



## How Outsourcing Can Help Your Business Tackle the Top 5 IT Issues Facing Small Business

Everyone dreams of running their own business. What they may not dream of, however, is the many, many challenges facing small business owners. From finance to personnel, marketing to sales, running a successful business is a delicate balancing act of responsibilities. Failing at any of these can spell the difference between a successful business and a failed business.

The last thing a small business owner needs is yet another responsibility to deal with, particularly one -- such as [information technology](#), or IT -- which is both critically important for their success but also far outside the comfort zone of many business owners.

This is why outsourcing IT services to a professional IT services company makes good sense for your business. At Combined Systems Technology, our trained staff can take care of your IT concerns, while you take care of building your business.

Here are the five top IT issues facing small businesses, and why you need a professional IT service to help you deal with them:

**Security:** Business runs on data. How secure is your data? What would happen if your confidential client information, HR records, or financial information were to fall into the wrong hands? Keeping your network safe from outside data breaches, viruses, and hackers takes a nuanced, multi-level approach.

**Cost containment:** Building and maintaining an IT infrastructure appropriate for your business -- at a cost that you can afford -- is critical for your success. Knowing what equipment and software to acquire, from whom, and at what cost, is a critical budgeting issue for any business. Knowing when to upgrade, versus when to replace, is also a critical part of IT cost containment. Trained IT professionals can speak the language of vendors and guarantee that your IT dollars are spent wisely.

**Upgrades:** Keeping on top of changing software and hardware requirements can be a challenge for any business. If your primary financial or other business-critical software package required extensive system upgrades -- such as additional memory for all of your desktop computers, new servers, additional network-attached storage or other storage options -- would you have the expertise in-house to perform the upgrades? Would you be able to do it in a timely, cost-effective manner?

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**Staffing:** Hiring, vetting, training and maintaining a trained, capable IT staff is a very, very expensive proposition for any business, and a near-impossibility for a small business. Keeping IT staff trained and up to date on the latest technologies you need to keep your business operating at peak efficiency is also an expensive, never-ending task. Outsourcing your IT services to CST guarantees that you will always have a highly trained, multi-disciplined IT staff on call to handle any IT emergency, with none of the expense and headaches of maintaining on-site IT personnel.

**Planning:** Many business make the oft-fatal mistake of assuming IT is a set-it-and-forget-it-proposition. However, effective IT management must be centered on the fact that IT is constantly evolving, growing, and changing. Key to this is effective long-range planning to ensure your business has not just the IT infrastructure it needs today, but will need tomorrow, next year, and the many years to come. This requires considerable expertise in all aspects of IT systems management. CST can provide this guidance to make sure your users have the right technology at the right time to ensure your success.

At CST, we understand what it takes to help your business succeed. Our highly trained IT professionals can take care of all of your IT needs -- so you can take care of your business.

[Contact us](#) to see how we can help you manage the growing IT needs of your business.

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