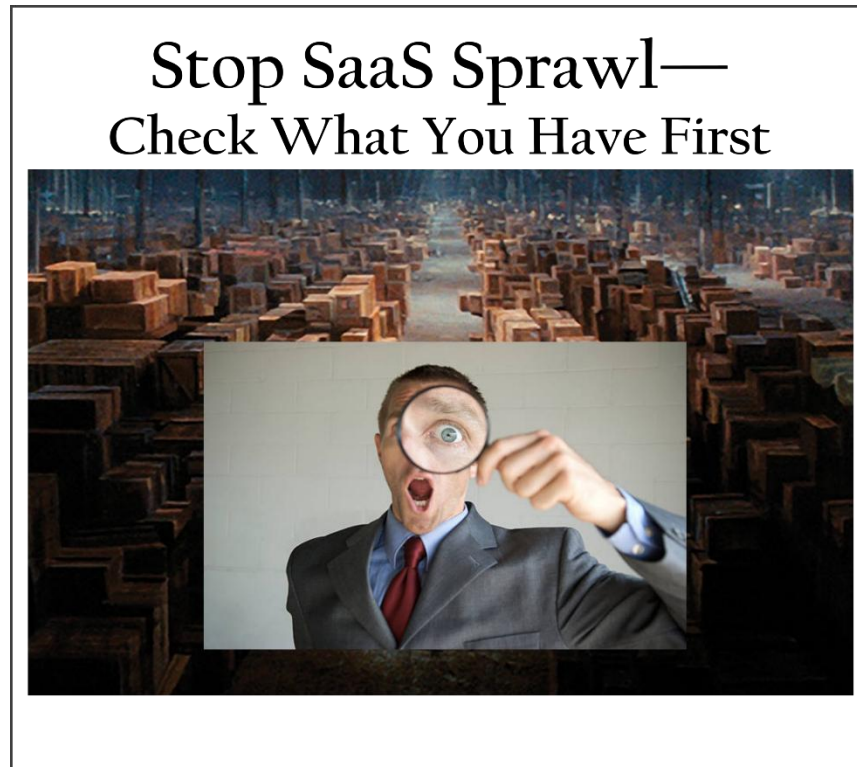




BLOG— Stop SaaS Sprawl: Check What You Have First

Posted by: William | On: April 2, 2026 | [Cloud Computing](#), [Risk Management](#)

<https://wardtechaudit.com/stop-saas-sprawl-check-what-you-have-first/>



Stop SaaS Sprawl: Check What You Have First

Summary Table of Contents

- Introduction
- Reviewing your current solutions before adding another one
 1. You Might Already Have What You Need
 2. Each Additional System Exponentially Increases Internal Support Needs, Complexity, and Adds Costs
 3. More Tools Mean More Security and Compliance Risks
 4. It Keeps Your Tech Stack Simple and Manageable
- Simple Steps to Get Started
- The Bottom Line



Introduction

In today's world, businesses use dozens—and often hundreds—of software solutions to get work done. Most of these systems live in the cloud as subscriptions in one of the four primary service models (SaaS, PaaS, IaaS, and FaaS / Serverless Computing). They're easy to procure, quick to start using, and often just a credit card away.

But here's the problem: It's tempting to grab a shiny new tool whenever a team says, "*We need something better.*" Before you do that, there's one important step many companies skip — **Reviewing what you already have.**

It seems simple enough, however you first must know what you have, and have effective controls over software procurement. This being said, the benefits almost always far outweigh the added review effort.

Reviewing your current solutions before adding another one:

- > Saves money,
- > Reduces headaches,
- > Reduces complexity,
- > Reduces internal tech support needs (along with legal, audit, and business personnel time)
- > And keeps your business safer.

Here's why it matters:

1. You Might Already Have What You Need

Many software solutions have capabilities that your team isn't using yet, or the vendor has additional offerings that are not known or utilized.

For example:

- > Your main project management app might already include file sharing or basic reporting.
- > Your email or collaboration platform could handle tasks that a new "special" tool promises to solve.

Buying something new when an existing tool can do the job is like buying a second coffee maker because you didn't check the kitchen cabinet. It wastes money on overlapping features (called "duplicate tools").

Real impact: Companies often waste 25-30% (or more!) of their IT budget and time on unused or overlapping cloud subscriptions. A simple review can help you expand what you already pay for instead of spending more.



2. Each Additional System Exponentially Increases Internal Support Needs, Complexity, and Costs

When teams use lots of different cloud apps:

- > Employees jump between 10 or more systems every day, which slows everyone down.
- > Data gets scattered across different places, often with different names, making it hard to find or effectively combine information (increasing data privacy and other compliance and security risks).
- > You end up paying for multiple subscriptions that do similar things, and each additional system adds cost, complexity and risk.

Cloud tools are subscription-based, so costs add up quietly, especially through auto-renewals and unchecked price increases. Unused licenses and forgotten apps can quietly drain your budget year after year.

Reviewing first helps you **consolidate** — keep the best tools and retire the ones that aren't needed.

Think of it this way—

How much simpler would things be if you only had a single software solution?

What would be the savings in terms of people, time, knowledge, complexity, cost and support?

Now compare it with supporting hundreds of systems. The savings of not adding another system goes well beyond just the software subscription or maintenance cost.

3. More Tools Mean More Security and Compliance Risks

Each new cloud solution is another door into your company's data.

If it's not properly checked:

- > It might not meet your security standards.
- > It could create weak spots that hackers might exploit.
- > It makes it harder to follow rules and regulations (like data privacy laws).

With cloud computing, your data lives outside your office on the vendor's servers. The more apps you have, the bigger your "attack surface" becomes — and the harder it is to keep everything safe and compliant.

A quick review of existing tools lets you spot gaps and fix them before adding even more risk.



4. It Keeps Your Tech Stack Simple and Manageable

A messy collection of cloud solutions leads to:

- > Integration problems (tools that don't talk to each other well).
- > Higher training costs for new employees.
- > More work for your IT team to manage updates, access, and support.

Reviewing what you already have encourages smarter decisions. It helps build a cleaner, more efficient set of tools that actually support your business goals.

Simple Steps to Get Started

You don't need a big project to make this habit. Try these easy steps before approving any new cloud solution:

- 1. Know what you already have**, such as systems, features, functions and capabilities— And what else each vendor offers.
- 2. Ask:** *"Do we already have any solutions that do something similar?"* Or *"Is another department or team already using the same solution?"*
- 3. Check usage:** Look at how much your current software solutions are actually being used and what departments or groups are using them.
- 4. Talk to teams:** Involve the people who will use the new system — and the ones managing the existing ones.
- 5. Review (at least) annually:** Make it a habit to actively audit your full list of cloud solutions once or twice a year.

Many companies now use simple tools or spreadsheets (or more advanced SaaS management platforms) to keep an up-to-date inventory of everything they have.

Tip: Get Executive Management support first. Requiring a review of what you have before adding another solution usually works best when coming from the top.

The Bottom Line

Cloud solutions are powerful and convenient, but they multiply fast if you're not careful. **Reviewing what you already have before buying something new** is one of the smartest, easiest ways to control costs, reduce risks, and keep things running smoothly.

Next time someone suggests a new software solution, pause and ask: ***"What do we already have that might work?"*** That one question can save your organization time, money, and stress.
