

Directions

on Microsoft

INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS OF MICROSOFT STRATEGIES & TECHNOLOGIES

2010-2011 Research Agenda >

This schedule summarizes upcoming research and analysis projects as of 6 July, 2010 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	Aug-10	Understanding Microsoft's Virtual Desktop Platform	An overview of the components that enable organizations to centralize desktop and data management by deploying virtual machines on Windows Server for users.
	Aug-10	Mobile and Embedded Platform Roadmap	A roadmap for Microsoft's embedded operating systems and the specialized device platforms built on them.
	Sep-10	Windows 7 SP1 Beta	A look at the first Windows 7 service pack.
	Sep-10	IE9 Beta	Details about the first beta for IE9.
Business Applications and Services	Aug-10	SharePoint Online Overview	The roadmap for Microsoft's SharePoint cloud service.
	Aug-10	Improved Reports, Dashboards from SharePoint	Enhancements to SharePoint's reporting functions, including the its updated and renamed system for tracking key performance indicators.
	Aug-10	RESEARCH: SharePoint Server 2010	A comprehensive guide for evaluating the latest version of Microsoft's enterprise Web platform.
	Aug-10	RESEARCH: Microsoft Online and the BPOS	Overview of Microsoft Online and the Business Productivity Online Services, including service descriptions and licensing details.
	Sep-10	Project Server 2010	Portfolio management and other improvements to Microsoft's enterprise project management solution.

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Topic	Publish Date	Title	Description
	Oct-10	Dynamics AX Retail Solution	Acquired point-of-sale, store management, and headquarters systems enable Dynamics AX to tackle large specialty retailers.
	Oct-10	Office Web Apps Overview	An overview of the Web-based Office applications and their use with Microsoft's ad-supported consumer services, hosted SharePoint services, and on-premises SharePoint installations.
	Nov-10	Communications Server 2010 Voice	Location information for emergency response and other improvements to make Microsoft's unified communications server competitive with enterprise telephone systems.
	Dec-10	ROADMAP: Dynamics CRM and ERP	Release and retirement plans for Dynamics CRM and Microsoft's Dynamics AX, NAV, GP, and SL enterprise resource planning products.
	Dec-10	Communications Server 2010 Web Conferencing	Improvements to Microsoft's software for online meetings.
	Jan-11	Dynamics CRM 5 Goes Live	The Microsoft-hosted customer relationship management service gives customers a first look at improvements to the software, which is due on-premises in 2011.
	Feb-11	RESEARCH: Communications Server 14	Evaluating the latest version of Microsoft's unified communications platform.
Systems Management and Security	Aug-10	Service Manager Aims for Datacenter Automation	Finally, the help desk tool arrives.
	Sep-10	Forefront Protects SharePoint Server 2010	Antimalware for the collaboration server.
	Sep-10	Windows Intune	First System Center Online product manages desktops.

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	Dec-10	Forefront Endpoint Protection for Desktops and Servers	The latest version of the endpoint antimalware product will be released in the second half of 2010.
Application Platform	Aug-10	SQL Server 2008 R2 Master Data Services	A new synchronization service and other tools help maintain consistency of important reference data such as customer lists.
	Aug-10	Windows Server AppFabric	Management technologies for Windows Server messaging and workflow applications.
	Sep-10	SQL Azure Database	Summary of the relational database service on the Microsoft-hosted Windows Azure platform.
	Sep-10	RESEARCH: SQL Server 2008 R2	Guide to evaluate business intelligence and other improvements in the latest version of SQL Server.
	Sep-10	Azure AppFabric	Service bus and access control pieces on the Windows Azure platform.
	Oct-10	Silverlight/Expression 4	An overview of the latest version of Microsoft's platform for Rich Internet Applications, which aim to combine the simple deployment of Web applications with the responsiveness and graphics of desktop applications.
	Dec-10	ROADMAP: Developer Platform	A guide to selecting APIs and supporting toolsets for the most important development tasks on the .NET Framework.
Licensing	Aug-10	SharePoint 2010 Licensing Changes	What's new in licensing for the SharePoint product line with the 2010 versions.
	Aug-10	Enterprise CAL Suite Licensing Changes	Forefront subscriptions added recently and possibly more to come; Service Manager Management License and perhaps other System Center Management Licenses to be added.

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	Aug-10	Office Feature Packaging	“Premium” features—most of which relate to SharePoint Server integration & Active Directory Rights Management Services—in the Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Word bits that ship with Office Professional Plus (and stand-alone packages).
	Sep-10	LICENSING: SharePoint 2010	Rules and options for licensing SharePoint 2010
	Sep-10	LICENSING: SQL Server 2008 R2	Rules and options for licensing SQL Server 2008 R2
	Nov-10	Communications Server 2010 Licensing Changes	How to buy the latest communications lineup.
	Jan-11	LICENSING: Office 2010	Rules and options for licensing Office 2010.
	Feb-11	LICENSING: Windows Client	Rules and options for licensing Windows 7 and other versions of the client OS.
Corporate and Legal	Sep-10	Q4 Earnings	Coverage of Microsoft's year-end earnings report.
	Sep-10	ORGCHART (online)	Online update to the chart of Microsoft's top 600+ executives.
	Oct-10	ROADMAP: Enterprise Software and Services	Updated release and retirement information for Microsoft's most important enterprise products.
	Nov-10	ORGCHART (hardcopy)	Hardcopy update to the chart of Microsoft's top 600+ executives.
	Dec-10	ROADMAP: Enterprise Software and Services	Updated release and retirement information for Microsoft's most important enterprise products.