



## How to Empower Your Employee Workforce and Boost Business Efficiencies with Intel® NUC

Employees need reliable technology that keeps them productive as they move between their homes and offices. Intel® NUCs offer high-performance systems that support the most data-intensive tasks—in a compact and portable package.



# Mini PCs Offer Businesses Big Benefits

With the rise of the hybrid workforce, employees need technology that helps them seamlessly transition between home and the office. Businesses have traditionally provided workers with laptops they can take home and tower PCs to use on-site.

However, these traditional workstations pose challenges that can harm employee productivity and business efficiencies. Tower PCs are bulky, use lots of electricity, and require extensive customizations to meet your needs. Meanwhile, laptops are prone to theft and damage. Both types of workstations age rapidly and become less efficient every day.

Many businesses are turning to mini PCs—specifically Intel NUCs—for their durability, long lifespans, and high-performing systems. These small PCs pack quite the punch and can support the most data-intensive workflows, including video editing, coding, complex financial analysis, CAD design, and more.

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In this white paper, you will learn how Intel NUCs are changing the game for business workforces by providing employees with compact, fully-customizable PC systems that are easy to transport between locations. These systems also make life easier for IT teams by allowing remote management, patching, and troubleshooting regardless of an employee's location.

[This white paper also provides a list of recommendations on what to look for in a mini PC vendor, along with information on the latest and most powerful Intel NUCs. Read on to learn how downsizing from tower PCs to Intel NUCs can have a big impact on your business.](#)





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# Hybrid Workforces Require Flexible, Portable Technology

Over the past few years, businesses and employees have realized the benefits of hybrid work. Employees are happier and enjoy greater flexibility with their schedules. Meanwhile, companies are focused on boosting productivity, attracting top talent, and lowering operating costs.

It's not surprising that hybrid work is here to stay. According to Gallup, 53% of businesses anticipate having a hybrid workforce in 2022 and beyond, while 24% of companies will move to a fully remote working model.<sup>1</sup>

But succeeding with hybrid work may require updates to your technology infrastructure. Employees who frequently move between locations can't rely on traditional workstations that age quickly, break easily, and have performance limitations.

Hybrid employees require flexible and portable technology that will keep them productive—whether they work at home or in the office. They also need powerful systems that support data-intensive tasks, such as video editing, number-crunching analyses, computer-aided design, and coding.

Meanwhile, your IT team must have an easy way to manage and support these devices remotely. They also need to roll out devices to employees quickly, which can be difficult due to the long lead times and shipping delays with traditional PC vendors.

1: Gallup: The Future of Hybrid Work: 5 Key Questions Answered with Data, 2022



# Why Organizations Are Moving Away from Traditional Tower PCs

When IT teams need to purchase new workstations, they often default to traditional towers and laptops. Since employees are familiar with these systems, they seem like an easy answer. However, these workstations may not be the best choice for your business.

Here are some reasons why you may want to reconsider traditional tower PCs:

- ❑ Tower PCs have short lifespans and become less efficient as they age. These inefficiencies can harm employee productivity—causing you to fall behind your competitors and lose market share.
- ❑ Desktop PCs require 60-200 watts of electricity to run normally. The more power your systems use, the more your energy costs and carbon footprint will increase. Your employees will also see their home energy bills rise if they use inefficient PCs.
- ❑ Traditional tower PCs generate heat and noise, making home and office workspaces uncomfortable.
- ❑ Tower PCs take up a lot of space, which can be a problem for employees who work from home or in tight spaces.
- ❑ Traditional PC vendors have long lead times, as they receive their hardware from multinational manufacturers. Waiting a long time for a computer can impact your business and productivity.
- ❑ Many PC vendors sell cookie-cutter systems that don't meet your needs right out of the box. Your IT team might need to spend hours customizing each system before rolling it out to an employee. You may also require costly technical consulting to ensure the systems operate properly.





While laptops offer portability advantages, they may not be the right option for a hybrid workforce.

Here's why:

- ☑ Laptops can get pricey once you factor in accessories such as docking stations, screen protectors, cases, bags, mice, and external keyboards. They also require periodic maintenance and battery replacements, which can add unforeseen costs to your IT budget.
- ☑ Laptops are prone to theft and loss, especially when employees frequently travel between home and the office. According to Gartner, a laptop is stolen every 53 seconds. More than 55% of IT professionals said that laptop theft resulted in a data breach, and 45% of healthcare data breaches occur on stolen laptops. <sup>2</sup>
- ☑ Laptops often get damaged due to regular transportation. Cracked screens, damaged keyboards, and malfunctioning batteries are unfortunate realities associated with laptop PCs. According to a recent study, 67% of employees who work from home are using broken company hardware. <sup>3</sup>
- ☑ Many laptops have hardware limitations and can't be fully customized to meet your needs. These restrictions can impact employee productivity or force your IT team to waste time configuring and modifying systems.
- ☑ Laptop manufacturers also deal with the same supply chain and production delays that tower vendors face. It can be challenging to get laptops when you need them.

Ultimately, implementing the wrong workstations can be a costly mistake that harms employee productivity and wastes company resources.

**According to a recent study, 67% of employees who work from home are using broken company hardware.**

2: Security Boulevard: 7 Shocking Statistics That Prove Just How Important Laptop Security Is, 2018

3: TechRadar: Most remote workers stuck with broken laptops and smartphones, 2022

# Empower Your Hybrid Workforce with Intel® NUCs

IT teams are deploying mini PCs, such as Intel® NUCs, to solve the challenges posed by traditional towers and laptops. An Intel® NUC (Next Unit of Computing) is a small computer, typically just 4" x 4", that packs the power and performance of a much larger PC.

NUCs have been in the market for more than a decade. In 2011, an engineering team at Intel® built a small, fully-featured motherboard that would eventually scale from Atom to Xeon. The engineers took laptop components and designed a mini desktop, creating the first NUC.

Over the years, Intel® has continuously improved the NUC product line - focusing on feature density, innovations, and performance without increasing the workstations' size. You can perform all your regular business functions with an NUC—even activities that require a lot of compute power, such as CAD design, video editing and capturing, medical image rendering, data science, complex financial analysis, and coding. Some models support full-sized graphics cards and can connect to devices such as video cameras and DSLRs through an array of Thunderbolt™ 4 and USB-C ports.





# Advantages You Can Achieve When You Replace Tower PCs or Laptops With Intel® NUCs:



**SUPPORT HYBRID WORK:** Intel® NUCs are more rugged and less prone to breakage than laptops, making them ideal for frequent transport between home and the office. And, since they are modular, you can easily upgrade your monitors or other input devices without the high costs of replacing an entire PC.

**LOWER COSTS:** Intel® NUCs consume 50% less energy than tower PCs and can save you the same percentage on your power costs compared with a similarly configured desktop. These mini PCs are also tested for 24/7 operation and can function for up to seven years, which is ideal for businesses with demanding computing needs.

**CREATE LESS HEAT AND NOISE:** Since Intel® NUCs are low power, they generate less heat than other workstations. And, since some models don't have fans, they are much quieter than PCs and laptops. Ultimately, Intel® NUCs promote quiet and comfortable working environments.


**SAVE SPACE:** Since Intel® NUCs are small and compact, they are easy to incorporate into home offices and other tight working spaces while saving valuable desk space.

**RUN MORE EFFICIENT MEETINGS:** Attendees waste 10% of their meeting time due to problems setting up video conferencing equipment.<sup>4</sup> Intel® NUCs can eliminate technology frustrations by making it easy for you to start, join, or host meetings. You can also mount an NUC to the back of a large-format display to keep it out of sight and save space.

**INCREASE EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY:** Studies have shown that employees are 25.8% more productive when they plug in a keyboard and mouse. Working with two monitors and a keyboard can also boost productivity by 39%. Intel® NUCs make these efficiencies possible by offering single, double, and triple video outputs so users can run up to eight displays. Several models also support ECC memory, enabling the most reliable operation for mission-critical projects.

**IMPROVE REMOTE MANAGEMENT:** Some NUCs allow IT teams to push down images, update patches, and perform routine maintenance remotely. Your IT team can also utilize Intel® vPro to remotely manage, diagnose, and update PCs.

4: Owl Labs: State of Video Conferencing, 2019



## 6 Non-Negotiables When Choosing an Intel® NUC Vendor

Not all computer hardware vendors are created equal. Many will sell you generic systems that lack the performance, quality components, and features you need. Others offer limited support and won't troubleshoot or manage your mini PCs if they have issues.

Get the most value out of your Intel® NUCs by choosing a partner who offers the following:

### 1. Customizations based on your exact business needs

If you're buying computers for your entire workforce, your IT team can spend a lot of time installing software and configuring systems. Look for a partner who will fully customize your PCs so you can roll out your Intel® NUCs quickly and efficiently. Your vendor should be able to handle all your customization requests, such as storage, memory, OS, additional ports, and more.

### 2. A one-stop shop

Look for a vendor who provides not just the mini PCs but the accessories, custom image management, solution consulting, and customer service you need with them. When you choose a partner who takes a holistic and partner-oriented business approach, you can scale quickly as your computing requirements change in the future.

### 3. Longevity

You don't want to invest in mini PCs only to see them discontinued immediately after you buy them. Look for a partner who will continue to sell and support your technology as long as you plan to use it. Your vendor should also have a strong relationship with Intel® to ensure a smooth transition to a replacement model when you're ready to upgrade your systems.

### 4. Expert support at no additional charge

Choose a partner who offers unlimited technical assistance at no extra cost for the first year after purchase, with an option to purchase extended support. Their technical staff should help you get up and running quickly, as well as promptly troubleshoot any issues. You should be able to reach out to live agents for support and remote troubleshooting.

### 5. An extended warranty

Your Intel® NUC partner should provide a three-year warranty with additional support for up to five years. They should also offer an efficient return policy that keeps your employees productive if you need to return your mini PCs. Look for a partner who will send you replacements while you ship the broken items back so that you can keep your operations running while you wait for new PCs.

### 6. A global footprint to support all your locations and employees

Look for a partner who has offices worldwide so they can provide logistics and support—no matter where you are located. They should also keep the newest and most popular Intel® NUC models in stock so you can get them within a few business days.



# Simply NUC: Your Trusted Intel® NUC Partner

Simply NUC is the only global company that is 100% focused on mini computers, particularly the Intel® NUC. We understand everything from the hardware to the OS and can customize your systems to your specifications. Our focus and expertise in this space allow us to surpass the competition who carry many product lines and don't offer our fully customized Intel® NUC experience.

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Simply NUC provides Intel® NUCs for all your business and compute needs.  
[Here are just a few of the offerings that we offer to power your business:](#)



## **DRAGON CANYON PRO (INTEL® NUC 12 PRO X)**

With the power of 12th Gen Intel® Core™ processors, Intel® vPro™, and the discrete graphics card of your choice, Dragon Canyon Pro exceeds workstation performance expectations. Packed with the latest technology and components available today, Dragon Canyon Pro delivers a mind-blowing content creation and workstation experience like no other.



## **BEAST CANYON (INTEL® NUC 11 EXTREME)**

Featuring 11th Gen Intel® Core™ processors and support for full-size discrete graphics cards, Beast Canyon offers extreme workstation and content creation performance in just 8 liters. Packed with the latest components, you can create and work in 4K.

## TOPAZ 2 (POWERED BY INTEL®)



The Topaz 2 NUC is equipped with new 12th Gen Intel® Core™ processors, Intel® Xe Graphics, and your choice of DDR4-3200 memory and Gen4 NVMe drive—delivering an even more polished experience than its predecessor while keeping you at the forefront of technology. Topaz 2 offers up to 12 cores and 16 threads paired with the new Intel® Thread Director to keep you running smoothly, no matter the application or workload, thanks to its hybrid core architecture.

## QUARTZ CANYON (INTEL® NUC 9 PRO)



Housed in a 5-liter chassis with 500 watts of on-board power for dual-width desktop graphics cards and sporting Intel® vPro™ technology, Quartz Canyon is a compact workstation available to support desktop graphics, giving you unsurpassed performance.

## TIGER CANYON (INTEL® NUC 11 PRO)



Tiger Canyon offers boundary-breaking performance with 11th Gen Intel® Core™ i7 and i5 processors featuring Intel® Iris® Xe graphics and high-speed 3200 MHz DDR4 memory support. Select Tiger Canyon SKUs also feature Intel® vPro® technology for remote manageability, hardware-enhanced security features, and platform stability to help businesses cut IT costs and boost uptime.

## EMERALD (POWERED BY INTEL®)



Featuring Intel® 11th Gen Tiger Lake processors with Iris® Xe graphics, Emerald by Simply NUC is the perfect mini PC for an array of applications from home office to digital signage. With Intel® Hyper-Threading Technology, Emerald enables you to do more faster by executing tasks in parallel on a single core.





## Simply NUC: Your One-Stop Shop

Trading your traditional workstations for mini PCs can increase the productivity of your hybrid workforce and give employees a better experience—while allowing your IT team to manage everything remotely. Today's Intel® NUCs offer benefits far beyond their small size and portability. They provide the power your workforce needs for a wide range of resource-intensive tasks.

To get the most value from your investment, you need a partner who will customize your mini PC solutions to meet your needs and provide complete and responsive support. That's where Simply NUC can help.

**Contact us now for a free consultation and to request a demo unit.**

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