

## from Networking

a Local Area Network (LAN) to increase the productivity of your business. Your business would benefit from a LAN in the following ways:

- Sharing documents and files
- Accessible by more than one person at the same time
- Sharing peripherals such as printers, plotters and modems
- Improved data security
- User-to-User communication via e-mail
- Streamlined data back-up procedures
- Data is centralized on a server

## How to Plan for a LAN

There are many types of LANs exist, most consist of several computers physically connected together. Before selecting or installing a LAN, you will need to follow

the following steps: A needs analysis to determine what capabilities would make your network more efficient. Consider the following options:

- Sharing files or peripherals
- Communicating through e-mail
- Streamlining scheduling
- Streamlining system back-up

Identify which employees need access to hardware and software resources.

3. Identify which software, files, and peripherals will need to be shared.
4. Consider your available resources:
  - Hard drive
  - Memory requirements
  - Processor speed
  - Expansion slots
5. Identify what new hardware and software you'll need:
  - For multi user capabilities
  - For network maintenance
  - For meeting minimum software requirements

## Selecting a LAN

Because the primary purpose of any network is to provide services to users on the network, the number of users and resources shared will dictate which LAN is best for your business. The most common types of LANs are Client/Server and Peer-to-Peer.

### *Client/Server Network*

A Client/Server network refers to the interaction between two computers, in which one computer provides services to another. A "client" computer uses services provided by a "server." The advantages of a Client/Server network include:

- Faster processing and distribution of information
- Accommodating large and growing networks

### *Peer-to-Peer Network*

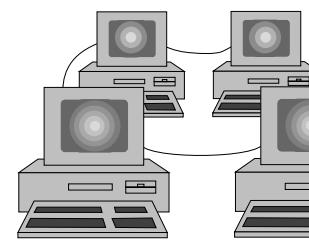
Each computer terminal within a peer-to-peer network can function as both a client and a server. Peer-to-Peer networks provide a better distribution and access to the network's resources. Decentralized sharing of resources is one of the most important aspects of a Peer-to-Peer network. The advantages of Peer networks are:

- Cost effective and easy to install
- Ideal for small networks or departments

## Network Cabling

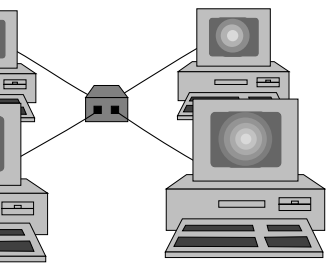
Networking is made possible through the use of cabling. The two most common network cabling arrangements are Daisy Chain and Star.

Daisy Chain refers to computers connected to each other with cables in a line. This arrangement is ideal for business environments with fewer computers and allows for a simple and quick set up procedure.



**Daisy Chain Peer-to-Peer Network**

agement connects individual  
to a central "hub." Star arrange-  
s easier to maintain and most  
larger network. You can  
remove computers from the  
without interruption to other



### Peer-to-peer Network

your computer system can  
r business productivity and  
Detailed planning and a  
understanding of networking  
that you install the right  
tion.

## Services offered by MOSAIC Business Services

MOSAIC-Business Services offers your  
company professional consultation, sys-  
tem evaluation, installation, and training.  
We can help you:

- Determine the most efficient hardware and software for your networking needs
- Analyze how to optimize the efficiency of your existing hardware and software
- Identify the best type of network for your business
- Identify the best network cabling arrangement for your business
- Develop communication and scheduling capabilities

For more information, or a FREE initial  
consultation, contact the professionals at  
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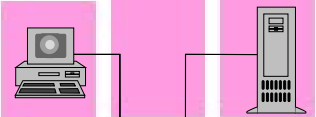
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## Networking Your Business—Se a LAN



- Benefits from Network
- Planning for a LAN
- Selecting a LAN

