

The Blurred Line: Work/Life Balance and the Cloud

Migrating to the cloud opens many doors of opportunity for a new way to work. As an IT leader, your job is to maximize the positive, mitigate the negative, and offer practical solutions toward progress. When leading conversations with staff about modernizing technology, focus on what's in it for them.

One of the biggest advantages of modern technology is the ability to improve work/life balance for your staff. Tambellini Analyst Dave Kieffer and Strategic Advisor Hampton Shive highlight how moving to the cloud can help develop the flexibility your staff need and warn how this increased flexibility can also lead to 24/7 expectations.

See how easily the lines can blur when teams are working in the cloud.



Dave Kieffer



Hampton Shive

<p>Our new tools allow me to be more productive while I am in the office. Collaborating with my colleagues is a lot easier since we can keep in touch while we are in different locations.</p>	<h2>Working Smarter Not Harder</h2>	<p>Apps make it easy for me and my team to take our work with us no matter where we are located, but the notifications can be endless!</p>
<p>Distance is no longer a barrier—I can work from anywhere at any time. Traveling just became a whole lot more productive.</p>	<h2>Remote Flexibility</h2>	<p>Distance is no longer a barrier, but I find myself responding 24/7. I no longer feel the need to take a break or vacation, and neither do my colleagues.</p>
<p>I need to spend more time with my family, pick up my kids from school, and get dinner made on time. Good thing the cloud allows me to log off early at the office and then log back on later to tie up loose ends.</p>	<h2>Feeling in Control</h2>	<p>It's the weekend and I cannot believe I am unable to resist the temptation to check my work email, respond to certain correspondence, and finish up a project.</p>

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THE BALANCE: Tips for Managing Technology Tools

- Pick the right apps and tools for your institutions. To achieve a healthy work/life balance for team members, be aware of staff needs and administrators expectations before making a selection. It is crucial to align expectations with execution.
- Be picky with apps you allow on your mobile device. If you do allow an app, then be selective with notifications.
- Respect after-hours and time off for employees and yourself.
- Allow team member's to work remotely on occasion. You may find that staff can be more productive when they are in a different environment, or outside of normal business hours.
- Encourage time off and screen breaks. Having the freedom to unplug—even for 15-30 minutes—can lead to big benefits for individual employees and teams.

