



## 5 Things You Need to Ask Before Moving to a Remote Workforce

### 1. What's your overall IT plan for your remote workforce?

An IT plan is critical for any business, but extra care needs to be taken when planning for a remote workforce. Will you be using internal servers, go cloud-based, or utilize a combination of both? Should your team use Google G Suite for file sharing? There are a number of factors to take into account when moving your team to a remote environment.

**Ask us about our complimentary Remote Readiness Assessment** to see if you're where you need to be with your planning and what makes sense for your business. One size does not fit all.

### 2. Do you have potential exposure to unsecured networks and ransomware?

Software and virus updates are frequently needed to keep bad actors away from your data, but should you always say yes to these updates? How can you tell which ones are legitimate? What happens if one of those software updates isn't really a legitimate update, but is a piece of malware trying to infiltrate your network? Have you set up, or should you implement, two-factor authentication? Do you have policies in place that prohibit your staff from using public Wifi? There are a number of questions that need to be answered.

A reliable IT partner can create a secure environment customized for you and your team – protecting your organization from hackers. And if anything would ever happen, a well thought out plan would also have all of your company's data backed up on a regular basis.

### 3. Have you considered an online collaboration platform, like Slack, to encourage participation and easy file sharing with your team?

While collaboration tools aren't typically considered an IT initiative, they do play an important role within the overall IT plan for a remote workforce. As employers struggle with the complexities of moving to a remote environment, collaboration and file sharing play an important role. HR teams love collaboration tools like Slack because they keep employees connected and engaged. IT folks like the file sharing aspect of the leading collaboration tools because most of them allow for secure and easy internal file sharing between employees.

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If you are considering one of these tools, let us help you determine which one is right for your company and how it fits into your Unified Communications plan.

**4. Are your systems and networks fully set up and capable to handle the traffic of online meeting platforms, such as Zoom?**

While Zoom and other video conferencing platforms have seen a massive resurgence in 2020, there are several factors you need to consider before rolling out video conferencing for your organization:

- Do your employees share confidential information such as PHI or other sensitive information?
- Just like an audio conversation, a video discussion needs to be secure. What will your conferencing provider do to ensure that your communications are protected?
- Are your video streams encrypted to stop other people from tapping into them from a distance?
- Can you have complete control over who gets to enter your meetings at any given time?
- Does the video conferencing solution fit in within your environment and other systems?

IT service providers can help you select and set up the right video conferencing platform for you.

**5. Does your team have the right hardware for remote work and is it optimized for the best possible remote experience?**

Sluggish connections and old hardware can lead to poor performance, and that's not your staff's fault. With the remote workplace becoming more and more common, you want to set your team up for success. Whether that is securing new equipment or updating existing hardware, you'll need to be sure each and every employee has what they need to be productive from afar.

An IT services partner can optimize your current hardware and software so that it runs optimally from wherever your team lives and works.

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## About CMA

Since 1987, CMA has been a full-service computer solution and support provider focused on the growing needs of small to medium-sized businesses. Our team is staffed with a group of experienced computer specialists who do whatever it takes to get the job done and support the business model of their clients.

## What Makes CMA Your Best Choice

At CMA, we are technology experts at the core. Through our 30+ years in business, we've tackled every possible technology challenge for our clients and they've rewarded us by staying with us. In fact, the average CMA client stays with us for more than 11 years.

We pride ourselves on fast response times for every technological challenge and we never say no to a client request. And we approach each new client as a long term partnership.

## Services Overview

CMA offers a full range of services, including, but not limited to:

- **Laptop, Desktop and Server Maintenance** - we keep your systems running so that you can work
- **Remote and On-site Monitoring** - allows us to fix your systems fast and from anywhere
- **Cyber Security** - keeping your systems free from malicious attacks
- **Computer Hardware Sales** - providing the best advice and right equipment for your practice
- **And much more!**

## Learn More

To learn more and to discuss your IT services challenges, please contact Calvin Komiske at [ckomiske@c-m-a.com](mailto:ckomiske@c-m-a.com) or call 240.801.7650. You can also visit our website at: [c-m-a.com](http://c-m-a.com).