

Using a cloud storage instead of a traditional storage system will provide our company about \$8 million in net benefits. Cloud storage has many benefits compared to our current traditional storage system. It provides real time access and eliminates data center downtime costs, reducing the amount of data center costs per year. It will also benefit us because it is more secure and convenient.

Cloud storage is much more advanced than traditional server storage. Cloud Leverage defines cloud storage as, “an enterprise-class file server located in multiple geographically diverse data centers for performance, redundancy and security”. In other words, instead of data stored on a computer’s hard drive, cloud storage enables data to be stored on a remote database on the internet (Strikeland). Cloud Leverage’s cloud storage solution has many benefits. First, cloud storage contains real time access. Unlike traditional data storage which limits you from accessing data from different locations, cloud storage allows companies to access their data from any computer or device because it is not stored on a physical server. In addition, it allows companies to safely share files from one person to another over a private network. Cloud storage is much more cost effective than traditional storage; \$5 per GB per year for traditional storage costs compared to \$1.18 per GB per year for cloud storage. Cloud storage provides 100% uptime which eliminates downtime completely. It also allows companies to choose which datacenter they want to store their data. Since our company stored client data, security is crucial. Cloud storage is very secure, it encrypts all files and data going in and out of the cloud.

Our company stores 850,000 GB of data. With our current traditional storage system, we spend \$5/GB/year on data center costs including maintenance. Over a three year period, our costs are about \$12.7 million. Moving from a traditional storage system to a cloud storage system, data center costs are \$.60/GB/year per data center. Since our client data must be stored in three of Cloud Leverage’s data centers, our total data center costs are \$1.80/GB/year. Over a three year period, our costs will be about \$4.6 million. This will give our company a net benefit of \$8 over a three year period. Moving from a traditional storage system to a cloud storage system allows our company to store data more securely and allows us to use that data more conveniently.