



## Harness the Power of Windows® 10

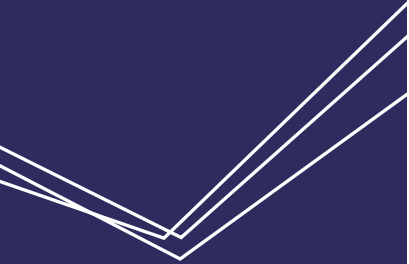
IDC® underscores the critical relationship between your operating system and hardware

**CompuCom®**

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## **Business has never been more competitive. Demands for increased productivity, greater efficiency and faster innovation are pushing companies to reassess how they operate across their organization.**

In its executive brief, “Enabling the Full Potential of Windows 10,”<sup>1</sup> International Data Corporation (IDC) explores this challenge, outlining strategies for keeping up in the face of IT service limitations related to delivering mobile, flexible computing in a secure environment.

IDC analysts Andrew Buss and Maciej Gornicki address how, with the introduction of Windows 10, Microsoft® is helping organizations respond to current challenges by balancing management, access and security requirements with evolving user needs.

As Buss and Gornicki write, “With the move to Windows 10, organizations have a chance to rethink and upgrade the client computing hardware base to support the benefits of moving to a new OS environment.”<sup>1</sup>

At CompuCom®, we work with our clients to achieve the same balance and unlock the same opportunity. We have helped companies move to the newest version of Windows for nearly 30 years. In the last five years alone, we have guided the transition of more than one million PCs to Windows 10.

### **Making the Most of Windows 10**

It starts with the unified environment made possible by Windows 10 across PCs, tablets and mobile devices. Windows 10 addresses the changing business landscape by delivering seamless application experiences along with secure access. But CompuCom’s experience has demonstrated that without adequate preparation, the upgrade to the new OS can become more complicated than it needs to be.

According to IDC, “Without access to the modern hardware on which Windows 10 was built to run ... many of the key features of the OS will fail to deliver their full benefits.”<sup>1</sup>

These benefits include enhancements such as biometric authentication, universal application deployment and an improved app experience. The hardware that makes this possible is required across the full spectrum of a business, including desktops, laptops, tablets and smartphones. So the question you have to answer is this — how ready is my current hardware to make the most of our move to Windows 10?

## Balancing Productivity and Security

One of the premier challenges you will face in answering that question is keeping a firm handle on security. IDC points out a few of the issues in that undertaking, including bring your own device (BYOD) and what they refer to as “shadow IT strategies.”<sup>1</sup> All too often the result is a lessening of security at a time when it has never been more important.

As part of our migration relationship with clients, CompuCom sees companies dealing with that tug of war between implementing new technologies and pursuing the requisite security. It is borne out by IDC research as well, which finds that over half of survey respondents said that security issues and access risks were the greatest challenge to tablet adoption in their firm.

Individuals and even entire departments want the productivity and collaboration advantages made possible by new devices and applications. But IT needs to choose tools, as useful as they may be, that do not put the company at unreasonable risk.

The IDC also points out that turning to new devices and apps does not assure organizations that they will achieve the desired boost in productivity.<sup>1</sup> The devices must be selected based on their appropriateness for a given use or need. If they are to be truly useful, they should fulfill a specific role or roles for the company, rather than serving as a solution looking for a problem.

Management is another key factor when it comes to the proliferation of devices. The ad hoc addition of such tools can pose a significant challenge for integration, security and management. Complications can actually degrade the very productivity you had intended to improve.

After all, just think about the demands of certifying that the software is up to date and consistent across devices, OSs and versions. There is also the matter of the management requirements over the course of the entire life of the device, as well as the constant flux created by an ever-changing cast of technologies.

IT must walk this delicate line between usefulness, performance and security for a growing and increasingly complex list of devices and OSs. To keep up, IT needs to be able to see up the road, while still meeting changing day-to-day demands.

As IDC writes, “The way to achieve this is to set a foundation of capability built on the way the organization would like to work, with the ability to continue to evolve and upgrade easily and at scale.”<sup>1</sup>

## The Critical Role of Hardware

It is easy to make a case for the benefits of Windows 10. A growing number of companies see the OS as a valuable tool for business management and productivity. The same IDC study reports, for example, that fully 40 percent of those polled plan to migrate to Windows 10 in the next 12 months.<sup>1</sup>

The wild card is the hardware. Windows 10 can run on the existing hardware that has served your Windows 7 or 8x, but older PCs are often unable to tap into the true value of Windows 10.

As IDC reports in its brief, “Organizations need to consider the additional benefits that modern hardware designs engineered specifically for the new capabilities of Windows 10 can bring to addressing key challenges to the business and maximizing the real benefits of migrating to Windows 10.”<sup>1</sup>

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## Seamless integration

The truth is, Windows 10 helps integrate your OS for PCs and tablets on the one hand and your OS for phones on the other. Now, you can create a seamless environment for the delivery of applications across devices distinguished by what IDC calls a “device-appropriate experience.”<sup>1</sup>

With tools like Microsoft Continuum, for example, you get a valuable in-use adaptability for a sizable productivity boost. Wireless display technologies and wireless docking from Intel® contribute additional benefits.

But such advantages are only accessible through updated hardware — especially when it comes to the deployment and use of two-in-one devices. These innovative form factors offer great untapped productivity potential for users, but only if adequately supported.

## Flexible app use

Your apps are another key value center that stands to benefit from Windows 10 when paired with up-to-date hardware. As IDC points out, “Windows 10 is also a logical step to providing SMBs with more than just an OS environment for running apps.”<sup>1</sup>

We want to be able to allow SMB IT managers to introduce office apps from a central location that then spans multiple endpoints. It gives IT the tools to be more flexible and innovative. But again, such benefits rely on the appropriate hardware, such as Intel Active Management. Windows 10 also offers more powerful device manageability when paired with the proper hardware.

## Robust security

Finally, there are the security advantages of Windows 10. For example, the OS supports biometric sign-in through Windows Hello. Users can authenticate devices through facial recognition, iris scans and fingerprints. Because passwords are never stored on the device or server and never transferred across networks users enjoy enhanced protection and greater peace of mind.

## Tap the Power of Windows 10

Windows 10 is empowering businesses to take security, productivity, application management, screen connectivity and innovation to the next level. But as IDC reminds us, as you prepare to make the move, you want to promote access to the full suite of capabilities.<sup>1</sup> That means addressing your hardware as well. Handled properly, Windows 10 can be transformative for your business.

## Start Your Migration Today

To learn more about preparing for your move to Windows 10, read the full IDC brief — and then contact CompuCom. We can help you smoothly and successfully migrate to Windows 10 without compromising any of the available enhancements, empowering you to move your business forward safer and faster.

**[compucom.com/windows10](http://compucom.com/windows10)**

1. Andrew Buss and Maciej Gornicki, “Enabling the Full Potential of Windows 10,” International Data Corporation, October 2015.

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