

Making the case for your firm's cloud-based financial and practice management system



Research from Gartner, Inc. shows that 80% of enterprises will migrate entirely away from on-premises data centers to some type of cloud-based solution by 2025. And forward-thinking law firms are sure to be among them. If you are trying to build a case in favor of cloud adoption at your firm, here are five talking points that will help you build a credible business argument for investing in a cloud-based solution.

1

Cost of on-prem vs. the cloud

Storing and maintaining all of a firm's financial and practice management systems on a physical on-premises server can be expensive and time consuming. Periodic maintenance and equipment upgrades eat up cash that could be invested in other parts of the business. And that time and expense requirement tends to grow as the firm's needs change. Cloud-based solutions require less time and remove the need for physical equipment.

Always up to date

Change is a constant disruptor at law firms. And technology upgrades with an on-premises system can sometimes feel like complete reinstalls with all the bugs and retraining that often come with them. Automatic upgrades eliminate the need to manage version installs and allow users to immediately enjoy the benefits of the new functionality.

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Configurability

There are very few straight-out-of-the-box legal tech solutions that give you all the features you need. Most on-premises solutions require costly and time-consuming customizations. Most cloud-based solutions, on the other hand, offer specialized modules you can configure to meet your firm's specific needs in a much more timely and cost-effective manner.

Equal (or better) performance

There has long been a misconception about cloud-based solutions that they don't provide the same level of functionality compared to an on-premises version. The truth is that, as long as you have a reliable internet connection, you will have access to all of the same features and capabilities as the on-prem version — but you can do it from anywhere and at any time.

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Minimize security worries

The importance of data security means firms need to be sure that the software they're using protects their customers' data. Cloud solutions often provide more security than on-premises solutions. With cloud software providers benefiting from "economies of scale," they are able to offer more robust security.

Getting started

In order to find the right solution, it's important to first understand what you have, what you need, and what you can do without. From there you can seek out the solution that best fits your firm's business. Take a complete inventory of the programs and systems you use, and rank them based on importance:

- **Red:** Can't function without it
- **Yellow:** Challenging, but manageable
- **Green:** Nice to have, but not critical

Use this inventory as a guide to help you identify the functionality your firm requires in its cloud-based solution.

Learn more

Download our [white paper](#) to learn more about how cloud-based solutions can help your firm.

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