10 Important questions to ask yourself regarding the use of technology within your business.

Technology can work <u>for</u> you or <u>against</u> you. Effectively planned and managed, use of appropriate technology to support your business can be painless and cost-effective. Below are 10 common questions to ask yourself about the use of technology within your business. At *1st Source IT*, we want to help you grow through the wise use of technology.

If you find in answering these questions that you might need some help or simply have more questions about how these affect you and your business, don't hesitate to give us a call or sign up for a **free technology review**. We want to help you and your business. Give us a try to see what we can do for you.

1. **Is technology important to your business?**
    If not then there's no need to go further. But if it is, then it is a critical investment and should be treated professionally and methodically. If you have critical systems supporting your business process then technology **is** important to you.

    If use of technology is not saving you money then you may need some help. Efficient growth, and use of appropriate technology to achieve it, is our area of expertise.

2. **Are you taking advantage of all the advances in technology that improve your productivity and save you money?**
    There are constant advances in technology that can have a positive effect on your business and your bottom-line. Can you keep up with all the current changes and improvements? Is this your area of expertise?

    Our business is the application of appropriate technology. Your business is growing your revenue and improving your margins. We can work together to make this happen in a cost-effective and quality manner.

3. **Is management of technology a burden to your management team?**
    Do you have the expertise on your staff to have confidence that you are making wise technical decisions? Is technology a part of your culture or something that is a necessary evil?

    Being a fully engaged participant in the management of the technical aspects of your business is what we do! We can help guide your existing team's technical business decisions and be the technical expert on your team.

Free Technology Review Contact us for more details

4. **Do you have a technology plan that ensures your current environment is stable, reliable and provides for your future growth?**
    Most small to mid-sized businesses operate without even a business plan! You're able to do this because you know your business. But do you truly know the technology that supports your business?

    We work with you to develop both short-term tactical plans and longer-term strategic plans. We offload this work from you so you can focus on implementing your vision within your business. If your business is not a technology business then let technology experts handle that side of it for you.

5. **Do your current technical suppliers understand your business and your unique needs?**
    When you present your problems to your vendors, do you get a blank look of understanding? Have they taken the time to fully understand what makes your business successful?

    Our goal is to understand both your business and your culture. We work with you and your current vendors to ensure that you are getting what you pay for and that the features and functionality being provided meet your business needs. We manage these relationships for you, enabling you to focus on your business expertise.

Let us take the technology burden off your back!
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6. **Are you getting the most from your current IT investment?**
   Are you utilizing all the features offered by your current IT investment that are applicable to your business? Most business owners only utilize a fraction of what they currently own. There are many issues related to technical features that need to be understood and mapped to your unique needs and culture.

   We work with your team to understand your culture, technical skills (ability to adapt) and business needs. We develop practices and policies that help you get full utilization out of your current investment.

7. **Do you want to save money as your business grows?**
   Growing your business requires a significant investment. Identifying and implementing the appropriate technology for your unique situation is critical for your success.

   An effective IT solution not only meets the needs of today and the near-term needs of tomorrow, but allows you to plan an effective strategy to help you save money while you grow your business. We can help you increase your margins at the same time as you grow your revenue.

8. **Are your technical vendors delivering all the features and services you have contracted for?**
   Most businesses use a variety of technical suppliers. Many times there is overlap between the services and features each supply. In many cases, features and services currently contracted for are not being utilized simply because their availability (or deployment) is unknown.

   We help you ensure you get the most from your current suppliers. We manage the relationship, negotiate your contracts and help you select the right set of features to be utilized within your business.

9. **Do you have a technology expert on your management team?**
   Who do you call for the "right answer" to technical questions? Who do you rely upon to help you scope out your plans so feasibility can be determined?

   We work within your team to ensure you have competent technical expertise that can answer all your questions. This allows your team to operate more effectively, focusing on your business problems rather than the technology that supports them. Let us help you put focus back on your business.

10. **How secure are your networks and systems?**
    With the growth of technology comes the increasing threat of data security. The network is the most vulnerable area of your business. A disruption in network performance can idle even the finest business application. Additionally, system security from virus threats, spyware, adware, etc. can devastate the productivity of your work environment and even compromise the sensitive data you hold.

    We can analyze your current security policies, practices and administration to determine your vulnerabilities and develop policies and tools to help ensure you are protected.

1st Source IT is different from other IT service providers. We partner with you to help you "use technology wisely". Like any good tool, used wisely and judiciously, technology becomes an invaluable asset. But used carelessly and with abandon, it can become your greatest threat to success. Let 1st Source IT help you get on (and stay on) the right track.

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