

MODERNIZING IT DURING COVID-19:

Now is the right time



A way forward despite uncertain times

Over the past year, IT teams have had to change how they work and even what projects they work on. With the climate of uncertainty, budgets have been re-adjusted and perhaps tightened, some projects have been shelved while others have unexpectedly bloomed, and hiring and staffing levels have been affected.

At first glance, it may seem contrarian to state that now is the right time to modernize IT infrastructure. But think again - You usually don't build or fix a bridge at rush hour with a crush of cars and trucks going over it. In a similar vein, now is also the right time to address the widespread technical deficit that exists in IT infrastructure.

With lower demands and higher dependency, it's a good time to tackle applications and move them to new, faster, secure servers. It's one of the most productive tasks you can give to remote team members. It's also preparing the business to scale with modern IT infrastructure when business volumes return. It's an opportunity to be pro-active during reactive times and stay ahead of the curve.

Despite COVID-19, many IT teams are indicating that they are just as productive as before and that cloud onboarding is ramping up ([see our recent survey results](#)). Many Tech sector organizations are reporting that the number of Sales meetings booked are slightly below or above pre-COVID averages, and that while the volume of deals is trending lower than before COVID, they are increasing lately.

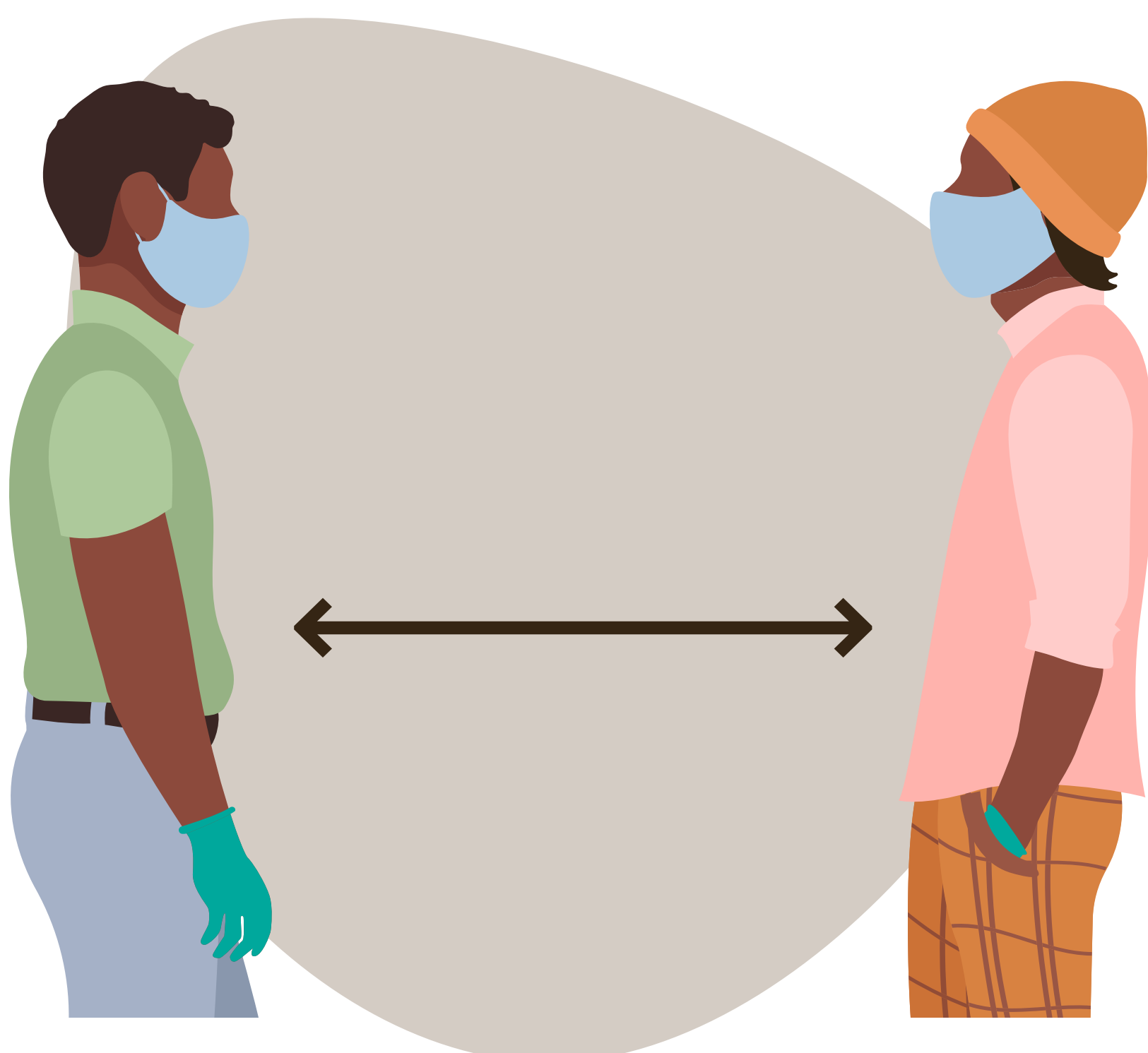
What does this mean? Things in the Tech and IT sectors are starting to improve. It also confirms that now really is the time to prepare to scale tomorrow.

In practical terms, how do you move forward now with modernization? Here are 3 tips we thought you might find useful:

1. Adjust Your IT Plans

2. Buy Time and Still Move Forward

3. Be Creative, Be Nimble



ADJUST YOUR IT PLANS



If your IT team hasn't already done so, re-examine your IT budget and plans for 2021/2022. If tightened budget and remote staff, not to mention offshored IT, are impacting your big app redevelopment plans, now may be the time to pull forward smaller modernization projects that are less risky, less costly, more easily achieved with a smaller, remote team, and take less time to accomplish.

For example, now might be the perfect time to tackle cloud onboarding.

BUY TIME AND STILL MOVE FORWARD



Maybe your big app re-architecture project has been shelved. You can still achieve improvements in security and performance with a stateful re-install of legacy Windows Server apps on modern operating systems and new hardware. Modern servers extend the useful life of legacy apps by several years, giving you time for modernization and re-architecture once IT gets beyond current constraints. A stateful re-install buys you time to get over the COVID-19 hump and back to normal operations in the medium to long term.

When you move legacy apps from an unsupported OS to a modern OS like WS2012, WS2016, and WS2019 on new hardware, you're taking the first step in modernizing an app. Moving is essentially a stateful re-install of the app on a new, secure OS. You get to keep the current state of the app – patches, configuration data – and extend its life on a new OS.

It's a move you can do now, while working remotely. VirtaMove AI-based, automated migration tools and our migration methodologies are ideally suited to remote work.

BE CREATIVE, BE NIMBLE



Despite current challenges, there's still a way to move forward with app modernization. Now is a good time to approach IT projects and goals creatively.

- Identify your current operational obstacles to productivity and make a plan to mitigate or eliminate these obstacles.
- Nurture success: find projects, no matter how small, that will achieve progress and foster a climate of positivity in your organization. Success is contagious!
- Make lemonade: your team is working remotely? Make the most of it. Leverage technologies, such as VPNs and teleconferencing that will encourage remote productivity. Meet often and adjust as you go. Focus on IT projects that can be done remotely.



ABOUT VIRTAMOVE

VirtaMove subscription-based software moves server applications to new cloud or datacenter servers in a fraction of the time and cost associated with traditional migration methods. Install scripts and source code not required. Encapsulating Windows Server and Linux applications in VM/OS-free moving containers, VirtaMove's patented software provides an automated, stateful re-install of most complex server applications. VirtaMove allows you to modernize your infrastructure, moving from an old, unsupported OS to a newer one with automation – modernize and move forward to a new datacenter server or cloud in one step. Reach out to us at info@virtamove.com or check out our website www.virtamove.com to learn more.