

IS&T Recommendation

- WAIT to install Windows Vista on production machines until your local or other IT support providers are ready to support you.

Why Wait?

- Many applications that are critical to productive and safe computing at MIT are not yet available from vendors, for example:
 - Authenticated Printing (e.g., Athena Clusters)
 - Cisco VPN client
 - Mathematica
 - Matlab
 - SAPgui
 - TSM (backup) client
- Local and central IT staff need time to prepare
- Microsoft support for peripherals (e.g., printers) is not yet complete

Phased Support Plan

- Phase 1: Windows Vista Beta – *complete*
- Phase 2: Windows Vista Release to Manufacturing – *complete*
- Phase 3: Basic Support for early adopters begins January 30, 2007
 - Distribution of Windows Vista software
 - Limited training and documentation
 - Anti-Virus (VirusScan Enterprise 8.5i)
- Phase 4: IS&T recommends and fully supports Windows Vista in Summer/Fall 2007

Basic Size

- Vista Enterprise Edition DVD (not CD) is almost 2 GB and takes 20GB on your hard drive – 5 times the Encyclopedia Britannica!

Energy Enhancements

- Improved Power Saving Defaults
 - System Idle Timer for Sleep
 - Sleep default for Desktop as well as Laptops
 - Estimated savings per PC is approximately 370 kWh/year (\$50 at 13.5 cents/kWh)
 - \$1,000,000 potential annual savings for MIT for 20,000 machines

Security Enhancements

- Administrative users run with regular user rights and are prompted for admin rights when needed
- Bi-Directional Firewall
- Internet Explorer is not trusted by operating system
- Whole Disk Encryption available (BitLocker and EFS)
- Windows Defender (anti-spyware) built-in

Functionality Improvements

- New User Interface
 - Built in RSS Reader
 - Flip & Flip 3D
 - Live Taskbar Thumbnails
 - Sidebar & Gadgets
 - Windows Aero
- Improved Recovery Tools
 - Automatic Recover Points
 - Backup and Restore to/from DVD
 - Installation Media (DVD) is Recovery Media

More Information

- Windows Vista Release Project Notebook: <http://web.mit.edu/swrt/releases/vista>
- IS&T Computing Help Desk: 617.253.1101 or computing-help@mit.edu

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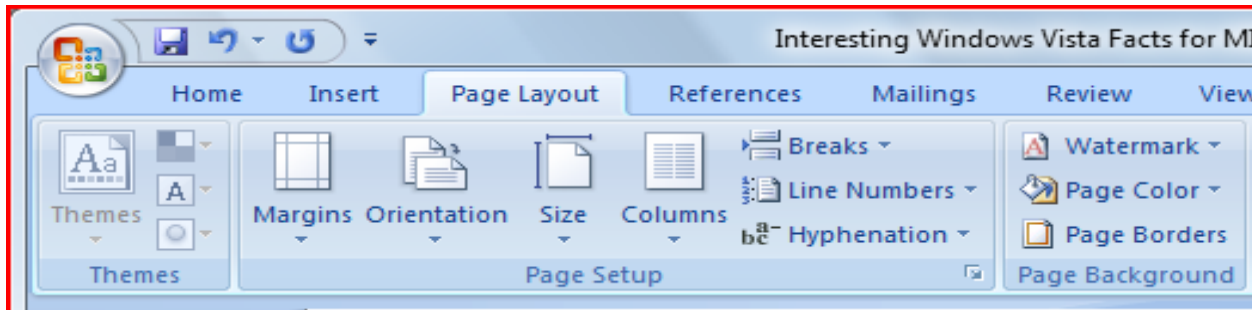
- WAIT to install Microsoft Office 2007 on production machines until your local or other IT support providers are ready to support you.

Why Wait?

- Default file formats are not compatible with previous versions of Office
- Significant user interface change has a STEEP learning curve
- Local and central IT staff need time to prepare

New User Interface

- File menu has been replaced by a “Ribbon Interface”



- Microsoft has not provided a way to revert to the old File Menu system for Office 2007
- Steep learning curve, though anticipated to be more intuitive in the long-term

New File Format

- Not compatible with Office 2003 and Office 2004 (Mac)
 - Compatibility Toolkit to enable Office 2003 applications to use new format available only for Office 2003; currently unavailable for Office 2004 which is a major issue for file sharing
- Recommend changing default for Office 2007 applications to save as Office 97-2003 format
 - For more information on changing the default, go to <http://itinfo.mit.edu/answer.php?id=8301>

Support Plan

- For those who choose not to wait, limited support will be available beginning February 2007 for:
 - Word 2007
 - PowerPoint 2007
 - Excel 2007
 - Outlook 2007

More Information

- Office 2007 Release Notebook: <http://web.mit.edu/swrt/releases/office/>
- Computing Help Desk: 617.253.1101 or computing-help@mit.edu