.

Simplification: Yes, keep it simple. Remote offices need the same quick access and efficient, seamless service as the corporate office. Regardless of location, high performance of critical applications is a must. Pre-integrated systems with unified management software, server and networking equipment that's all scalable? Simple.

How will you keep up?

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