



9 Tips to Simplify IT Procurement and Deployment



The Future of How We Work May Be Uncertain, but We Can Be Sure:



A large portion of the workforce will continue to stay remote.



The demand for better employee and student user experiences will continue to grow.



Business and education technology will continue to adapt to the current trends.

Workplace Transformation Has Evolved

Organizations worldwide are going through a technological renaissance. Remote and hybrid workspaces have become the norm.

In today's climate of high employee turnover rates, limited resources, and supply chain challenges, IT departments are under pressure to deliver optimal user experiences while protecting against evolving threats.

Finding, procuring, deploying, and supporting the technology your user types require isn't simple. And the wrong purchase can lead to extra spend, stress on resources, and added frustration.

This guide explores top challenges IT teams are currently faced with and strategies on how best to equip and support users—wherever they are.



Delivering with Speed and Agility



More than 70% of IT professionals prefer best-of-breed over single-vendor solutions.*

Researching, evaluating, and testing hardware and software can take up a lot of time. Coupling this with the supply chain challenges that will continue into the foreseeable future adds even more pressure on IT teams to deliver efficiently.

Take note on other ways your organization can adapt to global IT supply chain challenges.

[Listen to this TechSpierce podcast clip.](#)

Episode 106: Navigating Supply Chain Challenges
Peter Waters, Senior Director and Jessica Cerone, Director of Supply Chain, GlobalServe, A Connection Company



TIP 1

Procurement and deployment approaches need to adapt to today's unpredictable environment. Minimize long wait times for essential technology by leveraging a best-of-breed model over single-vendor solutions.




TIP 2

Plan for future inventory needs and have a list of pre-selected alternatives ready. Multinational companies can minimize the impact of global currency fluctuations by building in a variance buffer, plan in USD, and minimize the time in between the quoting process and the final transaction.

*Ponemon Institute, 2021, The State of SD-WAN, SASE and Zero Trust Security Architectures.

Managing Devices with Limited Resources

 **63% of IT professionals** say it has become more difficult to make decisions about investments in technology solutions since COVID-19.*

Hybrid and remote users have increased the time and energy IT spends deploying and managing devices. Well-integrated solutions can certainly help minimize disruptions and support requests. But how can teams get there?

Check out this podcast to discover what new strategies are needed to fill your IT positions.

[Listen to this TechSpierce podcast clip.](#)

Episode 108: Current Trends and Challenges of IT Staffing
Patrick Dja Konan, IT Staffing Manager and Timothy Duffy, IT Staffing Manager at Connection.



TIP 3

Teams can proficiently manage end-user needs and preferences by developing persona-based user profiles with pre-validated devices and solutions that meet your security and compliance requirements.



TIP 4

Although it takes more time upfront, developing robust user training materials can alleviate the pressure on your IT support team in the long run.



TIP 5

Struggling to fill your open IT positions? You're not alone. With the high demand for IT professionals due to hybrid and remote work environments, traditional recruiting activities are no longer effective. IT and HR teams should forecast staffing needs and build a pipeline of candidates through year-round recruiting efforts.

Mitigating Security Risks



73% of security decision makers are fighting to keep up with the increased volume of security threats that the remote and hybrid working models create.*

Hybrid and remote users depend on personal and public Wi-Fi networks to connect, leading to increased risks to your organization's data and network.

Malicious actors continue to grow in skill and sophistication—not to mention frequency of attacks. But as threats continue to evolve, so should your cybersecurity posture.



Visit our series of cybersecurity blogs for tips on how to protect your organization from bad actors and emerging threats.

[Read more here.](#)



TIP 6

Front-line protection starts with the user. Multifactor authentication and consistent training on phishing scams and other cyberthreats are key. Equipping users with devices and applications that have built-in security features is also critical to defense.



TIP 7

To strengthen your overall cybersecurity strategy, have a zero-trust mindset, conduct a holistic risk assessment, and develop a long-term security roadmap to mitigate against evolving cyberthreats.

Enhancing the User Experience



86% of security decision makers rate providing a seamless employee experience as extremely or very important.*

A great onboarding and ongoing user experience is the key to winning and retaining the best talent. From imaging and shipping devices right to a user's doorstep to having streamlined collaboration tools, the emphasis on IT's role in overall job satisfaction has grown in importance.



Hear how companies can reimagine the workplace experience and find out why prioritizing meeting equity is vital.

[Listen to this TechSpersion podcast clip.](#)

Episode 110: Reimagining the Workplace Experience
Nathan Coutinho, Head of Analyst Relations and Business Strategy at Logitech



TIP 8

By using cloud-based applications, end users have the flexibility to work and collaborate anywhere. Cloud computing streamlines maintenance and security oversight. It will also scale for growth when implemented effectively.



TIP 9

Not sure what your users want? Get user feedback to better understand what they need and how they work to ensure the resources spent on technology and meeting rooms will be adopted successfully.

There's a Better Way



How do you ensure a positive user experience?



What products and services optimize productivity?



How do you ensure security for hybrid and remote users?



What can you do to overcome hardware shortages and streamline procurement?



Are there ways to lighten the load for IT staff?

YOUR WHEREVER WORKSPACE

Your Wherever Workspace™ helps IT procure and deploy essential technology with customizable, best-of-breed hardware, software, and services bundles.

Use these persona-based profiles to empower your on-site, hybrid, and remote users for success.

www.connection.com/yourwhereverworkspace

1.800.998.0067



*Bundles are for example only and are subject to change.

Your IT Department's IT Department

Technology matters. But what you do matters most. The right tools—built for your unique users, environment, and mission—can help you focus on doing what you do best. Let the experts at Connection listen to your needs, understand your goals, and deliver IT solutions and services designed around you.

Connection, a Fortune 1000 Global Solutions Provider, drives customer satisfaction by calming the confusion of IT and guiding the connection between people and technology.

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