Microsoft VS Google Workspace: Choosing the Right Platform

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Learning Objectives

- Learn the basics: Microsoft and Google Workspace as popular nonprofit IT platforms.
- Learn how to match nonprofit business needs with the appropriate IT platform.
- What are the platforms' strengths and weaknesses?
  - Ease of Use
  - Capabilities
  - Storage
  - Meeting/collaborating
  - AI tools
  - Managing Cybersecurity

Audience Question:

If you were starting a new nonprofit from scratch tomorrow, which platform would you pick, Microsoft or Google Workplace? Why?

Basics: Microsoft VS Google Workspace

- Email, Security, Management, File Storage, Collaboration, Calendar, etc. on one cloud platform
- License discounts for nonprofits
- Standard stack; reputable and widely used
- Similar but not identical stack

Audience Question:

When should you considering switching between Microsoft or Google Workplace or going to a hybrid solution mixing best features of both?

Why do we like our platform?

- Email: productivity and familiarity
- File storage: documents
- Collaboration with partners and colleagues
  - Internal via Teams/Meet
  - External: FedRAMP, education examples
- Identity and security
- Ease to administer
- Size of nonprofit, start up/established
- We’re used to it

Why would we change platforms?

- We are consistently collaborating with external stakeholders in the platform we're not using.
- We want a full enterprise stack that's integrated out of the box (Microsoft).
- We support Chromebooks.
- Accessibility
- We are Windows and Office Desktop Suite centric.

Be aware: it's a HUGE effort to change.

Audience Question:

What are your favorite tools within the Microsoft or Google Workplace stacks?

Compare and Contrast

Microsoft

- File storage limited
- Admin power
- Microsoft Teams
- Desktop Suite
- Seamless B2B collaboration with other M365 orgs.

Google Workspace

- File storage 100TB
- Admin simplicity
- Google Meet
- Google Docs
- Seamless collaboration with other Google Apps users.

Compare and Contrast

Microsoft

- Windows integration
- AI Tools: Copilot
- Owned/operated by a services company.
- Deeper and wider stack for the enterprise.

Google Workspace

- Chromebooks/Android integration
- AI Tools: Gemini
- Owned/operated by a search/advertising company.
- Services familiar from consumer experiences.

Q & A

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Thank You

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