

Re: To Setup Exchange or not to Setup Exchange...That is the Question...

models.

There's also Blackberry, of course, but then you really need a Blackberry Enterprise Server.

There is also a third party app with an Exchange connector that we would like to be able to use (integrates it's client info with exchange).

My Thinking – I'm thinking this is a point were we can really set it up right, but I'm not sure if the cost would be justifiable. I'd love to setup an ISA server, have a frontend server sitting behind it, and then of course a backend server. No SAN or NAS, so I'd probably setup a fiber attached bucket of drives or something.

What are your thoughts? Should our setup be this elaborate? Do you recommend any exchange hosting services out there? We would definitely look at hosting out our Antispam and virus because we don't have the bandwidth necessary to take care of all that ourselves.

I'm a fan of that as well. Mailfoundry.com or Postini are my current faves.

Any thoughts/
opinions would be appreciated!

As far as the basic requirements to run Exchange...you don't absolutely need ISA....you don't absolutely need a FE/BE config...you don't absolutely need a SAN or NAS. However, in your environment, some or all of those things may make sense. I suspect that Standard isn't going to cut it for you; even with SP2, it allows only for 75GB stores, and you can't set up multiple storage groups/stores. You might consider E2007 if you're going to be starting fresh anyway.

External Exchange hosting for that many users is probably going to be wickedly expensive.

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