

JULY 2015

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Windows 10 to Change the Business Community

Though it will not be released until July 29th, Windows 10 is thought to be an extension of our digital lives. Microsoft hopes to build a deeply personal and empowering experience for users.

They are so dedicated to this mission that they will be offering a free upgrade opportunity to Windows 10 for qualified devices (existing Windows 7 and 8 users) for the next calendar year. However, not every person or business will qualify for this giveaway. Read on to discover a few new features of the operating system and determine if your business is eligible.

New Features

- 1. The Traditional Windows Start Menu is back:** One of the biggest complaints about Windows 8 was the lack of a start menu. Microsoft listened and is bringing back the traditional start menu to Windows 10. This new start menu will resemble both the classic and tiled menu versions, all while being integrated for smaller mobile devices.
- 2. Microsoft HoloLens will be integrated:** HoloLens is the world's first holographic computer, making our realities virtual. Imagine being able to see your Windows apps on your kitchen wall. This is the kind of experience

that the HoloLens will offer. The bonus? It will run completely off of Windows 10.

- 3. Create multiple desktops:** Working on several big projects at once? You no longer have to waste your time opening a ton of apps for several projects and have those all overlap. Windows 10 lets you create multiple desktops so that you can organize the apps that you're using for each project.

Are you eligible?

The following are a list of users that would be eligible for the free Windows 10 upgrade.

- **Windows 7:** You would have to have Service Pack 1 before you can update using Windows Update but all PCs sold with Windows 7, even pre-SP1 qualify for the upgrade.
- **Windows 8:** You need to first upgrade to Windows 8.1 (free in the Windows Store) and then install the Windows 8.1 update from Windows Update. After this is complete, you can download Windows 10.
- **Windows 8.1:** You can upgrade directly to Windows 10 using Windows Update.





iOS 9 comes This Fall

Though iOS 9 won't come out until the fall it is already making a name for itself in the mobile industry. Revealed at the Worldwide Developers Conference this past June, iOS 9 will offer a slew of new features like a smarter Siri, battery enhancements and other performance upgrades.

iOS 9 will have battery improvements that could add an extra hour of battery life to Apple devices. Included in the update will be a new power saving mode for iPads and iPhones that could extend the devices' battery life by as much as 3 hours.

In addition to battery life changes, iOS 9 will bring about a smarter Siri. The revamped Siri will resemble Google Now as it will be context-aware and able to make proactive suggestions. Powered by simple voice commands like "find photos from last year's Christmas party," Siri will automatically bring up the relevant images from your device.

What's an update without better caller ID? iOS 9 will make it so that if an incoming phone number isn't saved in your contacts, the software will try to identify the caller based on other information like emails. Reminders will integrate easily with your calendar, as the new iOS can automatically surface reminders for things like your next meeting and will provide suggestions for events to attend based on email messages.

If you're an iPad owner, expect to see a new quick type keyboard with new gestures to make it easier to adjust text and the position of the cursor. Multitasking will be at the forefront with a new app switching experience that features split-screen apps and picture-in-picture viewing for videos. Split-screen apps will allow for the user to run two apps side by side for the first time ever in an iOS device while the picture-in-picture feature will allow the user to watch videos while working in other apps.

3 Apps to Make Your Workplace More Enjoyable

The monotony of a nine-to-five job can get a little mundane no matter what position you hold in the company. Trying to stay on task is hard enough when you're just at your desk, let alone when you get pulled into meetings or trapped in break room conversation.

To help make things easier, we've gathered a short list of applications to utilize in the workplace to make things more tolerable.

- 1. Increase your work productivity with Stay Focusd:** Designed as a browser add-on for Google Chrome, [Stay Focusd](#) is an application that allows the user to limit the amount of time that they can spend on time-wasting websites. The user sets a time limit for use on a particular site and once that limit has expired, access to the specified site is blocked for the rest of the workday.
- 2. Build a healthier workplace with Fit Bolt:** One of the most common complaints about office work is that employees have to deal with the negative health effects of remaining seated for extended periods of time. [Fit Bolt](#) is changing all of that

by empowering the user with in-chair stretches and no-sweat workout videos that can be completed right at the user's desktop.

- 3. Collaborate more effectively with Dropbox for Business:** Designed as a cloud and desktop solution, [Dropbox for Business](#) allows the user to store data and access their important files and documents, at any time, across any device. Folders and files can be shared with coworkers and projects can be updated in real time once a document is saved.

While the office environment will always be chaotic from time to time, if you start to make the most of your work hours, you can help ensure that the chaos occurs less frequently. Contact our account representatives at 901-457-4230 to handle your office needs today.



4 Tips for Office Productivity

When it comes to business, two things are certain: you need a productive staff and high performance equipment to get the job done. Whether it's sharing files and instant messaging, or scheduling meetings and creating billing invoices, businesses today are utilizing technology to make their jobs easier and more efficient. This shift into more technical work environments has resulted in a dramatic increase in overall office productivity.

When it comes to your business, there are a variety of ways that you can begin to use technology to its full potential to help you provide a higher quality of service for your customers. Here are four ways how!

- 1. Build a Mobile Office Environment:** It's no secret that technology is changing at a rapid pace, shaping the way that we conduct our daily lives. Whether in our personal or professional lives, technology is enhancing the way these two areas intersect and engage with one another. As we rely more on the use of internet-connected devices or the Internet of Things (IoT), business professionals are learning to bring ease to their lives by working outside of the office. A cloud solution will provide you with access to your most important work files and applications from the comfort of your own home.



- 2. Emphasize digital communication:** In today's market, consumers hold all of the power when it comes to making purchasing decisions. In fact, research shows that websites influence 97% of a customer's purchasing decision (RainToday.com survey). The days of flipping through a phone book or reading an Ad in the paper are long gone. In its place is a reliance on the internet, making it crucial for businesses to build a presence online.
- 3. Monitor the health of your business:** Knowing where your business stands in terms of most profitable services is vital to gain a clear picture of how your organization is running. Look to integrate some sort of performance measurement system or software to gain a better understanding of where your company stands in terms of service, profit, and growth.
- 4. Eliminate technology downtime:** Prior to the IT services of today, technology

support meant calling an IT person for help and having to resort back to dealing with customers the old-fashioned way. Sure, an office administrator would lose a bit of valuable work time, but they could still do their jobs effectively with failing technology. Nowadays, the reverse is true. When a piece of technology fails, it directly affects customer service. Remove the implications of technology downtime by establishing a business continuity plan that keeps your important data safe and your staff working, even during recovery.

As the complexity and cost of IT infrastructures increase, businesses are faced with the challenge of trying to adapt to world in which maximum employee productivity is paramount and advanced computing technology is crucial. Ensure that your business makes the most of its technology resources to achieve the utmost efficiency.



Wearable tech is all the craze. But what can it really do?

Imagine living in a world where wearable technology isn't just a fashion trend, but in actuality is a healing tool. One such company is making this dream a reality.

Active Edge, a Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida based company has released a bracelet infused with pulsed electromagnetic field therapy (PEMFT). The bracelet works by pulsing electromagnetic waves through the body to increase blood flow and reduce

inflammation. Currently the wearable technology is offered

through a necklace and performance bracelet, each which is sold on the Active Edge website for around \$60. There is also a fusion belt which is sold for about \$65.

The company markets its products as performance enhancements but is working with the U.S. Department of Defense to conduct separate clinical trials that can

provide scientific evidence that the devices reduce inflammation and offer a direct medical benefit. By working with the DoD, Active Edge avoids putting time and money in attempting to earn FDA approval—which could cost millions of dollars and upwards of 10 years.

Throughout the course of the past four years, Active Edge has run about 25 independent clinical trials involving nearly 2,500 men and women between the ages of 18 and 82. The results of these studies reveal that the product causes a 17% average increase in range of motion, a 12% average increase in grip strength, an 8% average reduction in fatigue with an increase in REM restorative sleep time and a 23% increase in oxygen intake.

As the DoD continues to test the technology, Active Edge is prepping to launch at least a half a million products to market within the next year. For now, the company is getting ready to release its next product, the Active Edge sleep shirt, which will sell for \$49.