

windows 7



November 2009

Windows 7—Is It All It's Cracked Up To Be? *Tim Kaiser, Network Help Desk Technician*

When Windows 7 was released on October 22, 2009, Microsoft saw initial sales of Windows 7 surpass Windows Vista's sales by 234 percent in the first few days. Now that Windows 7 is out and everyone is using it on their computers, consumers are starting to see the big differences between the new, Windows 7, and the old Microsoft operating systems like Windows Vista and XP. Some of these differences are major improvements, while others are just minor, either way, they are good improvements and that is what we like to see when working with computer technology and software.

One of the big improvements is the performance boost with Windows 7. Windows 7 has been reworked to address the core problems that made Vista slower. It has also been improved to work on older hardware and even lower end hardware like the new popular netbooks. Another performance increase comes from the fact that it does not load all of the unneeded services and software during startup that came with Windows Vista. By doing this Microsoft has increased productivity by decreasing the time it takes for your computer to start up, therefore, improving your ability to start working faster and quicker than ever before.

Microsoft has really cleaned up the user interface in Windows 7. The new taskbar allows you to pin programs to it so you can open them quicker. This is faster than going through the start menu and then into the All Programs menu to find a program. The pinned items also provide the ability to create "Jump Lists." Let's say you pin Microsoft Word to your taskbar, with these new jump lists you are able to create a list that will show up once you right click the Microsoft Word icon. In the list you can display the most recently opened Word documents, or you can pin specific Word documents that you use frequently so you can access them right from the list. You can do the same thing on the start menu as well.

Another visual enhancement is the new "Aero Peek." This offers two functions: one allows you to "peek" behind all of the open windows on your system as you look through a ghosted view of the desktop, the other allows you to find a specific window that might be open but is possibly hidden behind other windows. You can also hover your mouse over open programs in the taskbar to see a preview

of the windows and then choose which one you want to open from there. With these new visual enhancements you can also "shake" an open window to minimize other windows that are open and distracting you. By clicking and holding your mouse button on the title bar of any open window then shaking it with your mouse, you will see all the other windows, except the one you are shaking, minimized to the task bar.

Windows 7 now includes the ability to allow the user to "snap" an open window to the side of your monitor. You can do this by clicking and dragging the window to either the left or right and it will fill half of the screen on the chosen side. You can also drag a window to the top of the screen to snap it in place and maximize the window. There are also new themes that will allow you to change the color and appearance of the system. With these new user interface features and enhancements, Windows 7 allows you to get more done and manage open windows and programs more efficiently.

The Action Center is a new part of Windows 7 aimed at consolidating all system

With all these improvements, like the performance increase and the new visual appearance, Windows 7 is much easier for the average computer user to operate

Windows 7—Is It All It's Cracked Up To Be? ...continued

notifications in a single place. Action Center replaces the old Windows Security Center feature that came out with Windows XP Service Pack 2. It notifies you of any issues regarding system security, like Antivirus being out of date, or your Windows Firewall being turned off. It also notifies you about Windows Updates, whether there are new updates and patches or to let you know you haven't checked them in a while. Action Center is customizable in the fact that if you do not use a Firewall or any other program that it monitors, you can turn off alerts for that program. If there are any alerts or messages it will display a white flag down in the system tray. If it is a more serious or urgent problem it will display the white flag with a red "X" on it as well as pop up a message alerting you to the issue. The Action Center will also remind you about backing up your computer to save important data in case of a system failure or crash. This is a great new addition to Windows 7 for allowing users to see when there are potential problems or security risks with their computer. In doing so this should help fix problems or issues that would arise due to out of date software or antivirus definitions.

The search functionality of Windows 7 has been greatly improved. This allows you to search for files or programs faster than ever before. You

can simply go to the Start Menu and you will see the search text box. This is where you type in what you are searching for and then it is displayed above in the Start Menu. Another new feature is improved networking between Windows 7 machines. With the new "Home Group" option you can create a group at home or the office and then share files and printers between computers with ease. Windows 7 also adds improved energy saving abilities for laptops and desktop computers by decreasing the sleep and wake up times. This also saves your battery by going to sleep when the computer is on and not being used.

So, is Windows 7 all it's cracked up to be? I would say yes. With all of these improvements like the performance increase, the new visual appearance, Aero Peek and Snap enhancements, it is much easier for the average computer user to operate. Options like the Security Center allow the user to feel secure while using their new operating system and are able to have peace of mind that their computer is being monitored for problems. Home owners with multiple computers should feel at ease when creating a network to share their files and printers with the added Home Group option. With all of these new features I believe Windows 7 is the best Microsoft operating system yet.



POWERTECH 3000
SPECIAL
December 3—5

SYSTEM DETAILS

\$725

**Powertech 3000
Business Computer
System**

Intel DG31PR Micro ATX Motherboard
Intel Core 2 Duo E7500 2.93GHz
Western Digital 320GB SATA II Hard Drive
2GB Kingston DDR2 667MHz RAM
Lite-On 24x SATA DVD Rewriter
Microsoft Windows Professional 7 64-bit
MS Business Pack Keyboard and Mouse
Logitech S-120 Speaker System - Black
2GB USB Flash Drive
1 Year Carry In Labor Warranty
3 Year Parts Warranty

\$695

**Powertech 3000
Home Computer
System**

Intel DG31PR Micro ATX Motherboard
Intel Core 2 Duo E7500 2.93GHz
Western Digital 320GB SATA II Hard Drive
Siig USB 2.0 Bay Media Card Reader Flash
Reader/Writer 6-in-1
2GB Kingston DDR2 667MHz
Lite-On 24x SATA DVD Rewriter
Microsoft Windows Home Premium 7 64-bit
MS Business Pack Keyboard and Mouse
Logitech S-120 Speaker System - Black
2GB USB Flash Drive
1 Year Carry In Labor Warranty
3 Year Parts Warranty



*Monitor Not Included
Some Limitations Apply*

Introducing Windows 7

Your PC, Simplified.

Available **NOW**
on all Powertech PC's and Laptops
only at Esh Computer Center



*When you
have
needed the
answer...
we have
been there!*

Gap **Akron**
5351 Lincoln Hwy 321 S 7th St.
717.442.1080 717.859.4033

Home & Business Technology Solutions



Small Business Management Software—

Inventory Management that Works For You

Nathaniel Gingrich, Business Software Consultant

For more than 20 years Esh Computer Center has been assisting businesses in Lancaster County, PA and surrounding communities with business software solutions. This has developed into its largest division and in the last five years has bloomed greatly. Eagle Business Software now has clients that stretch across the United States and Canada and vary from small one-man businesses to corporations with hundreds of employees. Many of these businesses are providing services or producing products that require management tools that introductory accounting packages such as QuickBooks, Peachtree, or Simply Accounting cannot provide. Eagle Business Software has addressed these needs by providing a modular based system that is **flexible** in its implementation. Small businesses are not in a position to spend tens of thousands of dollars for enterprise business management systems and there are few software solutions that have these **powerful** business management tools and yet are available at a cost effective price point. Our commitment at Eagle Business Software is to provide a **scalable** solution that grows with your business from start-up to enterprise. We believe that small business is a part of the backbone that makes our society great. As we work together in providing solutions to achieve that end, we will make a positive

Our commitment at Eagle Business Software is to provide a scalable solution that grows with your business

difference, not only in the world of our business, but also in the communities in which we live.

Inventory management is a crucial element of most small businesses that if ignored can quickly become a cash hole. Inventory is generally very fluid and difficult to track and identify. Orders are taken. Stock sold. Products purchased. Special Orders needed. Parts “borrowed”. Counts adjusted. Assemblies manufactured. Equipment rented. And my controller wants to know HOW, WHEN, WHERE, WHY? I just want to get the product to the customer and get my money, not worry about the details. Few small business software systems provide the kind of inventory transaction detail that is needed for proper management. Eagle Business Software has focused on providing not only an accurate, comprehensive accounting solution, but has integrated into that a powerful inventory module with many unique features. These features are useful in many vertical markets including Retail, Distribution, Service, Manufacturing, Construction, eCommerce, Rental, and many more. The ability to store and track the complete history of hundreds of thousands of individual parts for dozens of years makes possible the use of advanced inventory management tools that predict trends and needs based on not only historical factors but also

seasons and the profitability of items. Eagle Business Software will suggest ordering amounts based on current needs and future projections. Intelligence built into the software greatly decreases the amount of time spent deciding the HOW, WHEN, WHERE, WHY? Capital investments into stock levels are much wiser and returns more profitable when using an advanced inventory management system.

This detail is readily available from any point of the software. This is very important when a customer is impatiently waiting for answers. Powerful search functions are right before you when checking out at Point-of-Sale, when preparing a quote, or when taking an order. Manufacturing presents its own set of challenges as counts and costs are adjusted and changed from multiple raw inventory items into one or more finished goods. Optional components and wizards that prompt the user to select the correct configuration also increase ease of use. Complicated products can be created with an unlimited number of subassemblies and sub-

assemblies of subassemblies. This is not only powerful for the shop floor production manager but can be a huge boon for the sales team as well. In a Made-to-Order environment a sales person is able to go through a wizard of available configurations for an item and the manufacturing schedule and the sales order are cohesively linked together. The Purchasing Department is then able to run Inventory Purchasing processes that identify the products that are needed for order completion and for the manufacturing process. When product comes in it is easy to identify where it is needed; whether for an order, for manufacturing or something else entirely. The flow of information through the system provides the answers each department needs and is interested in.

Owners are attracted to the fact that a single software package can provide both the detailed accounting their financial consultants require as well as the specific management tools they need to ensure that their business remains profitable and efficient even as costs increase and the marketplace becomes more challenging. **The commitment of Eagle Business Software is to provide each small business owner the tools they need to bring their business to increased levels of efficiency and profitability.** If you are interested in knowing how Eagle Business Software can be a benefit to your company, please contact one of our Business Software Consultants at or visit us at www.eaglebusinesssoftware.com.



Who to contact at
Esh Computer
Center:

Computer Sales

John Wiggins
JWiggins@eshcom.com
717.859.4033 (Akron Location)

Austin Musser
AMusser@eshcom.com
717.442.1080 (Gap Location)

Help Desk/Troubleshooting 717.442.1080

Tim Kaiser
TKaiser@eshcom.com

Business Networks 717.442.1080

Ryan Bowman
RBowman@eshcom.com

Business Software 717.442.3247 (ext 3)

Jake Esh
JEsh@EagleBusinessSoftware.com

Nathaniel Gingrich
NGingrich@EagleBusinessSoftware.com

EBMS Customer Service (717) 442-3247 (ext. 2)

Dan Ehst
DEhst@EagleBusinessSoftware.com

Duane Friesen
DFriesen@EagleBusinessSoftware.com

Jolene Gingrich
JGingrich@EagleBusinessSoftware.com

Marvin Kauffman
MKauffman@EagleBusinessSoftware.com

Larry Ressler
LRessler@EagleBusinessSoftware.com

ESH COMPUTER CENTER

5351 Lincoln Highway, Suite 9
Gap, Pennsylvania 17527
www.EshComputer.com



3 DAYS ONLY!

December 3—5

Special Offer at ESH COMPUTER CENTER

Buy a 3000 Series Computer.

Choose one of the following:*

- Free Delivery & Setup
- Free Data Transfer
- Free 3-year Parts & Labor Warranty Upgrade

**Each valued at \$100
Limitations Apply. See Page 2 for details.*

register now for Computer Classes

Description	Start Date	Day	Time	Duration	Price	W/PC Purchase
Computer Basics Level 1	March 23	Tuesday	6:30-9:00pm	3 weeks	\$195	FREE
Computer Basics Level 2	April 13	Tuesday	6:30-9:00pm	5 weeks	\$250	\$150

Classes are taught each Tuesday evening by Nathaniel Gingrich and held at The Gap Family Center. For more information, please contact Melissa at 717-442-1080 or mstauffer@eshcom.com.