OHMS

Healthcare activities from anywhere anytime

Healthcare IT SaaS (Software As A Service)

Software as a Service (SaaS) can be defined as software developed and hosted by specialty vendors over internet and used by organizations that choose not to develop, deploy, run and maintain in-house, but still need the application(s).

In its most basic form, e-mail or online banking are examples of software as a service. These services allow you to access information and interact with information without installing a software package to do so.
You simply log on and access the information you need as a service.

As high-speed internet has become more accessible to businesses, the Software as a Service model has helped businesses with stretched or limited IT resources take advantage of technology to help their business processes improve. The SaaS model has been used extensively for email, CRM, and even accounting packages. The high level of complexity of managing each of these services as well as the need to "centralize" the information they contained made them ideal candidates for SaaS deployment. By accessing a central mail server, most small businesses now have access to email -- without the trouble of hosting their own email server.

SaaS in healthcare IT can help manage the eHealth, data driven patient care delivery, EMR based practice management, patient diagnosis, disease management, lab and pharmacy interaction with physician, patient, collaboration of patient care provider and payer thereby reducing the overall costs in healthcare and increasing the ROI to each organization as a whole.

One of the key items here is that you do not own the software -- rather, you own a subscription based license to use the software as permitted by the License Agreement.

SaaS is the next evolutionary step in software delivery. Benefits promised by it are significant and diverse, and while medium-sized organizations were the first
to widely embrace it, small and large entities now also seek the advantages of SaaS.

Most common benefits of SaaS:

1. Focusing on Your Core Competencies except IT that enables it.
2. Reducing Barriers to Entry to Healthcare IT platform and collaboration
3. Reducing Costs Now and In Future

4. Quicker Time to Market
5. Economies of scale and efficiencies

Focusing on Your Core Competencies

By looking to Software as a Service (SaaS) vendors for necessary, non-core software and necessary enabling tools, your team will have more time to focus on your core operations, rather than on back office issues that frequently distract from the core mission (e.g. delivery of domain content, network quality of service, etc.).
By working with a SaaS vendor, organizations no longer worry about managing in-house software and infrastructure. The burden of keeping software up-to-date and online now falls upon the SaaS vendor.

Reducing Barriers to Entry

Capital investments associated with deploying billing and customer care software and related infrastructure is significant. SaaS overcomes this by avoiding large, up front software license(s), infrastructure, employee(s), and training investments.
Beyond initial software and hardware deployment and training phases, organizations face recurring upgrade expenses to gain access to latest technologies. SaaS provides immediate, low cost access to new technologies. SaaS vendors also retain the duty to manage underlying infrastructure.

Reducing Costs Now and in Future

As mentioned in the "Reducing Barriers to Entry" section, organizations utilizing SaaS vendors enjoy immediate, low cost access to enterprise-grade solutions. Relative savings are tremendous for organizations of any size. Furthermore, SaaS monthly fees typically fall significantly below the expenses of maintaining in-house solutions. Specific areas of expense consolidation and savings include:

- software licenses
- software maintenance agreements
- supporting hardware and software (i.e. operating systems, database engines, servers)
- software and hardware upgrades
- human resources
- rack space, increased utilities, insurance, etc.

While SaaS vendors do charge for their services, it is regularly the case that the monthly service fees fall below expenses associated with monthly expenses incurred to support the same softwares in-house. The tremendous savings captured in lieu of major software, hardware, maintenance contracts, and upgrade purchases can be reallocated as necessary for increasing market share and developing other competitive advantages.

Quicker Time to Market

Efficiencies in software deployment, customization, and maintenance go hand in hand with the greater cost savings offered by SaaS Vendors like Healthcare Utility Services. By specializing in a specific field, SaaS vendors are capable of deploying new systems or helping organizations to bring on new services much faster than is typically done in-house. In rapidly evolving industries, such as healthcare, speed to market is paramount to an organization's success and competitive edge over other providers. The chances of beating competitors to market increase significantly by partnering with SaaS vendors like Healthcare Utility Services.