



## Use Case: Agile Workspace

## Desktop as a Service

### The Facts:

Metaphor IT practice what they preach.

All of their staff have access to the technologies they offer to clients, enabling them to work from any location, at any time, on any device and on any Internet connection.

*“We are reducing our physical footprint and offering our staff the flexibility to dictate their own workspace whilst providing them with the toolset they require to achieve their goals”.*

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### What is Agile working?

Agile Working is a term used when an organisation wants to empower its employees to work wherever, whenever and however they choose. Agile working uses information technology to provide maximum flexibility with minimum constraints.

For this to be achieved, you need an IT system that will allow people to access their data and applications from any place, on any device and at any time but remaining secure throughout the whole process.

### I'm a live case study in many ways.

I'm writing this article on my iPad on the train. I usually access my work files and applications via a virtual desktop which allows me to work on any device from any location (with a stable-ish Internet connection). However, my 4G signal is pretty hit and miss on the train due to some long tunnels so I have all my essential files sync'd to my phone, iPad, home laptop, work VDI etc. via Citrix ShareFile.

What this means is that as soon as I hit a WiFi spot or my 4G connects, all my files are sync'd back to the work servers and available for everyone else to view. Even better for me is that I can roll back to previous iterations of the document and have my marketing team notified as soon as a new blog post is saved so they can start correcting my poor English and publish it!

The technology available to work from anywhere and from any type of connection (including not having a connection) has come on leaps and bounds in the last couple of years and this is where the term Agile Workspace comes from. It's also become accessible to smaller businesses whereas as just twelve months ago, only the big Enterprise businesses could afford to use this sort of technology.

For me as a business owner, I also know that the data and applications aren't leaving the business via things like Dropbox etc. and that gives me confidence that we are compliant with all the current and incoming legislation and peace of mind that we don't have data leakage issues like many businesses.

Agile Workspaces are based on the concept that work is an activity we do, rather than a place we go.

With the technology, available to modern business, there are numerous tools to help us work in new and different ways, to meet customer needs, reduce costs, increase Productivity and improve sustainability.

- CTO, Metaphor IT

## The Value of Flexible Working:

- ✓ Cost Savings
- ✓ Time savings from commuting
- ✓ Work-life balance
- ✓ Increased Productivity
- ✓ Skills Utilisation

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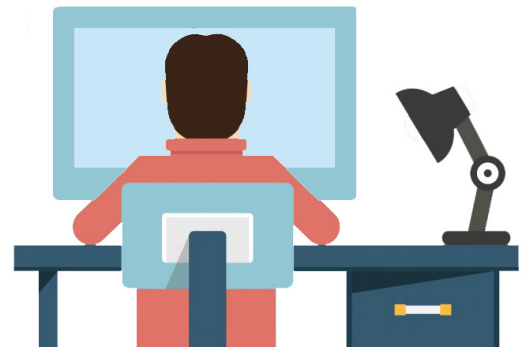
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## Life is now easier...

For me it's a bit of a life changer. That sounds pretty dramatic I know and it's not meant to be but it has helped me spend far more time with my family. I can now work on the train even without a signal and access all the information I need to do my job.

This means that rather than sitting reading a paper or book, I am working and that gives me two hours more of productivity a day. That alone gives me two hours of my life back to spend helping my wife with the school run or watching my kids school play or any of those other special moments that often get missed by working parents.

I can also work from home as though I am in the office. My desk phone diverts to either my virtual desktop or my mobile, whatever I choose, I have access to all the same applications and data as I do in the office. I basically carry my office around with me and that enables me to decide how and when I work, making me more Agile.



I certainly have a better work/life balance now and I would say that I get more done and am far more productive than I have been in previous businesses when I was tied to a desk from 9 until 5.

## Virtual Workspaces for your Business

Our Hosted Desktop Services are built across highly available, enterprise class datacentres in the U.K that deliver all your applications and data securely. Using any device, in any location, your workforce will have a plethora of options for home-working, 'hot-desking' and other flexible working environments, all proven to increase productivity and ultimately, the efficiency of the business.

