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SOLUTION BRIEF

Maximize your investment in Microsoft Hosted Exchange with Mimecast

Mimecast seamlessly integrates with hosted Exchange to deliver an independent long-term archive, enhanced service availability, and future-proofs your investment.

Business needs

Email downtime, malware attacks, lost data, leaks of sensitive information and regulatory compliance transgressions can all damage a company's reputation, as well as its bottom line. That's why all businesses irrespective of size or type need a secure and reliable email service. However, the service must also represent a good return on investment.

One way that organizations are increasingly looking to achieve this is by using a hosted Exchange service. This deployment option offers much of the flexibility that Exchange on-premise affords, but without the upfront infrastructure costs and administrative overhead.

Business challenges

Moving to a hosted Exchange service may be cost effective, but there are other business requirements that need to be considered when putting this critical service in the hands of a third party. Organizations must be confident that a move to a hosted platform won't increase the risk of downtime, either during or after the transition period. The security of stored email data, its accessibility and data retention policies must support legal and regulatory compliance needs. Also, it is important to understand how continuity of access to stored data is achieved if the service subscription is cancelled.

Technical challenges

Using a hosted Exchange service brings the promise of reduced administration for the IT department. However, if the service is unavailable or an email lost, the department still retains responsibility for getting the problem solved. Therefore it is important to have confidence in the reliability of the hosted service and the service level agreements (SLAs) that back it up.

Also, many organizations will choose to run a mix of hosted and on-premise Exchange solutions, either as a short-term stepping stone to a fully hosted solution, or as a long-term solution to meet business needs. The challenge for IT departments then becomes one of managing email retention and security policies across multiple systems without losing the benefits of reduced cost and administration offered by a move to a hosted service.

> **Mimecast is a leading provider of cloud services for Microsoft Exchange.**

Fast facts

- Mimecast seamlessly integrates with hosted Exchange services

- Managed from a single, secure web-based administration console

- Delivers enhanced service availability and an independent long-term archive

- Simplifies and de-risks migrations between on-premise and hosted Exchange
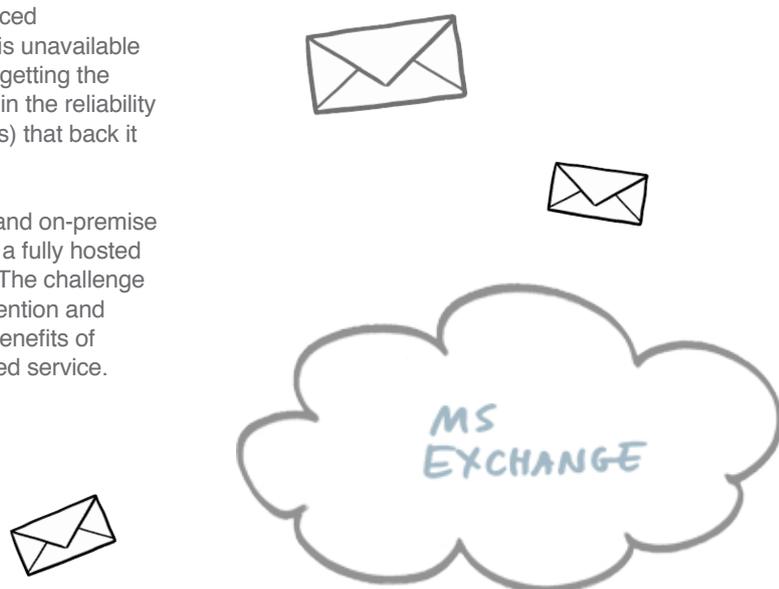
MS EXCHANGE

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Mimecast solution

Mimecast is a cloud-based, unified email management solution that enhances the benefits that a hosted Exchange service brings, as well as future-proofing that investment. Managed from a single, secure web-based administration console, Mimecast seamlessly integrates with the hosted Exchange server, delivering enhanced service availability, an independent long-term archive and centralized email retention and security policy management. It also significantly reduces the risks of migrating to a hosted Exchange service.

Stored messages are immediately encrypted and held in triplicate across geographically dispersed datacenters in jurisdictionally defined locations, addressing any concerns about moving data offsite. This online archive brings further benefits. Granular email retention policies and near real-time searches address eDiscovery and regulatory compliance needs. Also, while hosted Exchange services typically keep copies of user deleted messages for just a few weeks, Mimecast retains these emails for up to 10 years – the exact period being determined by the organization's own retention policy.

Mimecast offers a 100% service availability SLA, enhancing the availability typically offered by hosted service providers. If the hosted Exchange service becomes unavailable, Outlook clients automatically switch to send and receive email directly via the Mimecast platform, giving users an uninterrupted email service as well as having access to their entire personal archive directly from Outlook.

Moving Exchange to a hosted environment is not a trivial decision, but Mimecast can help manage the business and technical risks associated with that move. Transferring historical email to Mimecast prior to the move protects against data loss and speeds up the migration process. Mimecast also ensures that email keeps flowing throughout. And if for any reason it proves that hosted Exchange isn't the right solution, users can be moved back to an on-premise server without going through the lengthy and potentially risky process of migrating their data back because Mimecast integrates with Exchange whether on-premise or hosted. In fact, Mimecast supports a combination of both solutions, enabling centralized policy management and archiving wherever the users' mailboxes reside.

Mimecast's fully unified email management service means that you can seamlessly combine email archiving, continuity and security, services at any time – all managed from the same interface.

Key benefits

- Maximizes and future-proofs investment in hosted Exchange
- Provides an independent, secure, long-term archive
- Gives users an uninterrupted email service and bottomless mailbox
- Addresses eDiscovery and regulatory compliance needs
- Access to live and historical email via Outlook, BlackBerry and Mimecast Webmail
- Offers future flexibility by supporting all types of Exchange deployment

Microsoft Partner
Gold Independent Software Vendor (ISV)

About Mimecast

Mimecast is a leading provider of essential cloud services for Microsoft Exchange. Mimecast delivers enterprise email management services that include security, continuity and archiving. This suite of services provides total end-to-end control of business email, while minimizing risk and reducing both cost and complexity. Founded in 2003, Mimecast serves thousands of customers worldwide and has offices in Europe, North America, and Africa.