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Business VoIP and the Office Environment by [James Allen](#)

Article published on November 28th 2011 | [VOIP](#)

One incredible feature of business VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) system is it can integrate seamlessly with the office environment, and your staff may not even realize they are using such a sophisticated phone system. In fact, you can continue to use your analog equipment with VoIP business systems and the operations will continue as usual. Even with analog hardware, VoIP can offer a lot of benefits for your business as compared to traditional analog telephone services.

As compared to traditional analog service, VoIP service is lot more economical - particularly you will be saving hugely on your long-distance telephone charges. With VoIP, you simply pay a nominal monthly rate and get most if not all of your long-distance for free. VoIP is a simple technology and you can set up your system without external help. You can generally make most changes yourself through an Internet web based interface.

VoIP provides many useful standard features for free. It is a boon to field staff and travelling executives. There is a feature called call forwarding, whereby you can program in such a way that any calls that would normally go to your office phone number can come to any other phone number you choose. Analog services do offer this feature, but with VoIP business systems, this and other features are included in your base price.

A VoIP solution makes the idea of a virtual office truly possible. Office calls can be forwarded to mobile phones when the employee is not in the office or if he is traveling; This way, no business call will be missed and the caller will also feel happy being able to talk to the person concerned. The user can set up call forwarding, have caller ID, have voice mails and faxes delivered to inboxes, and enjoy many advanced features. The idea of virtual office holds great appeal to small and midsize businesses because they can maximize their productivity even with a small staff.

Likewise, certain attractive features like caller ID, call waiting, and call screening etc, are generally included in most VoIP business plans at no extra charge. If you prefer a traditional business phones setup, you can continue to use your traditional equipment with VoIP service. There is no need to buy new or unfamiliar equipment and begin to learn to use them.

With VoIP, you can simply connect to the Internet using a router - but talking on the phone system is exactly the same as with a traditional analog service. The true value of any VoIP solution is not merely the cost savings in domestic and international calls but it contributes to improved employee productivity and overall business efficiency.

Over time, you will notice that VoIP business phones' will be giving you better voice quality than analog phone lines. With a good broadband Internet connection, sound quality is found to be better than that of a landline. With a VoIP service, analog voice signals are converted to digital format, for clear transmission.

You can opt for a dedicated hardware like an IP PBX or your existing PBX could be enabled with certain software and hardware upgrades. It is advisable that you carry out an independent survey of your current network and broadband internet connection as well future needs through an independent expert consultant. You can then determine if you need a dedicated system or an add-on to the current one.

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Article Keywords:

Virtual PBX System, Call forwarding, Toll Free Numbers, Internet Fax Service, 800 Numbers, VoIP Phone Service, Voice mail Service

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