

City of Pittsburgh Goes Google

Daston's Cloud-First professional services team has helped many state and local governments move away from on-premise solutions to enjoy the productivity and cost-savings provided by Google Apps for Government.

Staying at the Forefront of Innovation

With the help of one of Google's Premiere Partners, Daston Corporation, the city of Pittsburgh has migrated its 3,000 employees to [Google Apps for Government](#), an enterprise-ready suite of applications that includes Gmail, Google Calendar (Shared Calendaring), Google Docs which includes Spreadsheets, and Presentations as well as Online Document Hosting and Collaboration), Google Sites (Team Site Creation, Web Site Creation and Publishing), and Google Video (Easy, Secure Sharing of Video Content).

Switching to Google Apps

Prior to adopting Google Apps, the city had an Exchange-driven Outlook interface for city-wide email, calendar and contacts. The servers were locally administered and on-site within the city's IT infrastructure, requiring an exorbitant amount of staff time to manage and maintain, and limiting email storage capacity greatly.

"With the help of Daston, our implementation partner, we have successfully retired our Microsoft Exchange 2003 email system and moved almost all 3,000 city employees to Google Apps for Government in four months. We look forward to exploring more ways to improve collaboration and productivity with Google Apps."

City of Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl

Fast Migration, Immediate Benefits

Google Apps boosted each of the city's employees email storage up to 25 Gb, 500 times more capacity than with their previous email system. No longer did employees waste hours each week moving their emails to .pst folder storage just so they could stay within their limited mailbox quotas.

The expansion of mailbox capacity combined with the ability to search personal archives with Google Apps has significantly enhanced and improved on the fundamental way in which the city employees can now use their mail system. It will also improve collaboration and productivity for employees, while saving 25 percent or more in annual email support costs. The new capability also allows the city to deliver better services to its residents.

As a cloud-based solution, Google Apps also frees the city's IT department from having to maintain and patch the legacy system established in 2003, enabling the staff to focus their resources on supporting other core government initiatives and better serving all city departments.

In addition to improving efficiency and reducing costs, the new Google Apps implementation also provides the city with a more secure solution. Google Apps for Government was the first cloud suite to receive Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) certification from the US government.