




System Center Configuration Manager 2007

Top 10 Reasons to Upgrade

- **Windows Deployment** – System Center has invested heavily in operating system deployment, building on top of the Windows Platform, and encompassing core deployment technologies common to Windows. The powerful capabilities of operating system build, customization, deployment and provisioning are also enhanced with the addition of the Microsoft Deployment Toolkit. Advanced customization using the Task Sequence engine and driver catalogue greatly simplify the Windows Client or Windows Server deployment process. With Service Pack 1, new support for multicast, unknown computer scenarios and full support for both Windows Vista SP1 and Windows Server 2008 are achieved.
- **Software Update Management** – Building on top of WSUS v3, Configuration Manager provides the ability to provide Microsoft, 3rd party and LoB application updates to both network and mobile users. Organizations that have invested in WSUS infrastructure today can directly leverage this to streamline their software update process integration.
- **Desired Configuration Management** – A model based approach to managing the desired configuration of a system. Desired Configuration Management delivers the ability to measure and manage ‘*Configuration Drift*’ of your systems by defining configuration baselines. These baselines can be made up of Operating System configurations, software updates, prohibited and allowed applications, as well as customized settings. Additional Configuration Pack knowledge is also available to further provide deep insight into organizations infrastructures at the application or operating system level.
- **Asset Intelligence** - A highly detailed, categorical tracking of deployed applications using the Asset Intelligence database of known applications to discover and manage software families and titles. Improved Asset Intelligence from SMS 2003 also discovers and reports on computer owners and which applications where last run through software metering. In addition, full support for SoftGrid virtual applications and operating systems ensures accurate insight to the network landscape.
- **Application Management**– System Center Configuration Manager has brought significant improvements to an already powerful feature. Improving network traffic and site replication activity with Binary Delta Replication reduces the amount of data moved from site to site. In addition, the introduction of Branch support on workstation class systems allows for smaller sites with minimal infrastructure to relay Distribution Point style services. Finally, Internet Based Client Management brings the ability to deploy software packages, and updates to remote users. In Configuration Manager R2, full Microsoft Application Virtualization (SoftGrid) integration with Configuration Manager Application Virtualization Management creates the opportunity to deliver virtualized applications to a full set of client scenarios including streaming.
- **Mobility Support** – Managing clients beyond corporate boundaries is a significant improvement to managing security, updates and mobile scenarios. Internet Based Client Management for both Desktops and Devices is now available out of the box, delivering a full range of management capabilities to the mobile workforce. Offline, Internet Based and Branch scenario support are now included, driving a broad range of management support to your mobile workforce.
- **NAP Integration** – Out of the box integration to Windows Server 2008 NAP. Through the power of Windows Server 2008 and System Center Configuration Manager 2007 Network Access Protection, organizations can define and enforce system health validation for a number of areas of configuration. Configuration Manager extends this powerful capability to provide validation for the presence of Software Updates, one of the leading security issues today. Through this integration, systems can be validated through a variety of network connections as well as remain in a polling relationship inside



corporate boundaries. If configuration drifts from defined policy, instant network restrictions can be applied until remediation.

- **Optimizing the Datacenter** – Configuration Manager introduces a strong collection of server specific capabilities for the datacenter. From planning and deployment, to managing security, updates and service level agreements. Configuration Manager delivers capabilities such as ‘Maintenance Windows’ which allow for organizations to define when change can happen to collection members. Desired Configuration Management brings baseline definitions for both OS and workload management, providing datacenter administrators abilities to manage configuration drift of their systems. Finally, through the automation of software updates, the process of keeping large numbers of servers updated becomes more consistent through automation, and cheaper to maintain security levels. With Service Pack 1 and full support for Windows Server 2008, a complete management cycle from planning, through deployment and operations is centralized, simplified and secured.
- **Enhancing the Desktop experience** – Historically known as a desktop management tool, significant improvements have been made to improve the increasing challenges organizations face for both mobility and security requirements of the mobile workforce. From planning and deployment to managing production configurations across numerous connections states, Configuration Manager reduces cost and complexity for your Windows client systems by adding robust automation, explicit targeting and security enhancements to your desktop landscape. Combined with mobility support across Branch and internet based connections the mobile workforce has never been more protected.
- **Scale** – Configuration Manager scales to the largest of organizations today. Introducing SQL cluster support and SQL Reporting Services, through to the managed limits of 200,000 per Central site, 100,000 per Primary Site, 200,000 for System Health Validation, and 25,000 per Management Point. Configuration Manager is able to meet the demands of any sized organization.

Evaluate System Center Configuration Manager 2007 today
<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/configmgr/bb736730.aspx>

For more information please visit the System Center Configuration Manager website:
<http://www.microsoft.com/systemcenter/configmgr/default.aspx>

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