UPGRADE BEFORE YOU WISH YOU HAD

4 reasons why you can't afford to wait

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No matter how much you wish you could take a "set it and forget it" mentality with business technology, reality says that's just not a good idea. In the IT world, deploying your organization's software solution is just the beginning of a successful strategy. It's even more crucial to ensure that you maintain your solutions and systems so they can evolve as needed while your organization grows and the overall business environment changes.

An essential aspect of that maintenance is regular upgrades.

While it's easy to put off software upgrades and migrations when your current iteration seems to be working just fine, you're actually missing out on a number of benefits — and taking risks — that could impact your organization's future.

THE FOUR BIGGEST REASONS TO UPGRADE
The following four reasons highlight why you should make regular upgrades a key piece of your IT strategy:

1 **Bolstered security:** In the software world, things can change quickly. Systems that were secure before may now be vulnerable in ways that you couldn't have anticipated. Innovative developers keep you ahead of the latest threats with new updates that ensure your security stays strong. Avoiding these upgrades opens you up to risk.

2 **Improved functionality:** One of the biggest goals of software updates is to provide the most up-to-date user experiences and solutions across a range of clients, devices and integrations. Neglecting upgrades can cut your knowledge workers off from better information access, exciting new features and modern experiences that help deliver exceptional service to your customers.

3 **Enhanced compatibility and productivity:** Updates to your core systems can include support for the latest browsers, operating systems and new and expanded integrations with common business applications. Sitting back and relying on outdated versions can hinder your organization's attempts to stay up to date with the latest technology advancements that can empower your staff to focus on the task at hand, instead of IT workarounds.

4 **Augmented performance:** And of course, upgrades exist to ensure you are working on the most optimally performing version of your preferred solution. Everything from continued QA testing to requested improvements and suggested changes from users goes into every software update. You could be missing out on some of the most-requested performance adjustments from your very own users.

SOLUTIONS WITH A FUTURE
Keeping your software updated isn't only important for your organization's IT and business strategy. It also helps you identify the right vendor. When choosing a new solution for your organization, you need to know you are working with a vendor who is committed to you and the technology you are investing in — now and into the future. A steady upgrade path with a clear vision and roadmap is one of the best ways to identify those vendors.

So, while you turn your attention toward the importance of regular upgrades to your IT strategy, make sure your vendors prioritize it as well.

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