

Service > SharePoint Team Sites and Portals



Background

Working with Microsoft and in liaison with our existing NHS customers, we have developed a shared service for the NHS based around Microsoft's SharePoint application.

Microsoft SharePoint application allows users to quickly and easily create Web sites for information sharing and document collaboration and to increase individual and team productivity.

Carelink's SharePoint Service provides the application to NHS organisations on a fully managed platform in which all the hardware, software, network, security and support issues are taken care of.

Our SharePoint Service allows NHS organisations to benefit from this new technology by improving communications between team members and helping them to work together more effectively.

Microsoft SharePoint

Microsoft SharePoint is a team Web site solution that allows users to quickly and easily create intranets and team Web sites. They provide a framework for team collaboration and empower users to collaborate on documents and tasks and share contacts, events and other information. SharePoint enables teams to easily manage their own content and users. The environment is designed for easy and flexible deployment.

Individual Empowerment

SharePoint site members can find and communicate with key contacts, both by e-mail and with Instant Messaging. Site content can be easily searched, and users can receive alerts to tell them when existing documents and information have been changed, or when new information or documents have been added.

All of a site's collaborative content — for example, documents, lists, events, task assignments and membership rosters, can be

read and edited within Microsoft Office programs.

Microsoft Office Outlook 2003 allows SharePoint site event calendars to be viewed side-by-side with personal calendars and it also creates meeting-specific workspaces to augment group appointments.

Site construction is flexible and straightforward and once created, well designed components or even entire sites can be saved as templates and reused by individuals or teams across the organisation.

Team Communities

When you're working in a team, material is often stored in a number of places – from your email inbox to your file server to individual hard drives. SharePoint makes life easy by providing a Web based team collaboration environment that can be used to create a central repository of project information as well as to manage team activities.

"The truth of the matter is that most people have a tendency to store documents in too many places. And storing them in a central location does not equal collaboration"

Microsoft's John Durant

As a collaboration platform, SharePoint lets users store documents on the file server. In addition to just storing the item and its internal content, SharePoint also allows each item to have metadata properties; the metadata properties are the source of much of SharePoint's power. Metadata is additional information that is attached to the item – e.g. the author of a document, the department that published it etc.

SharePoint sites provide places to capture and share ideas, information, communication and documents. The sites facilitate team participation in discussions, shared document collaboration and surveys. All site content is accessible from a Web browser. The document collaboration features allow for easy check-in, check-out and document version control.

Key Benefits

- Affordability and cross NHS accessibility through shared hosting
- Powerful servers hosted in the UK's premier data centers
- High speed access to NHSnet
- Daily back-up of systems
- SharePoint is installed for you and immediately ready for use
- Full support and management of everything you need
- Responsive support service provided by dedicated team
- Advice and guidance on how to make the best use of the technology
- Sites, Workspaces
- Document Libraries
- Surveys
- Bulletin Boards
- Alerts
- Task/Issue List
- Discussion Boards
- Events & Announcements
- Business Intranet

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Windows SharePoint Service

Carelink currently provides technology services to over 200 NHS organisations. Our secure hosting infrastructure is connected to both NHSnet and the Internet, enabling us uniquely to provide shared hosting platforms to the NHS, which are accessible from both networks.

The application itself resides on a fully managed platform, which is hosted inside our secure, resilient data centre in Telehouse, London.

The Carelink infrastructure has a high speed connection to NHSnet which allows us to serve content to hundreds of NHS organisations simultaneously without impairing transfer speeds.

Performance and Affordability

The service hardware is dedicated to hosting the SharePoint application to minimise its workload and ensure optimum performance. At the same time the application itself is shared between several NHS organisations, each running their own sites in isolation from each other. The benefit of this is that it allows the cost of the hardware, hosting and management to be spread across several organisations and enables us to offer the service to you at an affordable price. Another benefit of this arrangement is that it also facilitates collaboration between teams spread across disparate NHS organisations.

Support and Assistance

As well as the hosting and NHSnet connectivity, the service provides complete proactive management and maintenance of the machine and its supporting infrastructure. We also take full responsibility for any issues that may arise relating to the hardware, software, network or security infrastructures. All of our systems are monitored 24x7 so that we have advance warning and can respond rapidly whenever problems occur.

In addition to this, we have considerable in-house expertise and a strong relationship with Microsoft, which enables us to provide you with any guidance that you might need to help you maximise the benefits you get from using the application.

Building sites in SharePoint is very straight forward and whilst we do leave site construction to you, because ultimately you have the best understanding of how your team works, we will also provide you with any necessary assistance to set up your site and get you up and running as quickly as possible.

Our customers have free access to our support service, which is manned by a dedicated team of technical experts, who work to ensure that all platform-related issues are swiftly resolved.



Using the Service

Once the SharePoint site is up and running, your team can begin using it immediately, adding, editing and deleting information via their Web browsers.

Here's how some of our customers use our service:

CIO - A National NHS Chief Information Officer forum to support monthly meetings, provide definitive document source, scheduling of events and discussion of event materials.

SHA Directors and Heads & Leads of IM&T - to support monthly meetings and progress day-to-day business.

Cross Organisational - performance management site for shared performance information.

A Cancer Network - to support the geographically dispersed clinical network in key aspects of its business.

In short, our aim is to provide an affordable solution where we remove all the support headaches, so that you can concentrate on constructing your site and getting the most out of it.

Prices

		Disc Space MB			
		250	500	750	1000
No. of Users	50	£2,000	£2,120	£2,240	£2,360
	100	n/a	£3,500	£3,620	£3,740
	150	n/a	n/a	£4,500	£4,620
	200	n/a	n/a	n/a	£5,000

Prices are annual and exclude the one-off setup charge of £300.00

If you require any further information on any of our services or if you would like to try out our online demonstration site then please contact us:

Web: www.carelink.co.uk

Or you can contact us directly by email, telephone or mail at the address above:

Email: info@carelink.com

Tel: 01904 438000 and ask for Carelink Sales