



## RemoteXs OR VPN

The Objective of this comparison is to understand key services around any remote access solution (VPN or RemoteXs) that will allow libraries to analyze & optimize usage of available eResources and nurture research interests of faculty and students.

### Points to consider:

- Are our Library patrons able to access eResources from their mobile devices when they are off-campus?
- Is a VPN level data encryption required for eResources hosted on publisher servers at cost of slow connections and up to 50% internet bandwidth over heads for end users?
- Is it necessary to give access to your internal network via a VPN client to off-campus users and risk your network security?
- Is your VPN infrastructure configured for all users and operating systems on mobile devices?
- Can your users freely access eResources from any device or only through trusted device?



\*- USP features for RemoteXs

Sr. No.	Features	RemoteXs Hosted Service (RXs) Availability YES -Y / No - N		VPN solution Availability YES -Y / No - N	
		Brief feature description	RemoteXs	Brief feature description	VPN
I	<b>Admin Portal</b>				
1	<b>Admin Dashboard</b>	Simple view of System & User statistics	Y	Not available	N
2	<b>Console based User Management</b>	User friendly admin portal for easy user management	Y	Text file based system for user management	N
3	<b>Resource Management*</b>	User friendly interface to manage white list of resources.	Y	Will depend upon institute library portal	Y
4	<b>Email* notifications</b>	Standard Email templates for users & publishers	Y	Not available directly	N
5	<b>Reports*</b>	Comprehensive reports module.	Y	Not available by default	N
6	<b>Bandwidth Monitoring</b>	User category wise per day download limit & alerts	Y	Not available	N
7	<b>SDI</b>	Email based currently	Y	Not available	N
8	<b>Alerts</b>	Alerts via Email & Portal	Y	Not available	N
II	<b>Captive Web portal*</b>	CMS based device responsive portal to maintain resources	Y	Not available	N
III	<b>Resource Accessibility &amp; Search</b>				
1	<b>Single sign-on</b>	Seamless access to subscribed resources once user logs in with registered email.	Y	Seamless as if user is on campus	Y
2	<b>Support for Libraries digital content*</b>	Support for linking videos, image galleries, e-resources, e-books on a single platform	Y	Not available	N
3	<b>Support for resource based training</b>	Resource wise help can be provided on the portal for each resource	Y	Not available	N
4	<b>User category based resource access &amp; validity*</b>	Validity and Access to individual resources can be configured as per user requirement	Y	Not available	N
IV	<b>User Management &amp; Authentication</b>				
1	<b>Auto password generation &amp; expiry*</b>	To avoid misuse, system can auto generate & expire user password	Y	Not available	N
2	<b>User Self registration</b>	Users can self register.	Y	Not available	N
3	<b>Concurrent login</b>	Can allow concurrent sessions	Y	Not available	N

4	<b>Bulk import</b>	Staff can import users from csv in a single click	Y	VPN client to be configured for each user	Y
5	<b>User Category</b>	Staff can create user categories easily	Y	Not available	Y
6	<b>Auto Email Alerts</b>	Email alerts as per user categorization for better reporting	Y	Not available	N
<b>V</b>	<b>Data Analytics*</b>				
1	<b>User category wise usage statistics</b>	Admin can generate detailed reports based on user category/ group	Y	Not available	N
2	<b>Resource wise usage statistics</b>	Resource wise detailed usage reports available	Y	Not available	N
3	<b>Date/ Day wise usage statistics</b>	Resource & user category wise reports available	Y	Not available	N
<b>VI</b>	<b>Database Backup facility</b>	Provided by data centre. Auto back up on external site can be setup for clients requesting the same.	Y	Will depend upon institute data backup policies	Y
<b>VII</b>	<b>System Availability &amp; user experience</b>				
1	<b>Uptime*</b>	99.9%	Y	Will vary with Institute	N
2	<b>User Experience</b>	Will not depend upon Institute internet	Y	Will depend upon institute internet bandwidth	Y
3	<b>IT knowledge required to run the system*</b>	Library staff needs minimal IT skills to maintain the system	Y	Skilled IT system admin is required to monitor & run the VPN system	Y
4	<b>IT infrastructure requirement</b>	Minimal. Actually since the service is offered on cloud hosting model, Library doesn't need any dedicated IT infrastructure	Y	Dedicated IT infrastructure needed	Y

**Disclaimer:** Above comparison is based on product information available online or provided by librarians who have used the services of respective solution.