Is Your Home-Grown Software Distribution Solution Ready for the Cloud?

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Many school IT teams build their own systems and processes to manage software licenses and entitlements. This is understandable. Developing a solution in house can *seem* cheaper than adopting a third-party option, and schools often feel it's the only way to address their unique needs. But there are significant hidden costs and other pitfalls to this approach. So, is an in-house solution best for your school? Here are some questions to ask during your strategic planning.

Is it Secure?

It's not enough to just create a means of distributing software. Your solution has to be secure and set up to protect the PII of your students and faculty. In the age of the GDPR and other privacy legislation – and with your vendors constantly being targeted for cyberattacks – secure systems that protect your stakeholders' information are more important than ever.

Is it Compliant?

PII isn't the only thing your solution needs to protect. It has to protect your institution from the risks of non-compliance with software terms and conditions, as well as applicable laws. Does your solution adhere to all accessibility regulations? Can it enforce compliance with the eligibility restrictions and other conditions attached to products and licenses offered through it? These are questions worth asking when considering an in-house solution.

Is it Simple?

A good license and entitlement management platform should be simple – both to use and to manage. If the solution isn't user-friendly, providing an intuitive, one-stop experience, students and faculty may not take advantage of the resources available to them. If the solution isn't easy to manage, your school will likely need to hire extra staff to maintain it. This constitutes a significant and ongoing burden on IT budgets and consumes resources that could be repurposed for more important tasks.

Is it Centralized?

Will your solution serve your whole school or is it piecemeal by department or campus? The fewer systems your school maintains, the easier it will be for end users to find resources. Fewer systems also means less maintenance work for IT staff and lower overall costs. An ideal solution can be managed centrally and used campus wide while still meeting the needs of your stakeholders. Is yours robust and versatile enough to accomplish this?

What Are My Other Options?

If your team has created a secure, simple, and centralized solution – great! But if you're concerned that your solution may not meet these criteria, or that maintaining it may require too much IT work, it might be time to consider third-party options.
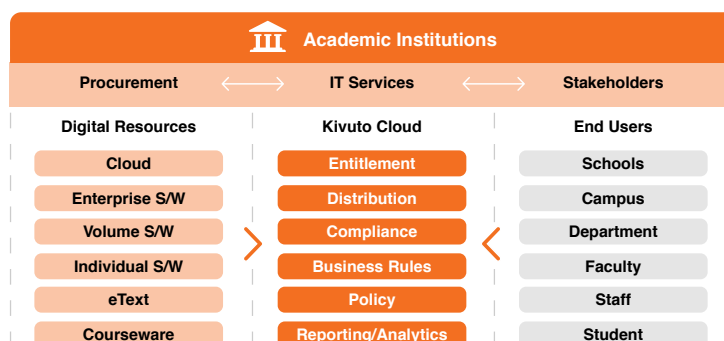
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The Future with Kivuto Solutions Diagram

🏛 Academic Institutions		
Procurement ⟷	IT Services ⟷	Stakeholders
Digital Resources	Kivuto Cloud	End Users
Cloud	Entitlement	Schools
Enterprise S/W	Distribution	Campus
Volume S/W	Compliance	Department
Individual S/W	Business Rules	Faculty
eText	Policy	Staff
Courseware	Reporting/Analytics	Student

Centralize all of your digital resources on a simple, secure, and compliant platform. **Kivuto Cloud**.