

Overcoming IT asset refresh challenges

As technology evolves, organizations must keep up with these changes to maintain optimal efficiency and security. One of the key steps toward achieving this goal is refreshing IT assets, which involves updating hardware, software, and other technological components. While the benefits of IT asset refresh are clear, IT asset managers often face numerous challenges. This article will explore some of the most significant obstacles to IT asset refresh and discuss practical solutions for overcoming them.

Importance of IT asset refresh

The goal of IT asset refresh is to keep an organization's technological infrastructure up-to-date and secure, ultimately leading to better productivity, higher efficiency, and increased profitability. Outdated systems and technologies can hinder an organization's progress, while new and advanced technologies can offer a competitive advantage.

Challenges faced by IT asset managers

IT asset managers face several challenges during the asset refresh process, including:

> Outdated systems and technologies

Outdated systems and technologies are among the most significant challenges during asset refresh. Legacy systems and software can be costly to maintain and also pose security risks.

The solution to outdated systems and technologies is regularly reviewing and updating the organization's technology. This involves identifying systems and software that are no longer effective and replacing them with newer, more efficient options.

> Limited budget and resources

Limited budget and resources can hinder an organization's ability to purchase the new hardware required to stay up-to-date. It can also be challenging for IT asset managers to get the approval for the budget needed to refresh IT assets.

To overcome limited budget and resources, IT asset managers can prioritize which IT assets need to be refreshed immediately and which can wait. They can also explore options like leasing hardware and using software-as-a-service (SaaS) rather than purchasing outright.

IT asset refresh services deliver:

- > Managed service to refresh assets
- > Centralized process management
- > Improved data security
- > Reduced IT costs
- > Increased efficiency



> **Complex procurement processes**

Procurement processes can be lengthy and complicated, making it difficult to refresh IT assets quickly. This can be incredibly challenging for IT asset managers managing the procurement process while also juggling other responsibilities.

To simplify the procurement process, IT asset managers can work with vendors to make sure they're meeting the organization's needs. They can also create a standard procurement process that can be replicated for future IT asset refreshes.

> **Data security and privacy concerns**

Data security and privacy concerns are of utmost importance for any organization. The asset refresh process may introduce new risks, and IT asset managers must take the necessary measures to mitigate them.

To mitigate data security and privacy risks during IT asset refreshes, IT

asset managers can collaborate with their IT security teams to proactively identify and address potential threats. Ensuring that all software and hardware are updated and patched against vulnerabilities is also important. Additionally, partnering with vendors with extensive experience in providing data security while replacing old IT assets with new ones can be beneficial.

> **Employee resistance to change**

Resistance to change is another challenge IT asset managers face during the asset refresh process. Employees may resist new technologies or changes to their work routines, making the process more difficult.

Communicating with employees about the reasons for the IT asset refresh and the benefits it will bring can help overcome employee resistance to change. Providing training and support can also help employees adjust to new technologies.

Final thoughts

Overall, navigating the obstacles of IT asset refresh can be challenging for IT asset managers. However, identifying the challenges and developing practical solutions can make the process more manageable and successful. It's essential to remember that IT asset refresh is an ongoing process, and it's important to regularly review and update an organization's technology to maintain optimal efficiency and security. Organizations can stay ahead of the curve by prioritizing updates and working with trusted vendors with decades of experience addressing data security and privacy concerns and reap the benefits of a modern, efficient technological infrastructure.

Learn how Iron Mountain's Workplace IT Asset Management can support your business needs

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