

# Support plan for ISV's & Partners

Microsoft wants to ensure its partners are informed about Microsoft's strategic direction around 64-bit computing, ensure they are aware of the basic steps they can take to be ready and in turn take advantage of this platform in the future.

In early November 2005, Microsoft extended its 64-bit roadmap for its Windows Server and tools business. While today it already has strong 64-bit support for the client and server operating systems, database and enterprise tools on both the Itanium and x64 architectures, this announcement provides an update on our 64-bit roadmap and the policies and training which you can put in place to take full advantage of the Windows 64-bit platform when your customers demand it.

**“ As we move forward...I really think of 32-bit as legacy...the future is all 64-bit.”**

Bob Muglia, VP, Server & Tools, Microsoft, PDC 05

## KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next Generation Exchange Server, Exchange12 will be a 64-bit only release
- Windows Server codenamed "Longhorn" will be the last 32-bit Server Operating System
- Windows Small Business Server will be a 64-bit only release
- Windows Server for medium businesses will be 64-bit only release

## Interoperability and reliability for small and medium businesses

While this is a rapid move to 64-bit computing, Windows Server x64 editions provide excellent interoperability and performance of existing 32-bit applications while providing a smooth transition of your applications to 64-bit as your customers demand it. This means that small and medium businesses can take advantage of the reliability and native performance benefits of 64-bit computing while protecting their existing investment.

## Performance

ISVs supporting Medium and Large businesses have already seen the performance advantages that 64-bit computing has provided to their customers. Whether this is database, terminal services, file and print business scenario, the increased memory headroom, increased CPU throughput and OS optimization have shown significant performance gains.

## MICROSOFT SUPPORT TO PARTNERS IN 64-BIT COMPUTING TRANSITION

### 64-Bit Advantage Program

#### 3-Day Hands On 64-Bit Migration Lab:

- 64-Bit Migration Experts
- Take your existing code to the next level of migration

#### High Level Ongoing Technical Support:

- Hours of dedicated Technical Support
- Selected 1:1 Consultations
- Bi Weekly Live meeting/Forums

#### Business/ Marketing Promotion:

- Co-Marketing Activities/ Showcasing of ported solutions

[www.64Advantage.com](http://www.64Advantage.com)

## Broad Industry Support

Microsoft already has strong support from all the leading hardware vendors and ISVs to ensure that the same levels of service on the 32-bit platform are supported on the 64-bit Windows Server platform.

## CALL TO ACTION: Steps to ensuring a smooth transition to 64-bit

1. **Adopt simple "64-bit clean" coding guidelines**  
Define "64-bit clean" coding guidelines for all new & existing 32-bit application development to ensure a smooth transition to 64-bit computing when your customers demand it.
2. **Identify third party applications**  
Make sure that you work with any third party library, hardware or driver vendors to ensure that they support the Windows 64-bit Server platform.
3. **Take advantage of our FREE WW 64Bit Advantage Program**  
Train your developers on the development details for 64-bit computing & ensure they can write 32-bit applications to be 64-bit clean.