

*"Now that we have experienced life in the cloud and the benefits it provides, we can never ever go back."*

Michael Deege of Wilson Deege Despotovich Riemenschneider & Rittgers



AirDesk puts your primary work applications in the cloud making them accessible from anywhere, on any device, at any time. A key feature of AirDesk is the ability to take established client-server and legacy applications and make them available from the cloud with the same user interface. AirDesk customers have access to 100% of the features and functions of desktop applications.

#### Convenient

- Any Device – desktop, laptop, tablet, phone, scanner, digital fax
- Anywhere / Anytime – office, client, home, travel
- Easy and Efficient – works with all applications and documents
- Virtual Team Collaboration – share appointments, notes, and actions
- Touchless IT – backed up, redundant, secure

#### Scalable

- Microsoft Office applications
- Accounting and management applications
- Exchange/hosted eMail
- VOIP hosted PBX
- Microsoft SharePoint / SQL databases
- Numerous backup options

#### Secure

- Redundant servers with backup
- Failover power, cooling, and network systems
- Multi-factor authentication entry
- Biometric security scanners
- SOC 2 audited systems and facility

## Iowa Law Group Ditches In-House IT for Business in the Cloud

### Background:

With its offices in West Des Moines, Iowa, the law group of Wilson Deege Despotovich Riemenschneider & Rittgers is comprised of a group of knowledgeable, talented attorneys who provide legal services focusing on business and personal estate planning. The group has 11 total people on staff including attorneys and support personnel.

Michael Deege is one of the members of the group. Last summer, he faced a pivotal decision that could potentially propel the group into a new direction in terms of operational effectiveness.

### Challenge:

The group had hosted and maintained its own server in the office for about 10 years, and Deege knew they were on borrowed time.

"We had an aging server, to say the least," Deege said. "Our IT staff told us to tread softly as we walked by it, and that a new server was in our very near future. In the meantime, they were putting patch after patch on the system to keep it together. The ongoing costs, coupled with the looming expense of upgrading the hardware was simply staggering. I wanted to find an alternative to paying for the upkeep on the server."

The other challenge that drove Deege to consider new options was they recently had a frighteningly serious hard-disk failure which shut down the group for two entire days.

### Solution:

"I have had some great experiences with cloud based, SaaS applications in the past," Deege said. "I was discussing this fact with some colleagues at a bar association meeting we were attending. We spoke about how it would be incredibly beneficial if some of the software vendors would take a cloud-based approach with their applications. As it turns out, a representative from AirDesk Solutions was at the meeting who introduced a revolutionary concept to us—a company doesn't need to have vendors move their apps to the cloud, we could move to the cloud ourselves and bring all our apps with us. No need to wait for vendors to move to the cloud."

That discussion led the group to migrate its entire IT system and applications to the cloud.

"An enormous weight was lifted off our shoulders when we said goodbye to our old servers, Deege said. "With the move to the cloud, we have a new, powerful capability to have access to everything anywhere on any device—including software programs that were designed for desktop systems."

This allows the Attorneys and staff the freedom to work offsite and to take vacations with confidence in knowing they have the ability to resolve urgent items that come up as if they were in the office.

"I am empowered to bring my office wherever I go without being chained to my desk," he said.

### Results:

Deege said the group's transition to the cloud has been better than they even expected. They have had very few issues and the support from the AirDesk Solutions team has been exemplary.

"Coming from the experience of having an aging server, mounting IT costs and very vivid memory of a hard-disk failure, we have seen a 25-35 percent total IT cost reduction," Deege said. "Beyond IT costs, not having a server in-house has saved the entire group a tremendous amount of time because now we have practically zero down-time."

With the significant reduction in IT costs, coupled with little downtime and the inherent remote flexibility AirDesk has provided, the group has an amplified potential to increase billable hours. And for any growing business, increased revenue is a beautiful thing.

Deege added, "Now that we have experienced life in the cloud and the benefits it provides, we can never ever go back."



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