

Web-Based Vs. Web-Enabled Software

Disadvantages of Web-enabled Software:

- Slow and complex
- Outdated Technology
- Cannot be integrated with other applications

Before we set out to discuss which works best for your business, let us figure out the similarities and differences!

Both web-based and web-enabled software solutions use a web browser to display information. This is the only similarity that exists between the two.

What is a web-enabled software?

Like the name suggests, a web-enabled software has to be “enabled” to be used over the internet. Web-enabled applications are primarily written to become desktop applications, which are only modified to be accessed over a Web browser. Most vendors just add a new layer to the existing software to enable their software to function over the internet. The system remains the same underneath and performs the same functions as before with the only difference that the program input and output is now accessible on the web. This adaptation in most web-enabled software solutions makes it slow and complex.

Vendors who own an older generation software only enable the software to be used over the web to sell their product. To avoid risks and expense associated with writing a new software from scratch, vendors mostly modify their older generation applications and sell them as web-based software. However this does not change the old engine of the software. Customers who invest in such software applications continue to get outdated technology performing the same functions as before underneath a new layer that is written so that the application works on a web browser.

When a vendor offers to web enable its software, it indicates that the application is old and the vendor is willing to only invest in modifying the same old application. Most web-enabled software applications cannot survive the test of time. In case you have already invested in a web-enabled software, ask your vendor the time that it would take to completely rewrite the software to make it truly web-based.



White Paper

Advantages of Web-based Software:

- Flexibility
- Up-to-date Technology
- Extensible
- Future proof

What is a Web-based Software?

On the other hand a web-based software is designed from the very beginning to be accessed over the Internet. Web based systems are written as per the latest design and technology standards that we are accustomed to. Web based applications are also future proof since they adhere to the latest Internet standards. They offer a lot of flexibility for future changes.

Web-based systems are highly scalable. Multiple users can access the application simultaneously without facing any performance issues. Web-based systems are far more maintainable than web-enabled.

Web-based applications have built-in security features and can also be integrated with other applications and platforms. Web based applications are also much more user-friendly than web-enabled software applications.

To decide between web enabled and web-based is liking deciding between Intel I or Core 2 Duo for your PC. You cannot expect superior performance, scalability and reliability if you have chosen a web enabled software.

In conclusion

Technology is constantly upgrading itself and it is important to be cognizant to leverage it at advantage. Software development, to keep pace with changes has shifted towards web-based solutions instead of desktop applications.

To get the best out of your software in this competitive economy, get a software that is leading edge.

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