



Windows 7 Is It Right For You?

Windows 7: Quicker, Easier and Faster

Microsoft has succeeded in its goal to make Windows 7 quicker, easier and faster. With a smaller software footprint than Vista, Windows 7 has fewer hardware and memory requirements than Vista meaning it can be used on older, existing hardware making the upgrade easier for business and home users.

Microsoft worked to make Windows 7 run smoother, be more responsive, and help people find and use things faster. For example, to use a program you can click on the start button on the bottom left and simply type in the name of the program and Windows 7 starts it. Or if you're looking for an e-mail, document, or photo you just type in something you remember about it, such as the name, or part of the name, or the date you saved it and windows will search for it just like a search on the internet. Windows 7 Search feature is a little thing that can save you a lot of time when searching for a document, picture, or e-mail.

For business users, Windows 7 Enterprise has Enterprise Search. It can search not only your computer for documents, e-mails, and other data, it can search remote repositories on other computers on your network for the file.

Built in options for everyday

use also include things users have asked for such as using your computer like a DVR. Windows 7 Home Premium has Windows Media Center to help you enjoy tv, video, music, or photos. You'll need a tv tuner to record TV, but then you'll be able to use your PC just like a DVR to record, pause, rewind and replay the tv



program you have recorded.

Windows 7 has made not-so-often performed tasks easier as well, such as setting up a printer to connect to your network.

For those wanting or needing to buy a computer right now, but you also want Windows 7, this is your chance to have your cake and eat it too. With the Windows 7 Upgrade Option you can buy a new PC that is marked Vista with Windows 7 Upgrade. Get your tower or laptop now, then get Windows 7 when it arrives.

Windows 7 Sneak Peek

For those that would like advance information on the features of Windows 7, More Power Computers is hosting a "Windows 7 Sneak Peek" event on October 16. This is your opportunity to get a jump on Windows 7 before it's actually released to the public.

There will also be a presentation by Symantec Corporation on network security issues including antivirus, malware, spyware, etc. This is a great opportunity to learn about threats to your network security and how to counter them. Other manufacturers of products pertinent to your business will also be attending this *one-time event*. Great door prizes will be given away, including a 20" Wide-



Screen LCD monitor.

To register for the event and for more information go to "www.clicktoattend.com" and enter Event Code 140818 for the morning session, or Event Code 141236 for the afternoon session.

Space is limited so register early!

More Power Computers, Inc.

Serving The Lower Columbia
Region Since 1994.

Windows 7

Features, How You
Can Upgrade!

"Sneak Peek" Event

How to Register

What Are The Risks Of
Putting Off Replacing
Your Old Computers?
See Page 2.

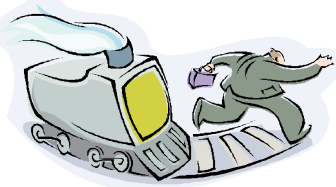
Traveling For Business
Or Pleasure?

What You Should Know
Before You Go.
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Are you gambling with your business?



If you are putting off replacing older computers until later, it may save money briefly but it will end up costing you more, and sooner than you think. Most companies replace the oldest one-third or one-quarter of their computers every year. How often you replace PC's is your refresh cycle. Intel recommended that businesses use a three-year PC/notebook refresh cycle. Some companies are trying to save money short-term by stretching out the replacement of PCs and notebooks. But delaying the replacement of computers can end up costing organizations more money over the long run than if they were to replace systems now that are three or more years old, said Robert Crooke, vice president and general manager of Intel's Business Client Group, during a Webcast on the economic implications of refreshing PCs.



The economic downturn has convinced a lot of small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) to put off PC and notebook replacements to cut costs, but according to data from a Techaisle report, the aver-

age cost per year to maintain a three-year-old system is \$500 (US), while the maintenance costs for a newer PC is only \$125. According to Crooke, the return on investment for a new PC can be seen in less than one year.

"They're looking at making compromises in investments for security for their products. Or they're worried about stretching out their budgets and avoiding refresh of their PC platforms. However, it's more cost effective on the organization to purchase new PCs instead of stretching out the refresh cycle" Crooke said.

With SMB IT budgets growing 4.6 per cent this year, approximately 50 per cent medium-sized businesses are refreshing PCs on their traditional cycle and 70 per cent of small-sized businesses are doing so. Meanwhile, 40 per cent of medium businesses and 25 per cent of small businesses are putting off refreshes and holding onto their PCs for longer periods of time. "That poses a problem, not just in terms of increased costs, but also in terms of business interruption.

And extending replacement time can cause more security incidents," Crooke said.



Depending on the manufacturer, most warranties run out after one to three years, so you're going to have to do more out-of-warranty repairs. "There's also a dramatic difference in the failure rate of hard drives, motherboards, network cards and power supplies, so the costs of your maintenance go up in all of those areas," Crooke said. Newer systems also offer the ability for workers to be more productive

because they're more responsive and, in the case of notebooks, have better battery life. The research found that PCs that are three years old or older are 28 per cent more likely than newer PCs to have security incidents, and older notebooks are 58 per cent more likely to have security incidents than newer notebooks. Companies "recover the cost of a new system very quickly because the maintenance of that new system is going to be much, much lower," Crooke said. For more on this, visit www.echannelline.com, Intel: Don't Push Out PC Refresh, 29 June, 2009, By Chris Talbot.

Department of Homeland Security Introduces New Rules for Airport Laptop Checks

Are you taking a trip and planning to take your laptop, flashdrive, or for that matter any electronic device with you? Anyone that travels is probably used to doing the security checks at the airport. However, last year DHS polices changed to allow TSA workers to confiscate any device capable of storing information (including hard drives, flash drives, your cellphone, MP3 player, Kindle, pager, and any books or documents) for "a reasonable amount of time." They could also share your data with other federal agencies or private entities for language translation, data decryption or "other reasons." As many people travel for work and store data on their PDA's and computers they desperately need, there is reason for concern should they suddenly have to wait to get their stuff back. But there are basic steps you can take to



avoid additional trouble on your next flight.

As you've heard before, back up your data! Having business critical data stored only in one place is bad. Having that one place be mobile and possibly taken by someone is worse. Back up your data. If you are concerned about not having the data on your laptop hard drive you may want to leave it on another computer at your business, then access the data by accessing your computer remotely over the internet. You will need to leave the computer turned on that you will be remoting into or this won't work.

As you've heard before, don't pirate software, video, or music. Having a bunch of illegally downloaded music, videos, programs, or other data is wrong. Having it on a laptop, MP3 player, or other device that you or your spouse or child is taking through airport security knowing it might be searched is asking for legal problems without end.

At the end of August, new rules were enacted for searching electronic devices. According to PCWorld, DHS can still search electronic devices during border crossings without suspicion of wrongdoing. However, the revised rules stipulate that a search of an electronic device must occur within five days and ICE must complete a search within 30 days. Source: Tom's Hardware US, August 28, 2009, Jane McEntegart

