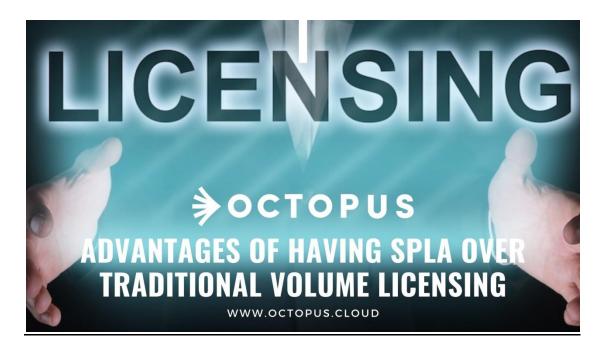# Advantages of having SPLA over Traditional Volume Licensing
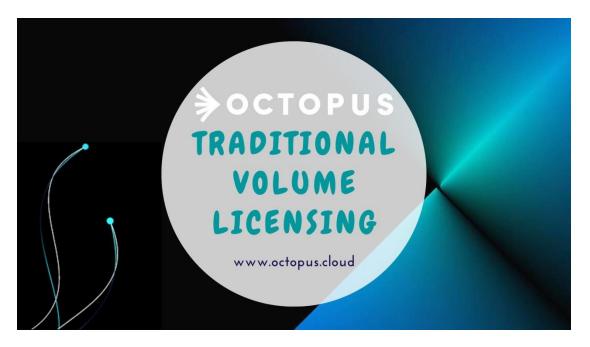

Definition wise difference between SPLA and Traditional VL-

Definition of SPLA- "SPLA is a Service Provider License agreement that allows an organization to license Microsoft products and use them to provide software services to the customer."

In this, all the services that are required by customers must be licensed including backend SQL database

Definition of Volume Licensing- "Volume Licensing is a service offered by Microsoft,is for organizations that require multiple licenses, but not the software media, packaging and documentation supplied with the full packaged product (FPP)."

SPLA vs Traditional VL

● First and foremost SPLA is used to provide services to other customers and other external users but Volume licensing is only used for internal use.

● SPLA can be installed in a data center managed by the service provider and can be accessed remotely but VL can only be installed on-premise or on dedicated machines with an outsourcer.

● In SPLA service provider is the one who holds the license but does not own the licenses but in VL the end customer is the licensee.

● SPLA has the cost based on monthly usage but in VL the cost is upfront.

Although SPLA is a better option according to the needs of the service provider it does get a little hectic sometimes and **OCTOPUS** is there to help you. Octopus provides service providers gain clarity over the IT landscape so that they can reduce risk and enhance performance and make informed licensing and migration decisions more clear.