

Benefits of Microsoft Exchange Email hosted by Avulant vs. a typical Internet Service Providers email

A typical Internet Service Providers email can do a fine job of sending and receiving emails if that is all the functionality you need. But if you are looking for more, outlined below are the differences you can expect by upgrading to a hosted and managed Microsoft Exchange service by Avulant.

- **Centralized Address Lists:** All of your employees are automatically added to the "Global Address List" which is available to all users when addressing email.
- **Centralized Groups:** Groups of users (distribution lists) can be created within Exchange Server and then appear in the "Global Address List" which is available to all users when addressing email.
- **Public Folders:** Public Folders are centralized folders that can be accessed by all employees. Access to these folders can be restricted (by user or group) to provide whatever level of security is needed. Public Folders can contain any kind of information including Contact info (Name, address, phone, email, etc), Appointments (Calendars), Tasks, or Email. Some examples of public folders include:
 - Contact information for your business partners (insurance company contacts, vendor contacts, etc.)
 - Calendars to schedule the use of shared resources like conference rooms.
 - A central place for email to be delivered to where a group of employees can have access (for example, info@mycompany.com or sales@mycompany.com, you might not want these emails going to only one employee, or you might want them to be able to be answered immediately)
- **Group Enabled Outlook Features:** With Exchange Server, everything in Outlook becomes "group enabled". Your calendar, task list, Inbox, etc. can all be viewed or modified by other users. Of course, you decide how much, if any, access you want to allow to your information. These features are great for executive assistants to check emails or schedule appointments on your calendar.
- **Meeting Planner:** Exchange Server features a Meeting Planner that lets you select users for a meeting, checks each user's calendar to determine a free time, and then notifies each user and updates their calendars with the scheduled meeting.
- **Out of Office Assistant:** Exchange Server provides a simple tool to notify others when you are out of the office. Just go to the Out of Office

Assistant, tell it you are out of the office, and type a message. Whenever you receive email, the sender automatically receives an email back with your message. If you will be gone for a long time, you can have your email forwarded to another user so nothing falls through the cracks.

- **Outlook Web Access:** Outlook Web Access (webmail) is a Web browser based version of Outlook with almost all the same features. Now you can access your email, calendar, contacts, etc. any time, from any PC, from anywhere in the world, via a Web browser.
- **Unlimited Internet Email Addresses:** Exchange Server allows each of your users to have as many email addresses as they want. John Doe's email address can be john@..., jdoe@..., johnd@..., and sales@... all at the same time. Exchange Server also supports as many different domain names as you want. You can have addresses at mycompany.com, mycompany.net, and myothercompany.com all at the same time, under a single mailbox.
- **Real Time Email:** With Exchange Server, everything happens right now. You receive your email as soon as it arrives at the server and when you send an email it goes immediately. This applies whether you are using Outlook, Webmail, or a Handheld device such as a Blackberry.
- **Administration:** Exchange Server provides easier and more complete administration of email. With a typical Internet Service Providers email, everything is stored on each user's individual PC. With Exchange Server, all the data is stored in a database on the server. There are many benefits to this including:
 - All email, contacts, calendars, etc. are included in the nightly backup of the server. When a PC "crashes", the email will not be lost because it is stored on the server. If a server were to ever "crash", the email can be restored from the backup along with all of your other data.
 - When a user gets a new computer, there is no need to manually move the email and address lists from the old PC to the new PC. With Exchange Server you just tell the new PC which mailbox you want to access on the server and log in.
 - Virus and Spam software for Exchange Server helps prevent viruses and spam from getting into your companies mailboxes.