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What if you want to be in China but the idea of coming here is a bit too much for you to consider right now? How about a 'virtual office'?

Low cost office option in China - Virtual Offices

For a lot of people, the thought of opening an office in a faraway place like China represents a pretty tough option that they know they need to do but can't help but avoid.

Aside from some of the obvious bureaucracy, there is also the challenge of being able to cope with language difficulties during this set up stage as well as the ongoing challenge of client contact (both Chinese and non-Chinese speaking). For many, these tasks represent a rather difficult proposition and can appear be a bit of a black hole that is difficult to crawl out of once you have crawled in. One way to ease into "the market" is to do what many businesses new to China do - try a virtual office. The concept is pretty simple. While for all intents and purposes there appears to your clients to be a real office presence, the reality is that this is pretty much perception only and not a whole lot more. What it provides is a point of reference for the company – somewhere you can tell people that you work; somewhere correspondence can be addressed to; somewhere the phone can be answered in the name of your company.

In China, critical features of a virtual office would be:

- Fax, email and phone facilities at no extra cost beyond the monthly fee
- Chinese and English speaking reception staff
- Prestigious address within the city in question – remember, the clients are physically coming into your office, so you have an opportunity to create the illusion of having the best address in town without much cost
- Ability to list in multiple cities
- Affordable

One final criteria that might be worth considering is the ability of the virtual office provider to change things around if you need them to. Should you change your mind and want to exit the country you should be able to exit the agreement with little or no penalty. Should you require to upgrade your virtual office, you should also be able to do this with no penalty and with a degree of ease – go from virtual to the real office without any of your clients realising there has been any change at change.