

Snapshot: Zix advantages versus Office 365 Message Encryption



Office 365 offers your organization the opportunity to meet its infrastructure needs, to help your IT team address business priorities and to reduce your costs. However Office 365 Message Encryption (OME) is not as evolved as ZixGateway Hosted email encryption, in accurately filtering email content to detect sensitive data, and in empowering your employees to secure corporate data while remaining at maximum productivity. For more about how Zix integrates easily with Office 365 [click here](#).

Here is a summary of how ZixGateway Hosted surpasses OME in functionality, effectiveness and ease-of-use.

Filters

OME comes with 80 content filters – the vast majority do not apply to North America. For example, there do not appear to be any readily available HIPAA or PCI-DSS filters.

- The policies manually created by the admin can use the off-the-shelf OME content filters, but – again – the filters are limited in scope, hence new filters need to be defined by the admin. Alternatively a third party consultancy company can be engaged at a cost to write content filters that come free from Zix.
- Zix also offers the creation of specialty content filters for clients who work in unusual industries. This service is free.

Azure Rights Management

- OME is co-sold with Azure RMS, thereby implying they work together. They don't. This means that if a person not residing within the sending company's network is sent an Azure protected attachment, he/she cannot open the attachment because the rights are not transferred.
- Azure does not control encryption of emails. The flagging of emails – for encryption – is totally under the control of the policies manually created by the company's own admin.

Delivery Methods

- The primary OME method of delivery is via a push system. Typically it takes six steps for the recipient to retrieve their encrypted email.
- The secondary OME delivery method is via mandatory TLS that requires to be set up admin-to-admin: there is no equivalent of ZixDirectory. If in the future a TLS email transmission fails, OME has no fail-over/fallback procedure – the email exchange does not take place, or the email is sent in plain text.
- With OME there is no equivalent of Zix's BMOD. An email exchange is either set by the admin to go Push, or to go TLS.
- OME does not offer other kinds of secure delivery – such as S/MIME. Just the two methods above.

Mobile Delivery

- ZixGateway Hosted Email Encryption displays on any mobile device browser, sized appropriately. No app is required to be downloaded. With OME, Android and iOS devices require special apps to be downloaded. This is particularly cumbersome when a user is on the road and in a hurry.

Compliance Reporting

- OME comes with no compliance reporting. There is rudimentary reporting of other kinds – the quality is way below that of Zix.

Easy Integration with Office 365

- ZixGateway Hosted solution integrates easily and seamlessly with Office 365 (Outlook). As of May 2016, during the previous two years, greater than 30% of new Zix customers had implemented ZixGateway Hosted with Office 365. Also, greater than 35% of all ZixGateway Hosted customers were also Office 365 customers.

