



What You Should Expect To Pay For IT Support For Your Business

*The Southern California Business Owners' Guide
To IT Support Services And Fees*

(And How To Get *Exactly* What You Need Without
Unnecessary Extras, Hidden Fees And Bloated Contracts)

Read this guide and you will discover:

- ✓ The 3 most common ways IT services companies charge for their services, and the pros and cons of each approach.
- ✓ A common billing model that puts ALL THE RISK on you, the customer, when buying IT services; you will learn what it is and why you need to avoid agreeing to it.
- ✓ Exclusions, hidden fees and other “gotcha” clauses IT companies put in their contracts that you DON'T want to agree to.
- ✓ How to make sure you know exactly what you are getting to avoid disappointment, frustration and added costs later that you did not anticipate.
- ✓ 20 revealing questions to ask your IT support firm BEFORE giving them access to your computer network, e-mail, and data.

Never Ask An IT Services Company, “What Do You Charge For Your Services?” Instead, You Should Ask, “**What Will I Get For My Money?**”

Dear Colleague,

If you are the CEO, manager, or owner of a business in the Greater Los Angeles Area that is currently looking to outsource some or all the IT support for your company, this report contains important information that will be extremely valuable to you as you search for a competent firm you can **trust**.

***My name is Justin Bragg, Owner of Shift Computer Services. We provide IT services to businesses in the Southern California area, 15 years and counting. You may not have heard of us before, but I am sure you are familiar with one or more of the other business who are clients of ours. A few of their comments are enclosed later in this report.

One of the most commons questions we get from new prospective clients calling our office is “What do you guys charge for your services?” Since this is such a common question — and a very important one to address — I decided to write this report for 3 reasons:

1. I wanted an easy way to answer this question and educate all prospective clients who come to us on the most common ways IT services companies package and price their services, and the pros and cons of each approach.
2. I wanted to bring to light a few “industry secrets” about IT service contracts and SLAs (service level agreements) that almost no business owner thinks about, understands, or knows to ask about when evaluating IT service providers that can end up burning you with hidden fees and locking you into a long-term contract when they are unwilling or unable to deliver the quality of service you need.
3. I wanted to educate business owners on how to pick the **right** IT services company for their specific situation, budget and needs based on the **VALUE** the company can deliver, not just the price, high OR low.

In the end, my purpose is to help you make the most informed decision possible, so you end up working with someone who helps you solve your problems and accomplish what you want in a time frame, manner and budget that is right for you.

Dedicated to serving you,

Justin Bragg

Provided as an educational service by:

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About the Author:

Justin Bragg is founder and owner of Shift Computer Services, an IT & Cybersecurity service company based in the greater Los Angeles area.

Justin has over 20 years experiences in the IT industry and holds several professional certifications. After spending a few years managing and optimizing the IT department of a small business, thus reducing his workload down to a part time job, Justin realized there a great opportunity to provide his expertise to other several other businesses. Therefore in 2005, Justin met with the President of his existing employer, and offered to provide the same services as an outsourced IT vendor instead of an employee, at less than half the cost. After that meeting, and securing his former employer as his first client, he founded Shift Computer Services.

From day one, Justin set the foundational mission statement of Shift Computer Services: Build long-term strategic relationships with Southern California Businesses by providing honest, reliable, and trustworthy IT solutions designed to allow business owners to focus on their customers and businesses, and not on technology. Over the past 15 years, Justin has built a team of engineers and support staff to standardize and implement a complete portfolio of outsourced technology services for businesses in Southern California.

Comparing Apples To Apples: The Predominant IT Service Models Explained

Before you can accurately compare the fees, services, and deliverables of one IT services company to another, you need to understand the 3 predominant service models most of these companies fit within. Some companies offer a blend of all 3, while others are strict about offering only one service plan. The 3 predominant service models are:

- **Time and Materials.** In the industry, we call this “break-fix” services. Essentially you pay an agreed-upon hourly rate for a technician to “fix” your problem when something “breaks.” Under this model, you might be able to negotiate a discount based on buying a block of hours. The scope of work may be simply to resolve a specific problem (like removing a virus), or it may encompass a large project like a computer network upgrade or move that has a specific result and end date clarified. Some companies will offer staff augmentation and placement under this model as well.
- **Managed IT Services.** This is a model where the IT services company takes the role of your “IT department” and not only installs and supports all the devices and PCs that connect to your server(s), but also offers phone and on-site support, antivirus, security, backup and a host of other services to monitor and maintain the health, speed, performance and security of your computer network.
- **Software Vendor-Supplied IT Services.** Many software companies will offer IT support for their customers in the form of a help desk or remote support for an additional fee. However, these are typically scaled-back services, limited to troubleshooting their specific application and NOT your entire computer network and all the applications and devices connected to it. If your problem resides outside of their specific software or the server it is hosted on, they cannot help you and will often refer you to “your IT department.” While it is often a good idea to buy some basic-level support package with a critical software application you use to run your business, this is not enough to provide the full IT services and support most businesses need to stay up and running.

When looking to outsource your IT support, the two service models you are most likely to end up having to choose between are the “managed IT services” and “break-fix” models. Therefore, let us dive into the pros and cons of these two options, and then the typical fee structure for both.

Managed IT Services Vs. Break-Fix: Which Is The Better, More Cost-Effective Option?

You have probably heard the famous Benjamin Franklin quote, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” I could not agree more — and that is why it is my sincere belief that the managed IT approach is, by far, the most cost-effective, smartest long-term strategic option for any small

business. The only time I would recommend a “time and materials” approach is when you already have a competent IT person or team proactively managing your computer network and simply have a specific IT project to complete that your current in-house IT team does not have the time or expertise to implement (such as a network upgrade, installing a backup solution, etc.). Outside of that specific scenario, I do not think the break-fix approach is a good idea for general IT support for one very important, fundamental reason: you will ultimately end up paying for a pound of “cure” for problems that could have easily been avoided with an “ounce” of prevention.

Why Regular Monitoring And Maintenance Is Critical For Today’s Computer Networks

The fact of the matter is computer networks absolutely, positively need ongoing maintenance and monitoring to stay secure. The ever-increasing dependency we have on IT systems and the data they hold — not to mention the *type* of data we are now saving digitally — has given rise to very smart and sophisticated cybercrime organizations and who work around the clock to do one thing: compromise your networks for illegal activities.

In most cases their intent is to access financial information and passwords to rob you (or your clients), create fake identities for credit card fraud, etc. In other cases, they may want to use your computer network to send illegal spam, host pirated software, spread viruses, etc. Some even do it just for the “fun” of being able to make computer systems inoperable. These criminals work around the clock in teams, constantly finding and inventing new ways to get around your antivirus software and firewalls; that is why you must remain ever vigilant against their attacks.

Of course, this does not even take into consideration other common “disasters” such as rogue employees, lost devices, hardware failures (which are the #1 reason for data loss), fire and natural disasters and a host of other issues that can interrupt or outright destroy your IT infrastructure and the data it holds. Then there’s regulatory compliance for any business hosting or touching credit card or financial information, medical records and even client contact information such as e-mail addresses.

Preventing these problems and keeping your systems up and running (which is what managed IT services is all about) is a LOT less expensive and damaging to your organization than waiting until one of these things happens and then paying for emergency IT services to restore your systems to working order (break-fix).

Should You Just Hire A Full-Time IT Manager?

In most cases, it is not cost-effective for companies with under 100 employees to hire a full-time IT person, because you can outsource this function of your business far cheaper and with a lot less work; but you DO want to hire a professional to perform basic maintenance just as you would hire an attorney to handle your legal matters or an accountant to prepare your taxes. **If you truly**

understand the cost of your TIME and factor in employee productivity, the managed IT services model is considerably less expensive over time than the “break-fix” model.

Why “Break-Fix” Works Entirely In The Consultant’s Favor, *Not* Yours

Under a “break-fix” model, there is a fundamental conflict of interests between you and your IT firm. The IT services company has no incentive to stabilize your computer network or to resolve problems quickly because they are getting paid by the hour; therefore, the risk of unforeseen circumstances, scope creep, learning curve inefficiencies and outright incompetence are all shifted to YOU, the customer. Essentially, the more problems you have, the more they profit, which is precisely what you DON’T want.

Under this model, the IT consultant can take the liberty of assigning a junior (lower-paid) technician to work on your problem who may take two to three times as long to resolve an issue that a more senior (and more expensive) technician may have resolved in a fraction of the time. There is no incentive to properly manage the time of that technician or their efficiency, and there is every reason for them to prolong the project and to find MORE problems than solutions. Of course, if they are ethical and want to keep you as a client, they *should* be doing everything possible to resolve your problems quickly and efficiently; however, that’s akin to putting a German shepherd in charge of watching over the ham sandwiches. Not a good idea.

Second, it creates a management problem for you, the customer, who now has to keep track of the hours they’ve worked to make sure you aren’t getting overbilled; and since you often have no way of really knowing if they’ve worked the hours they say they have, it creates a situation where you really, truly need to be able to trust they are being 100% ethical and honest AND tracking THEIR hours properly (not all do).

And finally, it makes budgeting for IT projects and expenses a nightmare since they may be zero one month and thousands the next.

What To Look For In A Managed IT Services Agreement And What You Should Expect To Pay

Important! Please note that the following price quotes are industry averages based on a recent IT industry survey conducted of over 750 different IT services firms. We are providing this information to give you a general idea of what most IT services firms charge and to help you understand the VAST DIFFERENCES in service contracts that you must be aware of before signing on the dotted line. Please understand that this does NOT reflect our pricing model or approach, which is simply to understand exactly what you want to accomplish FIRST and then customize a solution based on your specific needs, budget and situation.

Hourly Break-Fix Fees: Most IT services companies selling break-fix services charge between \$125 and \$200 per hour with a one-hour minimum. In most cases, they will give you a discount of 5% to as much as 20% on their hourly rates if you purchase and pay for a block of hours in advance.

If they are quoting a **project**, the fees range widely based on the scope of work outlined. If you are hiring an IT consulting firm for a project, I would suggest you demand the following:

- **A very detailed scope of work that specifies what “success” is.** Make sure you detail what your expectations are in performance, workflow, costs, security, access, etc. The more detailed you can be, the better. Detailing your expectations up front will go a long way in avoiding miscommunications and additional fees later to give you what you REALLY wanted.
- **A fixed budget and time frame for completion.** Agreeing to this up front aligns both your agenda and the consultant’s. Be very wary of loose estimates that allow the consulting firm to bill you for “unforeseen” circumstances. The bottom line is this: it is your IT consulting firm’s responsibility to be able to accurately assess your situation and quote a project based on their experience. You should not have to pick up the tab for a consultant underestimating a job or for their inefficiencies. A true professional knows how to take into consideration those contingencies and bill accordingly.

Managed IT Services: Most managed IT services firms will quote you a MONTHLY fee based on the number of users or devices they need to maintain, back up and support. In Southern California, that fee is somewhere in the range of \$250 to \$400 per server, \$150 to \$250 per desktop and approximately \$15 per smartphone or mobile device.

If you hire an IT consultant and sign up for a managed IT services contract, here are some things that SHOULD be included (make sure you read your contract to validate this):

- IT Support Helpdesk for end users to call for support
- Network Operations Center – monitoring and resolving issues proactively
- 24x7x365 Security Operations Center (SOC) monitoring and management
- Security patches applied weekly, if not daily, for urgent and emerging threats
- Cybersecurity services: dark web monitoring, employee security awareness & training
- Antivirus / anti-malware updates and management
- Firewall & Network updates and management
- Backup management, verification and test restores for local and cloud data
- Comprehensive Email security services updates and management
- Management of hardware for signs of failure and proactively fixing and/or replacing
- Optimizing network and computer systems for optimal usage
- New users and computer setup
- Connectivity management and monitoring (Internet, Telephone service, Wireless)

The following services may **NOT be included** and will often be billed separately. This is not necessarily a “scam” or unethical UNLESS the managed IT services company tries to hide these fees when selling you a service agreement. Make sure you review your contract carefully to know what is and is NOT included!

- Hardware, such as new servers, PCs, laptops, network switches, firewalls, wireless, etc.
- Software licensing
- On-site support
- After-hours support
- Office moves and large project work

Warning! Gray areas of “all-inclusive” service contracts. In order to truly compare the “cost” of one managed IT services contract to another, you need to make sure you fully understand what IS and ISN’T included AND the “SLA” or “service level agreement” you are signing up for. It is VERY easy for one IT services provider to appear far less expensive than another UNTIL you look closely at what you are getting.

The following are 20 questions to ask your IT services provider that will clarify exactly what you are getting for the money. Some of these items may not be that important to you, while others (like response time, adequate insurance and uptime guarantees) may be critical. Make sure you fully understand each of these items before deciding about who the right provider is for you; then make sure you get this IN WRITING.

20 Service Clarification Questions You Should Ask Your IT Services Firm Before Signing A Contract

Customer Service:

Q1: Do they answer their phones live or do you always have to leave a voicemail and wait for someone to call you back?

Our Answer: We answer our phones live from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and give all clients an emergency after-hours number they may call if a problem arises, even on weekends. Why? Because many of the CEOs and executives we support work outside normal hours and find it the most productive time they have. If they cannot access their computer network AND cannot get hold of anyone to help them, it is incredibly frustrating.

Q2: Do they offer a written, guaranteed response time to your calls?

Our Answer: We guarantee to have a technician working on a problem within 60 minutes or less of your call. This is written into every service agreement we give to our clients because it is standard procedure.

Q3: Do they take the time to explain what they are doing and answer your questions in terms that you can understand (not geek-speak), or do they come across as arrogant and make you feel stupid for asking simple questions?

Our Answer: Our technicians are trained to have the “heart of a teacher” and will take time to answer your questions and explain everything in simple terms.

Q4: Do they consistently (and proactively) offer new ways to improve your network’s performance, or do they wait until you have a problem to make recommendations?

Our Answer: We conduct technology business review meetings with our clients to look for new ways to help improve their operations, lower costs, increase efficiencies and resolve any problems that may be arising. Our goal with these meetings is to help our clients be more profitable, efficient, and competitive.

Q5: Do they provide detailed invoices that clearly explain what you are paying for?

Our Answer: We provide detailed invoices that show what work was done, why and when, so you never have to guess what you are paying for. We also double-check our invoices for accuracy before they are sent to you.

Q6: Do they have adequate errors and omissions insurance as well as workers’ compensation insurance to protect YOU?

Our Answer: Here is something to consider: if THEY cause a problem with your network that causes you to be down for hours or days or to lose data, who is responsible? Here is another question to consider: if one of their technicians gets hurt at your office, who is paying? In this litigious society we live in, you better make darn sure whomever you hire is adequately insured with both errors and omissions insurance AND workers’ compensation — and do not be shy about asking to see their latest insurance policies!

True Story: A few years ago, Geek Squad was slapped with multimillion-dollar lawsuits from customers for bad behavior by their technicians. In some cases, their techs where accessing, copying, and distributing personal information they gained access to on customers’ PCs and laptops brought in for repairs. In other cases, they lost a client’s laptop (and subsequently all the data on it) and tried to cover it up. Bottom line: make sure the company you are hiring has proper insurance to protect YOU.

Q7: Do they guarantee to complete projects on time and on budget?

Our Answer: All projects are fixed-priced and guaranteed to be completed on time, in writing. This is important because many unethical or incompetent computer guys will only quote “time and materials,” which gives them free rein to nickel-and-dime you as well as take as much time as they want completing a project.

Maintenance Of Your Network:

Q8: Do they insist on remotely monitoring your network 24/7/365 to keep critical security settings, virus definitions and security patches up-to-date and PREVENT problems from turning into downtime, viruses, lost data, and other issues?

Our Answer: Yes; our remote network monitoring system watches over your network to constantly look for developing problems, security issues and other problems so we can address them BEFORE they turn into bigger problems.

Q9: Is it standard procedure for them to provide you with network documentation detailing what software licenses you own, critical passwords, user information, hardware inventory, etc., or are they the only person with the “keys to the kingdom”?

Our Answer: All clients receive access to this material in our online portal at no additional cost. We also perform updates on this material and make sure certain key people from your organization have this information and know how to use it, giving you complete control over your network.

Side Note: You should NEVER allow an IT person to have that much control over you and your company. If you get the sneaking suspicion that your current IT person is keeping this under their control as a means of job security, get rid of them (and we can help to make sure you do not suffer ANY ill effects). This is downright unethical and dangerous to your organization, so do not tolerate it!

Q10: Do they have other technicians on staff who are familiar with your network in case your regular technician goes on vacation or gets sick?

Our Answer: Yes; and since we keep detailed network documentation (basically a blueprint of your computer network) and updates on every client’s account, any of our technicians can pick up where another one has left off.

Q11: When they offer an “all-inclusive” support plan, is it TRULY all-inclusive, or are their “gotchas” hidden in the fine print?

Our Answer: Our “all-inclusive” support plan is just that — all-inclusive. One of the more popular service plans offered by consulting firms today is an “all-inclusive” or “all-you-can-eat” managed services plan. These are a good thing because they save you a lot of money in the long run. HOWEVER, make sure you REALLY understand what is and is not included. Some things to consider are:

- Is phone/e-mail help desk included or extra?
- What about network upgrades, moves or adding/removing users?
- Is hardware and/or software included?
- What about 3rd-party software support? (We recommend that this IS included.)
- What are the costs/consequences of early cancellation?
- What if you are not happy with the service? Do they offer a money-back guarantee?
- If the hardware and software is included, what happens if you cancel the contract?
- Are off-site backups included? To what degree?
- If you have a major disaster, is restoring your network included or extra?
- What about on-site support calls? Or support to remote offices?
- Are home PCs used to access the company’s network after hours included or extra?

Backups and Disaster Recovery:

Q12: Do they INSIST on monitoring an off-site as well as an on-site backup, or are they letting you rely on antiquated and unreliable backup systems?

Our Answer: We do not allow our clients to use tape, disk, or any other antiquated backups systems because they are incredibly unreliable. We make sure all clients have a modern, comprehensive, and reliable backup solution in place that provides on-site and off-site storage. Files, folders or even an entire server can be restored in just minutes. A comprehensive and reliable backup solution is the backbone of a true IT Service Provider.

Q13: Do they INSIST on doing periodic test restores of your backups to make sure the data is not corrupt and could be restored in the event of a disaster?

Our Answer: We perform daily “fire drills” and perform a test restores from backup for our clients to make sure their data CAN be recovered in the event of an emergency. After all, the WORST time to “test” a backup is when you desperately need it.

Q14: Do they insist on backing up your network BEFORE performing any type of project or upgrade?

Our Answer: We do, and that is simply as a precaution in case a hardware failure or software glitch causes a major problem.

Q15: If you were to experience a major disaster, do they have a written plan for how your data could be restored FAST and/or enable you to work from a remote location?

Our Answer: All clients receive a simple disaster recovery plan for their data and network. We encourage them to do a full disaster recovery plan for their office, but at a minimum, their network will be covered should something happen.

Technical Expertise and Support:

Q16: Is their helpdesk U.S.-based or outsourced to an overseas company or third party?

Our Answer: We provide our own in-house helpdesk and make sure the folks helping you are friendly and helpful. We consider this one of the most important aspects of customer service, plus we feel it is important to keeping your data secure.

Q17: Do their technicians maintain current vendor certifications and participate in ongoing training — or are they learning on your dime?

Our Answer: Our technicians are required to keep the most up-to-date vendor certifications in all the software & solutions we provide. Plus, our hiring process is so stringent, 99% of the technicians who apply do not make it through. (Guess who is hiring them?)

Q18: Do their technicians arrive on time, dress, and act professionally?

Our Answer: Our technicians are true professionals that you would be proud to have in your office. They dress and act professionally and show up on time! If they cannot (for some odd, unforeseen

reason), we always notify the client immediately. We believe these are minimum requirements for delivering a professional service.

Q19: Are they familiar with (and can they support) your unique line of business applications?

Our Answer: We own the problems with all lines of business applications for our clients. That does not mean we can fix faulty software — but we WILL be the liaison between you and your vendor to resolve problems you are having and make sure these applications work smoothly for you.

Q20: When something goes wrong with your Internet service, phone systems, printers, or other IT services, do they own the problem or do they say, “That’s not our problem to fix”?

Our Answer: We feel WE should own the problem for our clients, so they do not have to try and resolve any of these issues on their own — that’s just plain old good service and something many computer guys won’t do.

A Final Word and Free Assessment Offer to Show You How to Eliminate System Slowness, Crashes and Viruses and Drastically Lower Your IT Maintenance Costs

I hope you have found this guide helpful in shedding some light on what to look for when hiring a professional firm for your outsourced IT support. As I stated in the opening of this report, my purpose in providing this information was to help you make an informed decision and avoid getting burned by incompetent or unethical firms luring you in with cheap prices.

Below you will find information on how to request a FREE IT Optimization Plan for your company as a next step in engaging with us. There is no cost or obligation, and I guarantee you will find this consult to be extremely valuable and eye-opening.

Looking forward to your call!

Justin Bragg
Owner, Shift Computer Services
Phone: 714.369.8197
Web: www.shiftcs.com

Limited Free IT Optimization Plan:

Give Me 30 Minutes, And I Guarantee I Can Show You How To Eliminate System Slowness, Crashes, Viruses And A Host Of Other Annoying IT Problems — And How To Never Pay For Unnecessary IT Expenses And Repairs Again

From the Desk Of: Justin Bragg
Owner, Shift Computer Services
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Dear Colleague,

Do you have a **nagging suspicion** that your current IT provider is not delivering the quality of service you are paying for?

Maybe you are experiencing **chronic problems** with your computer and phone systems that your IT provider just never seems to resolve.

Maybe it has become easier to find a work-around or **try to fix IT problems yourself** than to call your IT provider.

Or maybe you are sending a check every month for their services **but do not really know what you are paying for**. Could they really get you back up and running after a disaster? Are they *truly* maintaining critical security updates for your IT systems? Have you outgrown their ability to adequately support you?

It is very common for businesses to be unhappy with the quality of service and support they're getting from their current IT company, but they tolerate it simply because they don't know who else to call, or they're just too darn busy to take the time to find someone else.

Free Customized IT Optimization Plan And 57-Point IT Systems Security and Performance Assessment

If I just described your situation, I want to give you a **customized IT Optimization Plan for free** that will reveal what's REALLY going on in your computer network and show you the fastest and most efficient way to get your systems working the way they are supposed to,

saving you a great deal of time, aggravation, and money. **Briefly, here is what I have in mind...**

First, I want to perform our proprietary **57-Point IT Systems Security and Performance Assessment** on your computer network, one that has taken us over 15 years to perfect).

There is no charge, and it only requires a 30- to 60-minute meeting with me and one of my top IT consultants. After doing this type of thing for almost 20 years, we have truly perfected a process for helping companies like yours to get their IT systems working the way they are supposed to.

After conducting this Free Assessment, we will be able to answer your top questions, such as:

- Are your IT systems truly secured from hackers, viruses, and rogue employees?
- Are your backups configured properly to ensure that you could be back up and running again fast in a disaster?
- Are you unknowingly exposing your company to expensive fines and litigation under new California data-breach and privacy laws?
- Could you utilize cheaper and more efficient cloud-computing technologies to lower IT costs and make it easier to work remotely?
- Are your systems optimized for maximum speed and performance? (I can tell you, 99% of the computer networks we review are NOT.)

Once we have a clear picture of the state, health, and performance of your current IT systems, we'll then deliver a **customized IT Optimization Plan** that will show you how to eliminate every single nagging problem, enable you to work faster and easier and lower IT costs wherever possible.

At The End Of This Assessment, One Of Three Things Will Happen:

You love the plan and decide to implement it on your own. If this is the case, we will wish you the best of luck and *ask that you keep in touch with us to let us know how you're doing.*

You love the plan and ask to become our client so we can personally help you implement it ASAP. *If that is the case, we'll knock it out of the park...and that's a promise.*

Or finally...

In the unlikely and *unprecedented* event that you feel like you wasted your time, and that we do not find a way to dramatically improve your situation, **we will send you a check for \$100 immediately.** No questions asked. Your time is your most valuable asset, and I respect that. To date, no one has said that we have wasted their time, so I feel completely comfortable making this guarantee to you.

Think about this...

The “worst” that can happen is you get \$100 for “wasting” an hour having an independent third party validate and review the security, speed, and health of your computer network.

The best that can happen is we work together to finally take all IT complaints off your plate.

Here's How This Will Work:

First, you will fill out a quick request for the **customized IT Optimization Plan** on our web site: <https://www.shiftcs.com/free-network-assessment>

Once you complete this, someone from our office will call you and set up a convenient time for us to come to your office and perform our **57-Point IT Systems Security and Performance Assessment.**

After that initial meeting, we will prepare a **customized IT Optimization Plan and a “Report of Findings”** that will reveal any vulnerabilities in your backups and security, as well as show you how to optimize your IT to increase everyone's productivity in the fastest, most efficient way possible.

And like I said, *there is no charge for this.*

So Why Would We Offer This For Free?

For one simple reason:

It is the fastest and easiest way for us to demonstrate the value we can deliver without any risk to you. Frankly, it is how we get the happy clients you have seen all over our web site and have probably heard about before. (See attached.)

After all, if you like what you see and we show you how to solve a number of IT-related problems in your company, why would you not want to work with us? Of course, we will

approach this with no expectations or heavy sales pressure of any kind. I do not like pushy salespeople any more than you do — **and we stand on the belief that providing extreme value in advance is the best way to showcase our services** and win new business. In fact, here is my “VALUE IN ADVANCE PROMISE” to you...

You'll Find This Consultation To Be Incredibly Valuable Or We'll Send You A Check For \$100 To Compensate You For Your Time

Now, obviously this is an amazing offer that you will probably never see from any other IT company or computer expert in the world. But I am SO confident that we can deliver extreme value that I have no concerns with putting this type of guarantee on our time together.

The ONLY catch is that we cannot help everyone, so we have a strict (but reasonable) set of criteria that need to be met in order for us to proceed. Here it is:

1. You must have at least 5 computers and users.

Our services and advice work best for companies that have at 5 computers and users. If that is not you (or if you are a brand-new startup), we might be able to help you through a different process. Call the office and we'll direct you from there: 714-369-8197.

2. You must be the owner or key executive of the business.

Due to the nature of the advice we will give you, it will be actionable only for the owner or key executive.

If You Meet The Criteria Above, Here's How We Get Started:

Step 1: Go to the web site below to complete a request for the assessment. Do not worry, it's EASY, simple and unobtrusive.

www.shiftcs.com/free-network-assessment

Step 2: Once we have received your application and reviewed it, someone from our office will call you and set up a time for us to meet.

The initial meeting will be between 30 and 60 minutes. This is where we really begin working to figure out exactly what you want and how to make it happen. We'll also initiate our **57-Point IT Systems Security and Performance Assessment**.

Step 3: After that initial meeting, we'll prepare a **customized IT Optimization Plan and a "Report of Findings"** that will reveal any vulnerabilities in your backups and security, as well as show you how to optimize your IT to increase everyone's productivity in the fastest, most efficient way possible. This second meeting should be a real eye-opener for you.

If you see the value in engaging beyond that, great! We can talk about it at that time. And if you do not want to become a client — *that's OK too*. By the way, we have *never* had anyone feel like their time was wasted. EVER. That is why we can make this offer. WE DELIVER.

So, unless you are 100% happy with the IT support you are getting and absolutely confident that your network is secure, backed up properly and running at optimal levels, why wouldn't you give this a try? Do it now and you will be glad you did:

www.shiftcs.com/free-network-assessment

Dedicated to your success,

Justin Bragg
Owner, Shift Computer Services
714-369-8197

See What Other Business Owners Are Saying:

True 24/7/365 Protection and Availability

I sleep soundly at night knowing that our company data and line of business applications are secured and backed up with a proven solution. For over five years, Shift Computer Services' full-service Business Continuity / Disaster Recovery service has saved our company from several server crashes and allows us to recover data reliably and quickly in the event of corruption or deletion. ShiftCS has become a true business partner who works with us through a wide range of IT needs, whether it be a late-night power outage emergency or establishing and migrating to a new domain. They provide real solutions to myriad of business problems and offer great insight into new and emerging technologies.

Donald Adams

Avalon Laboratories / Nordson Corporation

A Trusted Technology Solution Provider

Shift Computer Services consistently provides top notch support and services to keep our busy shop up and running. Whenever an issue arises, ShiftCS is quick to respond and resolve our issues. Over the past 12 years my experience with ShiftCS has been 100% positive. They provide reliable and consistent support, communication and follow through. Justin and his staff have the values you look for in a business partner: integrity, honesty, great work ethic, with a positive and friendly attitude. I trust and value our relationship and feel as though we are friends rather than just my IT vendor.

Chris O'Dell

Sessemo

Quality and Consistency

I have used Shift Computer Services for over 10 years and have found them to be trustworthy, reliable, and extremely knowledgeable. It is great to have them think about what is best for us and NOT what will make them the most money. We have used them for various computer hardware and telephone equipment purchases and services. They are a top-notch company. A high-quality IT company with excellent service and honest people.

Greg Kennebeck
PromedSI

Extension of our Practice

Justin and the ShiftCS team is an extension of our practice. His team is very reliable and knowledgeable. We can rely on ShiftCS for their IT services and advice.

Carmen Hayes
Pacific Pediatric Cardiology Medical Group

Go to Vendor

ShiftCS has served as our technology "go to" vendor for several years. Their knowledgeable experience has been instrumental in upgrading our equipment and software throughout our company. Their staff is very reliable and available to assist or just answer questions.

Sherie Brooks
Proficiency Capital, LLC

Excellent Service and Peace of Mind

For over 15 years, ShiftCS has provided our firm with excellent service and peace of mind. As the firm has grown, we have counted on ShiftCS to help us expand, they have always been there for us, whether creating expanded services or resolving problems with same-day efficiency. After years of struggling with IT and phone technical service providers, ShiftCS has removed all that anxiety. We trust them, they get it done, they are always there when we need them.

Michael McGuire, Attorney
California Elder Law Center

Trusted Partner

I have been using Shift Computer Services for over 10 years now for two of my businesses and personal IT support. The staff is quick, reliable, extremely knowledgeable and trustworthy, which is important in today's society and for the successful operations of your business. Shift Computer Services is a high-quality IT company that offers straight forward solutions pricing for excellent services. I would recommend them to just about anyone.

Stephen Reese, Executive Vice President
GreenWave Products, LLC

Part of the team

ShiftCS has been a huge help to get us into the 21st century with our computer systems. They have become a huge part of our team here at Austin/Jones Corp. They have been very responsive when we need help. We have not had anything that they were not able to figure out. They have been very easy to work with and very professional in the computer IT field. I would highly recommend them for all business computer needs. We would not be the company we are today without their help.

Steve Jones
Austin/Jones Corp

The Top 7 Reasons Why You'll Want To Outsource Your IT Support To Us:

1. **Peace of Mind.** We manage your systems 24/7/365. You never have to worry that a virus has spread, a hacker has compromised your network, backups are not working, domain name expired, email not working, internet or phones are down, etc. We manage your entire network, thus allowing you to focus on running your business and enjoying your personal life!
2. **24 x 7 x 365 Live US-Based Support.** We are always just a phone call, text, or email away for onsite or remote support.
3. **No Geek Speak.** You deserve to get answers to your questions in PLAIN ENGLISH, not in confusing technical terms. Our technicians will also not talk down to you or make you feel stupid because you don't understand how all this "technology" works. That is our job!
4. **We are in it for the long haul.** We build long-term strategic relationships with our clients and provide honest, reliable, quality service and support, along with trustworthy advice, guidance and expertise.
5. **No Long-Term Contracts and 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.** Many other IT firms try to lock their clients into long-term contracts with severe penalties and fines for canceling. Problem is if they are not doing a great job, how can you get out without litigation? That is why our service agreements are month-to-month. We keep our clients by providing incredible services and support. Quite simply, if you are not happy with our service, you can cancel anytime.
6. **One Provider - Complete Technology Services.** Why spend time calling multiple vendors that will just blame each other for your problems? We are a one stop shop that handles all your technology needs: desktop, server and network management, end user technical support, cloud services, backup and disaster recovery, internet connectivity, telephony & communication services, hardware and software procurement, structured cabling, surveillance & camera systems, credit card merchant solutions, access control systems, and many more services. We manage your technology so you can focus on your business!
7. **You'll Get A Professional Team, Not A "One-Person-Band"** Our team of experts has over 75 years of real-life IT and small-business experience. Working with an IT Person limits the knowledge breadth, proactive work completion, and most importantly their reliability. What happens when your IT Person is sick, on vacation, at another client's office? Our team of professionals ensures service is done right, the first time, and someone is always available to support your needs.