

Interesting Windows Vista Facts for MIT

Basic Size

- Approximately 50 million lines of code
- Vista Enterprise Edition DVD (not CD) is almost 2 GB and takes 20GB on your hard drive –5 times the Encyclopedia Britannica!

Windows Environment at MIT

- Faculty & Staff use predominantly Windows operating systems – >70% use Windows
 - Based on Certificates issued from June 2006 to September 2006
 - Windows XP (39,000+, approx. 95%)
 - Windows 2000 (<1,800, approx. 4%)
 - Windows NT/98/98SE/ME (<500, approx. 1%)
- Students predominantly use Windows operating system too
 - 83% Windows based on WebMail stats of 9,600 students
- Estimate 20,000+ Windows machines active on the MIT network at any given time based on past security scans
- Microsoft Campus Agreement (MSCA) covers all MIT faculty, staff and students with licenses for Windows Vista

Security Enhancements in Vista

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

Functionality Improvements in Vista

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

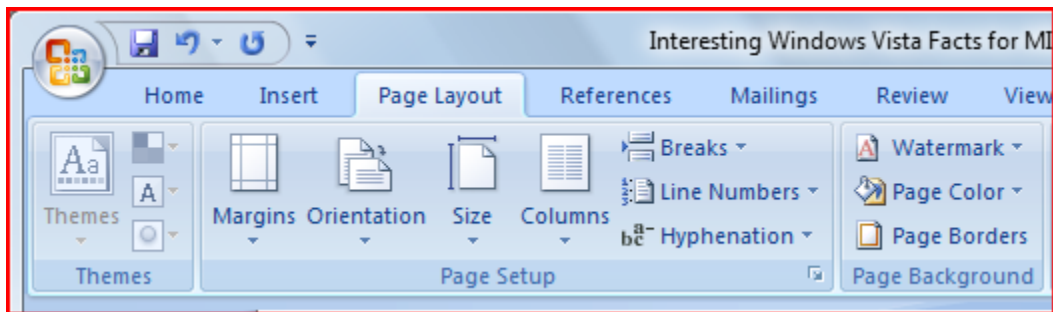
Energy Enhancements in Vista

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

Interesting facts about Office 2007

New User Interface

- File Menu has been replaced with Ribbon Interface



- Microsoft says there is no way to revert to the old File Menu interface for Office 2007
- Steep learning curve, though anticipated to be more intuitive in the long run

New File Format

- Not Compatible by default with Office 2003 or Office 2004 (Mac)
 - Compatibility Toolkit to enable Office 2003 apps to use new format available only for Office 2003, not available for Office 2004 (not expected for several months)
 - Recommend changing default for Office 2007 applications to save as Office 97-2003 format

IS&T Support Plans

Windows Vista

- Recommend the community WAIT before transitioning to Windows Vista on production machines
- Provide basic support beginning January 30, 2007
- Begin distribution via DVD download site at the same time to faculty, staff and students
- Physical media distribution through Software Liaisons in DLCs as soon as media is available from Microsoft
- In-Depth Training for IT Support Providers is already scheduled, additional training in the works
- Once more applications and services functional adequately with Windows Vista, recommend Windows Vista as a fully supported Windows operating system expected Summer or Fall 2007

Office 2007

- Recommend the community WAIT and plan for the steep learning curve for the ribbon interface change
- Support for Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook 2007 beginning early February
- IS&T to provide a tool to easily change the default format for saving to 97-2003 format

Additional References

- Windows Vista Release Project Notebook: <http://web.mit.edu/swrt/releases/vista/>
- Office 2007 Release Project Notebook: <http://web.mit.edu/swrt/releases/office/>