

Directions

on Microsoft

INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS OF MICROSOFT STRATEGIES & TECHNOLOGIES

2012 RESEARCH: Agenda >

This schedule summarizes upcoming **RESEARCH** and analysis projects as of December 8, 2011 and is subject to change at any time. DIRECTIONS publications and advisory services provide actionable analysis of shifts in Microsoft strategy, product and technology roadmaps, delivery schedules, organizational changes, alliances, sales & marketing initiatives, licensing, and other Microsoft policies and programs. For more information, call 425.739.4669 or visit www.DirectionsOnMicrosoft.com.

Topic	Publish Date	Title	Description
Windows and Mobile	Jan-12	Windows 8 to Boot Faster	Windows 8 will continue the ongoing effort to streamline and speed up the long and complicated process of booting the Windows OS.
	Jan-12	Secure Boot	Windows 8 will leverage PC security hardware to improve its resistance to boot kits and other attacks.
Business Applications and Services	Jan-12	Dynamics AX 2012 Tackles Governments, Large Organizations	The Dynamics AX 2012 enterprise resource planning product is more viable for large, global businesses and better addresses organizations in the public sector and other industries.
	Feb-12	New Licensing for Dynamics AX 2012	With the 2012 version, Dynamics AX moves to server-CAL licensing model.
	May-12	RESEARCH: Evaluating Lync Unified Communications	Evaluating the latest version of Microsoft's unified communications platform.
Systems Management and Security	Jan-12	Configuration Manager 2012 Manages Applications, Protection, Mobile Devices	The next version of Configuration Manager will improve distribution of OSs and applications.
	Jan-12	Orchestrator 2012 Updates IT Process Automation	Renamed Opalis software aims to automate the datacenter
	Feb-12	Data Protection Manager 2012	DPM adds support for the newest versions of Windows Server.
	Feb-12	Service Manager 2012	Service Manager gets a new release.
	May-12	RESEARCH: Evaluating System Center 2012	Evaluating the latest versions of Microsoft's systems management products.

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Application Platform	Jan-12	SQL Server 2012 Updated for Developers	Summary of changes in SQL Server 2012 for developers.
	Feb-12	RESEARCH: Evaluating SQL Server 2012	An overview of the latest version of Microsoft's SQL Server database, Business Applications and Services and business intelligence server.
	Mar-12	Windows 8 Developer	The WinRT API and other developer technologies for Windows 8.
Consumer and Small Business	Jan-12	TV Strategy	What does Microsoft want in your living room? Xbox? Media Center? Mediaroom?
Licensing	Jan-12	Enterprise Agreement Refresh Makes Significant Changes	A tighter true-up reporting timeline, changes to how discount levels are determined, and other contract changes will impact both new customers as well as existing customers coming up for renewal.
	Jan-12	Buying Office In Volume Licensing Programs	Evaluating Enterprise Agreement, Select, and Open programs for Office license purchases.
	Feb-12	Select Plus and Select Rules and Options	How to use the Select Plus and Select programs for purchases and manage transitions between the programs.
	Feb-12	Choosing an Office Suite	How to choose between Office Standard and Office Professional Plus for an organization's PCs.
	Feb-12	LICENSING: Office 2010 Rules and Options	Office 2010 suite packaging, pricing and rules for volume licensing customers.
	Mar-12	Software Assurance Upgrades and Benefits	Version upgrades, support, training, and other benefits of Software Assurance and how to use them effectively.
	Mar-12	System Center 2012 Licensing	How to license System Center 2012 products.
	Mar-12	Using Software Assurance with Office	How to take advantage of upgrades and other Software Assurance benefits with Office suite purchases.

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	Mar-12	LICENSING: Windows 7 Rules and Options	Windows licensing and purchase options for PCs.
	Apr-12	SQL Server Denali Packaging and Pricing	Packaging and pricing for the latest version of the data, Business Applications and Services management and business intelligence product.
	Apr-12	LICENSING: Evaluating Volume Licensing Programs	How to make decisions about the Enterprise Agreement, Select, and Software Assurance volume licensing programs.
Corporate and Legal	Mar-12	ROADMAP: Enterprise Software and Services	Projected future software and online service releases and retirements for 2012 and beyond.
	Mar-12	ORGCHART (hardcopy)	Hardcopy update to the chart of Microsoft's top 600+ executives.
	Jun-12	ROADMAP: Enterprise Software and Services	Projected future software and online service releases and retirements for 2012 and beyond.