THE M&H MONITOR

Forward

Time to Replace Your PC or Server

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In today's world, all business owners face the same dilemma. In order to keep their profit margins as high as possible, they must keep their overhead costs at a minimum. This includes their labor costs, supplies, and even their budget for IT support. Often times, IT budgets are placed lower on the priority list, and equipment that should be replaced or upgraded is neglected.

Every piece of equipment on your network has a certain life expectancy. Desktop and laptop PCs life expectancy nowadays is around three to five years. Servers typically last around four to six years. Now this does not necessarily mean that when you hit this milestone you will come into the office one day and find a dead workstation or server. What you would expect to see, after these periods, is decreased efficiency of the machines. After years of use workstations and servers tend to accumulate a lot of "junk" that will inevitably cause their performance to decrease. What may also have seen as unlimited amount of storage space just a few years ago, may now be leaving you with barely any room left to store or add files.
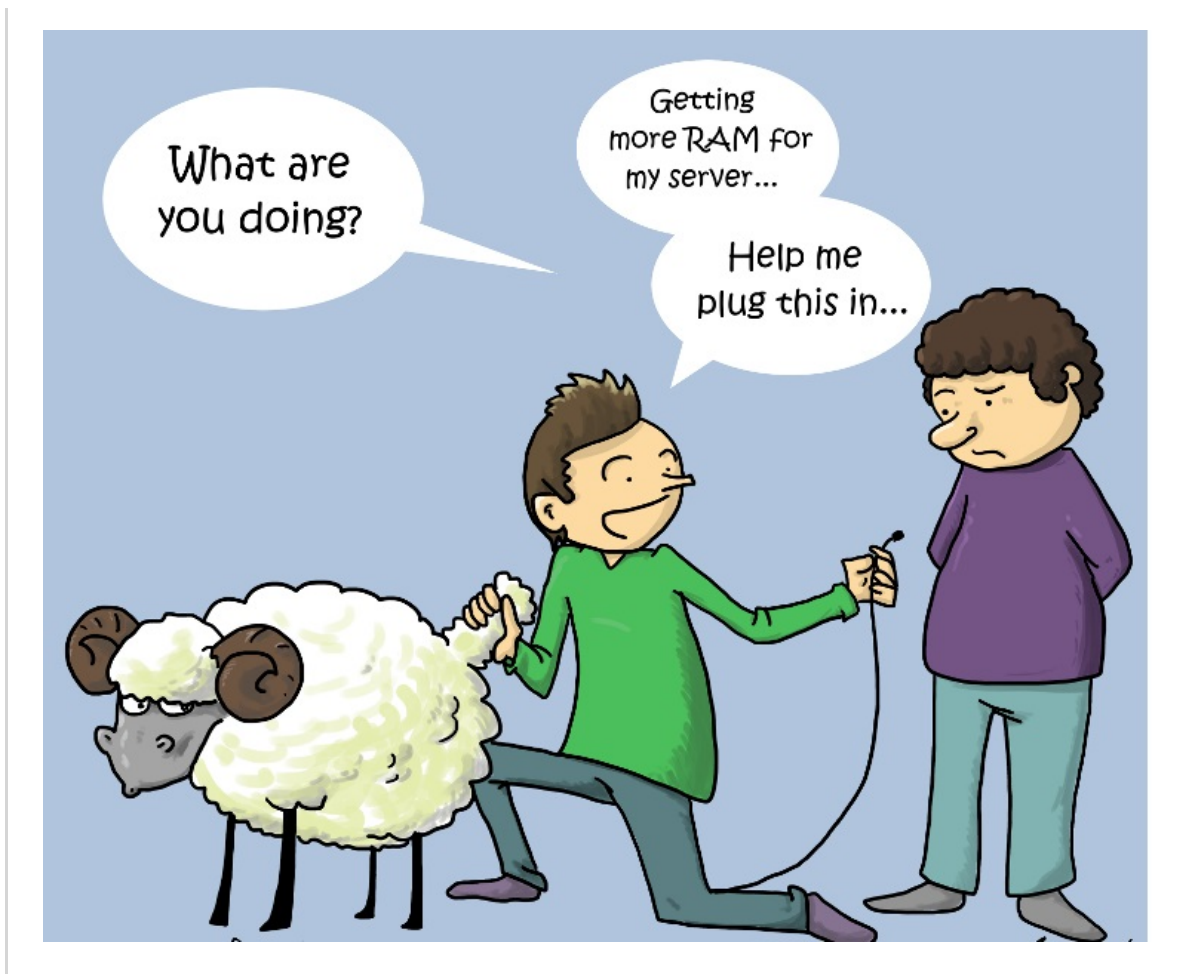
Another factor to consider is that as times goes on technology continues to improve. In addition, costs of these products continue to decline. You can typically get two or three times the memory for your machine, or a processor that is years more advanced for approximately what you paid for your prior machine. You can also find computers and servers with hard drive space three to four times what you currently have, or even look into solid state drives that allow your machines to operate at lightning speeds.

While replacing workstations and servers can often be a daunting and unwanted expense, there is often a side benefit that business owners usually don't take into consideration. If, for example, your employees have older machines and they constantly have to wait for programs to load, or emails to send, then you are ultimately losing productivity during this period. If the hardware your employees are using costs them even ten to fifteen minutes a day of productivity, these small amounts add up. Consider just a small office of five employees. This would equate to roughly four to six hours per week, which adds up to **TWO** to **THREE HUNDRED HOURS** of lost productivity over the course of a year! That is a lot of wasted time, and lost revenue!

When you do decide that replacing a computer, laptop or server would make sense make sure you take the time to speak with M&H first. Often times you will find great "deals" at brick and mortar stores that seem too good to pass up. Unfortunately, these products are generally targeted for home use, and not business use. More often than not, they will come with operating systems which would need to be upgraded to a higher version to work within a business environment. This could cost $100 to $200 of unexpected expense, not to mention the additional labor to process the upgrade. They also typically will not come with software necessary in today's business world, such as Office, or encryption software.

At M&H we are always here to help you with your PC/Server replacement needs. We will work with your budget, and make sure you are satisfied with all the work. When the time comes to replace that old machine feel free to reach out to us by calling 866-9MH-TECH (866-964-8324), or contacting our support email at **support@mhconsults.net**

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