

# RESPONZA

Information Technology Systems and Consulting

## The Advantages of Partnering with an IT Consultant

Position your business to meet existing IT requirements and plan for ongoing growth by partnering with an IT consultant. Together, you'll create a future technology roadmap designed to reduce cost, increase efficiency, and gain a competitive advantage.

It is easy for large companies with unlimited resources to plan and implement new systems. However, small and medium size businesses struggle with the expense of defining and implementing needed technologies and staff.

### IT consultants provide access to:

- Experts in new technology
- On-demand resources
- Otherwise unavailable vendor support
- Economy of scale purchasing power
- A wider range of tools
- Time to plan

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“Turning to the expertise of an outside IT consultant is a cost effective way to obtain the high quality IT systems required for today’s complex markets.”

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## Gain a Technological Edge Over Competitors

All is fair in love, war and business. Why compete on a level playing field when new technologies can give you a leg up on the competition?

IT consultant's ongoing training and experience enable them to ride the wave of new advances. They know which technologies will benefit your business and which will not.

Successful small and medium-sized businesses leverage this expertise to gain competitive advantage and react to competitive threats.

## Reduce Cost and Budget Reliably

Every IT department has three types of cost – direct, indirect and hidden. Direct costs are hardware such as physical servers, electricity, and HVAC. In-direct costs are salaries, benefits, and the training. Hidden costs are slowdowns or downtime.

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In most cases, small businesses will spend 25% to 50% less than the cost of even a mid-level IT professional.

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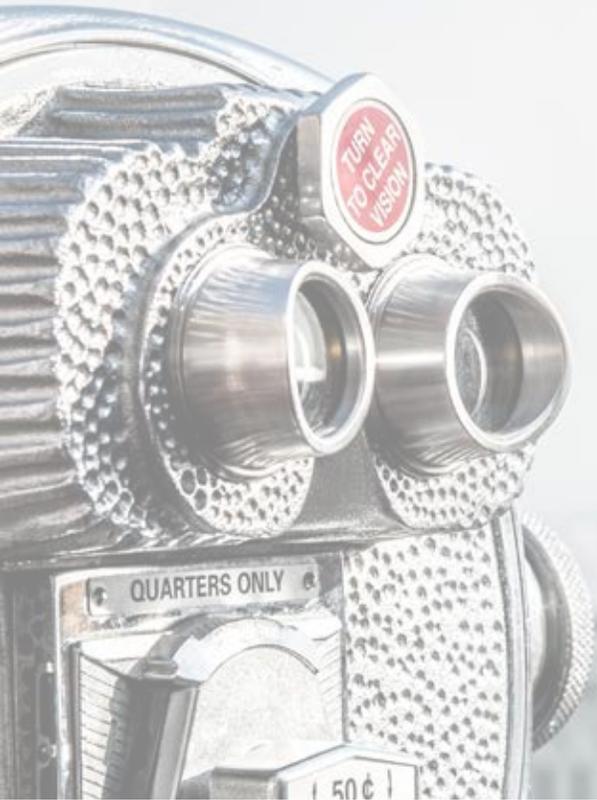
With an IT consultant, expenses become predictable and easy to budget.



## Focus on your Core Business

You know that you are most productive when your energies are focused on what you do best, managing your business. Time spent distracted by issues outside of this are wasteful. This is what happens when you are tasked with researching IT solutions, implementing new technology and fixing IT-related problems – you waste time and money.

IT professionals free you to spend time and energy on revenue generating activities instead of unwanted distractions.



# Gain an Objective Look at Your Operations

An outside consultant can provide a new perspective and make recommendations based on their experience supporting a variety of projects in different industries.

They can bring in previously tested technologies, processes, and procedures to help your business improve efficiency, compete and grow.

## On-demand Resources - Flexible and Agile

Flexibility and agility are two keys to running a successful business. Sometimes you need to scale up quickly to take advantage of new opportunities, other times you are forced to retreat. Businesses can selectively add or reduce administrative functions and strategic expertise as needed.

The flexibility of a consultant's just-in-time resources enable a business to **respond to emergencies and adjust to rapidly changing day to day business requirements at less expense and without affecting employee morale.**

## Access to Otherwise Unavailable Support

Have you ever waited on the phone for "the next available technician"?

It's a proven fact that the passage of time actually slows during this wait. Einstein's Special Theory of Customer Support Relativity confirms this, as does most of quantum physics (as if anyone can really figure that stuff out – spooky support at a distance?).

**Seriously though, with a consultant you won't have to spend hours waiting for vendor tech support. It's readily available when you need it.**

## Gain Access to Highly Specialized Talent

An in-house IT department is great at issues such as fixing printers or re-assigning passwords. However, when it comes to challenges like managing cloud accounts, reducing operational expenses, and planning a technology roadmap they may not have all the required expertise and certifications.

An IT consultant will have experienced experts who continually undergo training and re-certification in fields such as cloud solutions, cybersecurity, infrastructure and server engineering, IT management and strategy, and Microsoft Office 365.

## Increase Security

Cybersecurity has never been more critical than today. Many small and medium-sized businesses believe they're safe, flying under the radar of hackers, but security through obscurity is a myth.

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60% of small businesses that suffer a cyberattack are out of business within 6 months.

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A professional IT consultant will conduct a network assessment to identify your vulnerabilities, create data security protocols, and establish a disaster recovery plan.

## And finally... the Luxury of Planning Time

How much free time do you have in your workday, and how would you like to use it? This is an important question for anyone managing a business. You need to be able to concentrate energies on driving sales and profits, not spend hours researching and planning your IT.

A good IT consultant will already be familiar with solutions you require. With their knowledge and expertise, they will provide an strategic IT plan and technology roadmap.

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Reach out to your Responza representative today

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