

There really is no comparison of SlingStoneIT's services to the other options available. Hiring in-house IT management with enough experience, skills, and tools to compare with vCIO services is extremely difficult if not impossible. In-house hiring also requires fully burdened internal costs such as health benefits, workers compensation insurance, stock option packages, and much more. Fully burdened costs can range from 15-40% additional on top of the employee's salary.

IT consultants provide no better option. Although consultants bring a wealth of knowledge and experience, they are typically only available on a project basis with high hourly fees and little ownership for the company's long-term success.

The table below illustrates some of the main comparative issues:

Benefits	SlingStoneIT vCIO	In-house CIO/Director	External IT Consultants
Full team of experienced IT leaders in strategic management, operational effectiveness, and security practices	X		X
Strategic IT information available from industry and other clients	X		X
Consistent, fixed monthly fee – no hourly or hidden charges	X	X	
No hidden cost burdens – health benefits, taxes, and insurance	X		X
Backup resources available is primary gets sick or goes on vacation	X		
Established methodologies, policies, and best practices for IT based on standards such as COBIT and ITIL	X		X
Available on short notice for meetings, discussions, and day-to-day management	X	X	
Regular contact with IT staff and executive management via face-to-face, phone, e-mail, and web conferencing communication	X	X	
Able to become a true member of team – a real company insider, not an outsider	X	X	
IT ownership for long-term success	X	X	
Flexible and adaptable for company growth	X		
Extremely affordable and scalable pricing	X		