Benefits of Installing and Maintaining Hardware

There are a lot of different reasons to install and maintain your hardware, even if it is your own personal computer or for an organisation.

If you were to install hardware to your personal computer you could do it yourself (if you have the knowledge) for a lot cheaper than taking it to the shop. The things you have to remember when doing it yourself is that if you get any new components you have to make sure they are compatible to each other. If you have an old computer the motherboard might be out dated and wouldn’t allow any new components to work. You could always replace the motherboard to a higher spec one. With a newer one you there might be more ports to place R.A.M. and other new components. A possible problem with replacing the motherboard is that some of the old hardware might not work anymore so you would have to spend some more money to get a newer type of hardware that would be compatible.

If you wanted to make your computer faster than you could upgrade to a better processor. This would improve the overall speed of your computer e.g. how fast the computer can open programs. This could benefit an individual computer as it could allow the person to do more things the same time without the computer running slow. This could also benefit an organisation as it would improve the loading time of a PowerPoint in an important meeting. Also when you’re at your desk you could have all your programs open at the same time and you don’t want this to slow your computer down. If the computer was slow they wouldn’t be able to do their job efficiently.

Another piece of hardware you could upgrade is your R.A.M. (Random Access Memory) This allows you to open programs faster but doesn’t improve your overall speed of the computer. It helps with the loading of all types of software. When the R.A.M. is full up then it will get rid of something it doesn’t need. When it can’t do this it will start using memory of the hard drive which will eventually slow the computer down. So it is always good to have enough R.A.M. This could benefit an organisation as they would need to open programs quickly to get the work done.

Upgrading a hard drive is always a good idea. A benefit for doing this with your personal computer is that you can store more files. E.g. music files and picture. It allows you to store more files and store larger ones. A benefit for an organisation is that it allows you store all your information. Large files or even small ones. If they’re just slandered files you should have plenty of room left but if you have multi-media files it’s a good job to have a large hard drive.

How would you manage it?
You would manage all the hardware in your computer at home by checking it regularly yourself. A benefit to this is that it saves you taking it to the shop where you would have to spend money and would take some time to do.

You would manage the hardware in an organisation by hiring in-house staff. A benefit to this is that they are always on hand and you know they are experienced.

**Impacts of installing hardware in an organisation**

When you're installing hardware you have to be very careful. Some of the components can be very fragile so you have to be careful upon installing and handling. You need to make sure when you are making alterations to the computer you are leaning on an earth matt or an anti-static band. Another impact is that when someone needs to carry out something on a computer that someone is working on. The person who was working on the computer will have to wait until the installation is done taking precious time away from the work that needs to be done. This will end up losing the organisation money in the short term. This also applies to when staff go on training. Making the staff go on training may take a substantial cut out of the company's budget. Also while some of the staff are away on training, some of the work will not be able to be completed on time. This is because he might not be able to access his work on another computer/or there might not be a computer available for him to use. When disposing of hardware you have to do it in a very safe and controlled way. There are laws and regulations when destroying hardware. The best way to dispose it is to use a very large magnet to try and corrupt the data. Once you have done this you might want to smash it into very small pieces to try and get rid of the data forever.

If they would like the installation of the hardware done when they want they would have to look at getting some in-house staff. This is because they will always be there when you need them. Although it is a good idea to have them, the company would have to fork out some more money to hire them.

**Strengths and weaknesses of a given computer system**

There are many strengths and weakness for replacing hardware. If you’re in a business you might want to think about replacing your hard drive. This is because you’re going to be saving many files, and they could be large one. With getting a new hard drive it will allow you to store more files as it has a larger storage capacity. This could enable you to also store multi-media files and many of them. A weakness to this is that when installing the hard drive, the persons whose computer it is won’t be able to his work. This means he might not be able to reach the deadline for the work to be completed. Also another weakness is when disposing of the old one. It might take money to dispose of it in the correct way. If they
don’t dispose of it in the right way they could get fined and people data could fall into the wrong people’s hands.

You could also upgrade the processor. Strength to doing this is that it will make the computer run a lot more smoothly without any freezing. This will help with getting the work in on time. It also allows you to multi-task without slowing the computer down. This is good as it means the person working on the computer will be able to have all of his work he needs open at the same time. A weakness to this is that it might cost quite a bit of money to get a new processor. Also when installing the processor the person wont be able to complete his work.