



## Barbri Raises the Bar in Migration to Office 365, SharePoint Online

#1 provider of bar review courses and student support in the US makes their move to Office 365 with Strategic SaaS.

### Company Overview


With over 40 years of experience and one million students served, Barbri is the #1 provider of bar review courses and student support in the United States. Marked by strong leadership and high-quality service, the fast-growth company provides prospective and current law students access to exam prep courses through a variety of rich media environments and platforms.

Barbri has established a track record of helping students make the transition from law student to lawyer. The company made its own transition in late 2010, moving to Google Cloud Services from Microsoft Exchange Server onsite to reduce IT costs. One year later, Mark Kaplan was brought on board as Director of IT Infrastructure to create a unified IT infrastructure for Barbri.

Tasked with increasing efficiencies and controlling costs across the Barbri network, Kaplan says that a move from Google to Microsoft's new Cloud Services was at the top of his priority list. "Google's integration with email was inadequate. It lacks the robustness and features required by business," he notes. "Our organization was ready to return to enterprise-class applications, and the Microsoft Cloud offered the ideal solutions at an affordable price."

### Microsoft Cloud Selected for Its Efficiency, Effectiveness

Given Barbri's need for advanced communications and maximum archiving capacity, the company selected the Office 365 E3 plan for its enterprise. "It was a forgone conclusion that we would move from Google to Microsoft," Kaplan notes. "A cost analysis made it clear that we could achieve this most efficiently and effectively using Microsoft Cloud Services."



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-Mark Kaplan  
Director of IT  
Infrastructure | Barbri



# Executive Summary



## About Barbri

- [www.barbri.com](http://www.barbri.com)
- America's leading provider of bar exam preparation and legal education
- Headquartered in Dallas, Texas
- 250 employees, including 13 offices dispersed nationally and mobile users

## Challenge

- Inconsistent synchronization of Outlook data with the Google cloud
- Need for more robust, integrated features to address business requirements
- Inadequate capacity for extensive document storage and archiving

## Solution

Migrate to Microsoft Cloud Solutions, including Office 365 and SharePoint

## Results

- Enterprise-class solutions optimize communications
- Extensive library of documents and videos is accessible online 24/7 for dispersed workforce, including instructors

The Barbri IT team used Windows PowerShell, a command-line shell and scripting language, to establish user accounts, create dynamic distribution groups, and script automated solutions for their Exchange Online environment.

"The greatest challenge was migrating our extensive training documents from Google Docs to SharePoint," Kaplan explains. "Strategic SaaS took the lead in this transition, exceeding our expectations at every step. They were very responsive and helpful in resolving our myriad issues."

Kaplan says that Office 365 is a "great product" for Barbri's needs. Given the vast information requirements of its dispersed workforce, including remote instructors, the company is considering the addition of Microsoft Surface tablets, integrated with Office 365, in the near future.

As the premiere bar exam review course in every jurisdiction across the United States, Barbri maintains an extensive collection of course materials, videos and literature. Thousands of documents—incorporated into Barbri's textbooks, eLearning applications and lectures—must be accessed by the company's 250+ employees dispersed nationwide.

During its move to the Microsoft Cloud, Barbri relied heavily on Strategic SaaS to migrate its documents to Microsoft SharePoint. SharePoint Online enables Barbri's coworkers and team members to share documents, calendars and project information within a centralized, cloud-based system.

"The switch from Google Docs to SharePoint Online has dramatically improved our productivity," reports Mark Kaplan, Barbri's Director of IT Infrastructure.



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