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Welcome to the PC Connection – Microsoft Monthly Newsletter! This newsletter is designed to deliver you, our valued Microsoft Customer's, the latest Licensing, Product, Security, Events, and Promotional information from Microsoft.

Announcements

New Software Assurance Packaged Services!

Summary

As part of Microsoft's efforts to extend and evolve the value Microsoft Software Assurance for Volume Licensing brings to customers, we are pleased to announce two new Packaged Services offerings.

Details

The new service offerings also referred to as voucher engagements, will be available in November 2008. These services are designed to help customers develop plans that will facilitate implementation and maximize their use of Microsoft software, and will be available in 3, 5, 10 and 15 day service levels.

Exchange Deployment Planning Services (EDPS)

The EDPS engagement is designed to help guide customers through the deployment planning stages of a Microsoft Exchange implementation. Structured engagements are conducted by pre-qualified EDPS partners, who will share best practices, analyze organizational requirements, and help create comprehensive deployment and implementation plans.

Business Value Planning Services (BVPS)

The BVPS engagement is designed to help customers identify, unlock, and capture the business value of Microsoft Office System. Through structured engagements, a pre-qualified BVPS partner will work with customers to identify and design improvements to an existing business process using Office System technology. BVPS can help customers:

- Realize a greater return on their existing Office System technology investment
- Solve real problems that organizations face every day with a familiar technology platform
- Build a convincing business case to drive change and improve their business processes
- Receive a 3rd-party solution analysis and services through Microsoft Certified Partners that are pre-qualified as BVPS providers

Learn more about these services by contacting your account manager, ask them about Pro Connection.

Microsoft Application Virtualization (App-V) 4.5 for Terminal Services

Summary

Microsoft® Application Virtualization 4.5 (App-V) for Terminal Services (TS) launches on the Volume License price list in November 2008. App-V for TS enables applications to be virtualized and streamed for use on Windows Server 2008 and Windows Server 2003 Terminal Services.

Details

An App-V CAL for TS is required for every user or device that connects to a terminal server managed by App-V. Two types of App-V CAL for TS Licenses are available:

- A device based App-V CAL for TS permits one device (used by any user) to access a Windows Session managed with App-V on any of your terminal servers.
- A user based App-V CAL for TS permits one user (using any device) to access a Windows Session managed with App-V on any of your terminal servers.

A Windows Session is defined as a session during which the server software hosts a graphical user interface on a device. You may choose to use a combination of device CALs and user CALs simultaneously with the server software.

Windows Server License: The Windows Server 2008 licensing model requires a server license for each copy of the server software installed. Terminal Services functionality is included in the server license. App-V for TS is not part of Windows Server 2008 but any terminal server on which you install App-V for TS must have a valid Windows Server 2008 license.

Windows Server Client Access License: In addition to a server license, a Windows Client Access License (CAL) is required for every user or device that accesses any terminal server with App-V for TS.

Link to More Information

- [Licensing information](#)
- [App-V for TS information](#)

Select Plus Available Now!

Summary

A first step in a longer term vision, Select Plus is a new program offer designed for large commercial, government, and academic customers that desire purchasing flexibility, better software license management, and a way to balance growing technology needs with predictable costs. The Enterprise Agreement remains the optimal way for enterprise organizations to standardize the desktop environment, and Select Plus is a great way to consolidate purchases across business units to take advantage of volume pricing and improved asset management. Select Plus builds on the existing Select License program, at no price change, and introduces:

Details

You asked. Microsoft listened. Based on customer research, Microsoft is offering a new way to purchase, track, and manage your software licenses through Select Plus. Select Plus builds on the existing Select License program with enhancements that give you more value and improved features.

- Accessible, flexible purchasing
 - Single, organization-wide agreement that supports both centralized and decentralized purchasing of licensed products on an as-needed basis.
 - The agreement never expires and allows for consistent, predictable pricing that simplifies budgeting for short- and long-term projects and simplified purchasing.
- Better manageability
 - Far fewer agreements to track and manage.
 - Because all affiliate purchases are tied to their own unique customer IDs, customers will have a clear view of their entire license and software asset portfolio in either a comprehensive report containing all affiliates or an individual report with the ability to drill down into a specific affiliate.
 - New self-service tools also make it easier for customers to register and access all their agreement information.
- Maximized value
 - Price-level adjustment is based on actual purchase volume across the organization.
 - Customers no longer need to wait for an anniversary date to achieve a better discount, as the order that puts their organization to the next price level instantly receives the correct discount you as a reseller set.
 - A full 36 months of Software Assurance to their licenses purchased—without proration or regard to purchase timing.

Link to More Information

Compare Select Plus and Select License: Review the [following feature comparison](#) to help you determine whether Select Plus or Select License is right for your business.

Changes for Microsoft Volume Licensing Open Programs 2008

Summary

On October 1, 2008, the Open License, Open Value, and Open Value Subscription programs changed to better meet the needs of Microsoft customers and partners. The changes reflect Microsoft's commitment to improving the flexibility, manageability, and value in our Volume Licensing program offerings.

Details

Revisions for Open Value (Company-Wide) and Open Value Subscription

The Open Value and Open Value Subscription programs will be modified as follows:

- A customized “build your own platform” option will give customers the flexibility they want without increasing complexity. Customers can choose from three standard platform groups—operating systems, the 2007 Microsoft® Office system, and Client Access Licenses (CALs)—that will include Windows® Small Business Server and Windows Essential Business Server.
- Microsoft Enterprise products, new Windows Essential Business Server, and Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack (MDOP) will be added to the Open Value program.
- Changes will be made to the Microsoft Volume License Price Lists, including program pricing updates, a re-adjustment of global pricing and removing redundant offerings.

Revisions for Open Value Subscription for Government

The Open Value Subscription for Government program will be modified as follows:

- Government customers will have the option of a one-year agreement term to better align to government procurement processes.

Link to More Information

- <http://www.microsoft.com/licensing/programs/open/default.aspx>

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Product Focus

Windows Essential Business Server 2008

Summary: Windows Essential Business Server 2008 software is finalized!

EBS 2008 Standard and Premium have been released to manufacturing and will be broadly available in time for the November 12 Windows Essential Server Solutions launch.

Windows Essential Business Server 2008 is an enterprise-class server solution designed and priced for midsize businesses. Windows Essential Business Server 2008 provides a unified Administration Console to manage an integrated IT infrastructure with the latest versions of management, messaging, and security server technologies. By helping to improve IT manageability and reliability, Windows Essential Business Server 2008 turns a midsize IT infrastructure into a strategic asset, boosting productivity and growth. Grow your business with Windows Essential Business Server 2008.

Overview

Windows Essential Business Server is an integrated and affordable solution that offers the Microsoft software that midsize businesses require—preconfigured, integrated, and manageable from a single administrative console, and at a significant discount compared to stand-alone products.

Designed and Priced for Midsize Businesses

Designed specifically for midsize businesses with a focus on your IT needs and priced to give you substantial cost savings over stand-alone products. Find out how you can:

- Simplify your daily activities with a Centralized Administration Console that gives you a single point of access to your IT environment.
- Enjoy significant costs savings compared to stand-alone products.
- Be productive while working both in and away from the office with remote access, anti-spam, and antivirus protection, and improved messaging technologies.

Less Complexity, More Control

Tools to help proactively manage your environment, reduce your IT complexity, and help give you back control of your systems.

- Automate your routine tasks and proactively manage your IT environment—all from a single point of access.
- Reduce installation steps from days to hours with an integrated setup that includes workloads optimized out of the box for enhanced security, performance, and reliability.
- Simplify your licensing with a single server license and Client Access for all included products.

Integrated and Predictable Platform

Help increase the predictability and reliability of your systems and reduce typical errors that can occur when stand-alone products are deployed.

- Enjoy easy plug-ins of your line-of-business applications. View, deploy, manage, and administer your third-party applications all from one starting point.
- Help reduce your vulnerabilities that often create havoc with an infrastructure set up to Microsoft Best Practices.
- Help proactively manage and address security concerns from a dedicated security page in the administration console.

Editions Overview

Windows Essential Business Server comes in two editions—Standard and Premium.

A single Client Access License (CAL) for all included products simplifies license management. Discover the differences, and determine which version makes the most sense for your business.



¹While Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 is not shipped with EBS 2008, a step as part of the setup process is provided to download Windows.

²One-year Microsoft Forefront Security for Exchange Server subscription included in the product.

³One-year Web Antimalware Subscription for Forefront Threat Management Gateway, Medium Business Edition included in product.

⁴Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Standard is available as an alternative version in place of Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Standard until December 31, 2009.

Windows Small Business Server 2008

Summary: Windows Small Business Server 2008 software is finalized

Windows Small Business Server 2008 Standard and Premium have been released to manufacturing and will be broadly available in time for the Windows Essential Server Solutions launch on November 12, 2008.

Windows Small Business Server 2008 is an all-in-one server solution designed to help you keep your data more secure and your company more productive. It provides many of the features used by larger companies, such as e-mail, Internet connectivity, internal Web sites, remote access, support for mobile devices, file and printer sharing, backup, and restore—all at one affordable price.

Overview

Discover how Windows Small Business Server 2008 is designed and priced especially for small businesses, so you can improve productivity and help protect your vital business information.

Affordable, Integrated Solution

Windows Small Business Server 2008 is designed for small businesses. It is designed to work with existing technology, build on Microsoft best practices, and deliver a comprehensive network at an affordable price.

- Have virtually anytime, anywhere access to your business desktop, including e-mail, files, business applications, and more.
- Share resources and equipment, such as Internet access, printers, and fax machines, to get the most value from your echnology investments.
- Enjoy compatibility and scalability. As your business needs change, Windows Small Business Server 2008 can change with you—easily add users, servers, and applications, or expand into other Microsoft technologies.
- Work more efficiently and add more value to your business with an integrated administrative console.
- Work confidently with a top performing network based on Windows Server 2008 technologies.

Protect Your Business Data

Windows Small Business Server 2008 helps protect your vital business information from loss, by backing up the data on your network and helping enable you to recover accidentally deleted files.

- Use antivirus and anti-spam protection to help protect your information from malicious attacks, viruses, and spam.
- Keep your computers and servers current and your network healthy and up to date with the latest updates.
- Get better control over your business and business information with daily and weekly reports alerting you on the health and security of your technology. A single administrative console gives you or your IT consultant a daily view of PCs and servers and makes it easier to manage common IT tasks.
- Get an at-a-glance snapshot of the security and health of your PCs and servers from a 'green check' report.

Grow Your Business Capacity

Windows Small Business Server 2008 gives you highly secure access to business contacts, calendars, e-mail, files, and other important desktop resources from any Internet-connected computer, virtually anywhere at any time, so you can be productive while you're away from the office or on the road.

- Improve your day-to-day efficiency by using a central repository for storing and sharing information.
- Connect with customers, vendors, and suppliers easily and professionally, with access to contacts, appointments, and files from any Internet-connected computer or a Windows Mobile–powered smartphone, so you can be responsive even when you are away from the office.
- Create a bigger business presence with online marketing tools from Microsoft Office Live Services Small Business*, so you can differentiate your business and present a more professional image to your customers.

Editions Overview

Windows Small Business Server 2008 comes in two editions—Standard and Premium.

Designed for Small Business



- Windows Server® 2008 Standard Technologies
- Microsoft® Exchange Server 2007 Standard Edition
- Windows® SharePoint® Services 3.0
- Windows Server Update Services 3.0
- Microsoft Forefront™ Security for Exchange Server 1,4
- Windows Live™ OneCare for Server 1,3
- Integration with Office Live Small Business 2

Line-of-Business Application Platform



- Includes everything from SBS 2008 Standard, plus:
- Windows Server 2008 Standard
 - Microsoft SQL Server® 2008 Standard for Small Business 5

Windows Small Business Server 2008 Standard

Windows Small Business Server 2008 Premium

Windows Small Business Server 2008 Premium Edition becomes a second server solution. Windows Small Business Server 2008 Standard Edition will run on one hardware server, and Windows Small Business Server 2008 Premium Edition will run on two hardware servers, with the second server running Windows Server and SQL Server for line-of-business applications. Windows Small Business Server 2008 will include individual Client Access Licenses (CALs) for Standard and Premium Editions versus a common CAL for both.

Windows Small Business Server 2008 will include the option to purchase a single CAL (in addition to 5/10/20 CAL Packs) in all channels

All processor and memory limits will now match Windows Server 2008 Standard Edition.

¹ 120-day trial included in the product

² Office Live Small Business is available in the following languages (countries): English (Canada, U.K., U.S.); French (Canada, France); German (Germany); and Japanese (Japan).

³ Windows Live OneCare for Server is available in the following markets (languages): Australia (English), Austria (German), Belgium (Dutch, French), Brazil (Portuguese), Canada (English, French), France (French), Germany (German), Hong Kong (English), Ireland (English), India (English), Italy (Italian), Japan (Japanese), Mexico (Spanish), Netherlands (Dutch), New Zealand (English), Singapore (English), Spain (Spanish), Switzerland (French, German), United Kingdom (English), United States (English, Spanish)

⁴ Microsoft Forefront Security for Exchange Server is available in the following languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), Portuguese (Brazil), Spanish, and Russian.

⁵ For the first year of availability, customers using applications that are not yet certified for use on SQL Server 2008, a copy of SQL Server 2005 Standard will also be included in SBS 2008 Premium. SQL server 2008 (or 2005) Standard can be installed on either server: If you install SQL on the first server then you must install the management tools on another machine.

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Security Update

Security Guidance

[Security Tip of the Month: Planning for Hyper-V Security](#)

How do you know who is accessing what in your IT environment? This vital question is often faced by security administrators, and many IT organizations have challenges identifying and understanding patterns of client access to

enterprise resources. This article offers some quick tips and tools to help you understand which users or system accounts have access to which resources, and when.

[Microsoft Forefront Integration Kit for Network Access Protection](#)

This collection of software components and guidance helps you configure a compliance health policy for computers that run Microsoft Forefront Client Security. Network administrators can use this kit to assess the health of these computers before they are granted network access. If a computer is not compliant with the health policy for Forefront Client Security, it can be isolated to a restricted network until it is properly remediated.

[Windows Vista Security Guide](#)

This guide provides you with specific recommendations and automated tools to help strengthen the security of desktop and laptop computers running Windows Vista in a domain with the Active Directory service. You'll also learn how to use the GPOAccelerator tool that accompanies the guide to help you automatically deploy security settings in minutes instead of hours.

[Data Encryption Toolkit for Mobile PCs](#)

Benefit from tested guidance and powerful tools to help you protect your most vulnerable information—the data residing on your laptops. This toolkit shows you how to use two key encryption technologies: BitLocker Drive Encryption, which is included with specific versions of Windows Vista, and the Encrypting File System, which is included with Windows XP Professional and Windows Vista.

[Security Compliance Management Toolkit](#)

This toolkit provides you with best practices to plan, deploy, monitor, and remediate a security baseline for your organization. It also offers a proven method that you can use to effectively monitor the compliance state of a security baseline for Windows Vista, Windows XP Service Pack 2 (SP2), and Windows Server 2003 SP2.

[Podcast: BitLocker Drive Encryption](#)

In this podcast, Paul Cooke, Director in the Windows Client division specializing in security, discusses BitLocker Drive Encryption, and how it has been extended in Windows Vista SP1.

[Podcast: Advanced Group Policy Podcast](#)

Learn how to effectively use the new Group Policy objects in Windows Vista to improve manageability and strengthen security with this podcast by Derek Melber, author, IT consultant, and Microsoft MVP for Group Policy.

This Month's Security Bulletins

Critical

- MS08-060: [Vulnerability in Active Directory Could Allow Remote Code Execution \(957280\)](#)
- MS08-058: [Cumulative Security Update for Internet Explorer \(956390\)](#)
- MS08-059: [Vulnerability in Host Integration Server RPC Service Could Allow Remote Code Execution \(956695\)](#)
- MS08-057: [Vulnerabilities in Microsoft Excel Could Allow Remote Code Execution \(956416\)](#)

Important

- MS08-066: [Vulnerability in the Microsoft Ancillary Function Driver Could Allow Elevation of Privilege \(956803\)](#)
- MS08-061: [Vulnerabilities in Windows Kernel Could Allow Elevation of Privilege \(954211\)](#)
- MS08-062: [Vulnerability in Windows Internet Printing Service Could Allow Remote Code Execution \(953155\)](#)
- MS08-063: [Vulnerability in SMB Could Allow Remote Code Execution \(957095\)](#)
- MS08-064: [Vulnerability in Virtual Address Descriptor Manipulation Could Allow Elevation of Privilege \(956841\)](#)
- MS08-065: [Vulnerability in Message Queuing Could Allow Remote Code Execution \(951071\)](#)

Moderate

- MS08-056: [Vulnerability in Microsoft Office Could Allow Information Disclosure \(957699\)](#)

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