

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

100 Desktop Operating System – Windows-compatible

Definition:

The desktop operating system is the master control software that controls all internal operations on a personal computer. This includes controlling video display actions, reading and writing from both memory and storage devices, transfer of information to attached printers, communications with other networked devices, and both keyboard and mouse input.

Rationale:

Standardizing on fewer desktop operating systems greatly simplifies technical support requirements and contributes directly to significantly lower support expenses.

Endorsed Standard:

This is the preferred platform for administrative desktop systems.

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Microsoft Windows XP SP3 - Usage of other operating systems must be justified.

Responsible Function (Administrative):

SA

Preferred Product (Academic):

Microsoft Windows XP SP3 - Usage of other operating systems must be justified.

Responsible Function (Academic):

SA (classrooms and labs), EU

Alternative Product(s):

Microsoft Windows Vista Business
Windows 7

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Microsoft operating systems are the clear industry standard for Intel-compatible based operating systems.

Technical Considerations:

Preferred operating systems should update to the most current version as soon as they are stable and fully support the University's preferred complement of software.
Hardware supporting...

Future Directions:

Windows Vista is being phased in with new hardware purchases and no migration date has been set. If complete migration for a department or unit is necessary, consult your system administrator.

Review Cycle:

Semi-annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Review Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

110 Desktop Operating System – Macintosh

Definition:

The desktop operating system is the master control software that controls all internal operations on a personal computer. This includes controlling video display actions, reading and writing from both memory and storage devices, transfer of information to attached printers, communications with other networked devices, and both keyboard and mouse input.

Rationale:

Standardizing on fewer desktop operating systems greatly simplifies technical support requirements and contributes directly to significantly lower support expenses.

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Platform not preferred but acceptable with proper application compatibility checking. Use of the new Intel Macintosh facilitates the use of both the Mac and Windows operating system.

Preferred Product (Academic):

Mac OS 10.5

Alternative Product(s):

Mac OS 10.2 and up

Mac OS 10/6

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

The Macintosh Operating System is the clear industry standard for this platform.

Technical Considerations:

Preferred Operating System should update to the most current version as soon as it is stable and fully supports the University's preferred complement of software.

Future Directions:

Mac OS 10.x

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

120 Desktop Operating System – Linux

Definition:

The desktop operating system is the master control software that controls all internal operations on a personal computer. This includes controlling video display actions, reading and writing from both memory and storage devices, transfer of information to attached printers, communications with other networked devices, and both keyboard and mouse input.

Rationale:

Standardizing on fewer desktop operating systems greatly simplifies technical support requirements and contributes directly to significantly lower support expenses.

Approved Standard:

It is recognized that Linux desktop systems are not the “mainstream” within the organization, however, with many applications/services being accessed via a web browser, Linux desktops can be used successfully where Windows applications are not a necessity for standard job duties. See LAN administrators’ recommendations/guidelines for support.

Preferred Product (Administrative):

SuSE

Preferred Product (Academic):

SuSE or Solaris (depending on supported hardware)

Alternative Product(s):

Linux Red Hat, Ubuntu, CentOS

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Superior stability and availability of support through the campus Novell license agreement.

Technical Considerations:

Choice of Linux operating system should be need and application based.

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Review Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

200 Desktop Productivity Suite – personal computer platform (Windows, Macintosh and Linux)

Definition:

An integrated word processor, spreadsheet, presentation and data base application.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application allows ease of file sharing and simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Microsoft Office 2007/2008

Preferred Product (Academic):

Microsoft Office 2007/2008

Alternative Product(s):

OpenOffice v3.x

StarOffice v9

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Microsoft Office is a cross platform suite of applications that has a proven track record and wide distribution. However, StarOffice and OpenOffice replicate the Microsoft Office suite of applications and are public domain products.

Technical Considerations:

To insure portability of file formatting, the most current version of these applications should be maintained and/or appropriate conversion applications installed. Note – Open Office does not currently support the Office 2007 format.

Review Cycle:

Semi-annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

300 Database Service Management

Definition:

A relational database is a computer database that is organized and accessed according to relationships between data items. Relational database technology has several inherent advantages over the previous hierarchical and proprietary platforms.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

ODBC Relational Database

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Oracle

Preferred Product (Academic):

Oracle Student Pack

Alternative Product(s):

MySQL

MS SQL

PostGRES

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Oracle is a high powered, highly adaptable, industry standard for Database Management. However, the Alternative Products have solidified themselves as equally dependable solutions for common database requirements.

Technical Considerations:

Delivery of some turnkey applications may determine the database requirements.

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

310 Database – Desktop based

Definition:

Database software for single users or one departmental users where the increased functionality of the above Database Management Software does not out way the cost and overhead of the package.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Microsoft Access (included in Office Suite versions)

Preferred Product (Academic):

Microsoft Access (see Productivity Suite for specific version)
FileMaker Pro - Macintosh users

Alternative Product(s):

FileMaker Pro

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

MS Access is a solution that seamlessly integrates with MS Office Pro.

Technical Considerations:

Access is not available on the Macintosh platform, thus the FileMaker support.

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

400 Electronic Communications client

Definition:

Software that manages and facilitates the sending and receiving of electronic messages, correspondence, calendaring and associated file attachments.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support.

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

GroupWise

Preferred Product (Academic):

GroupWise – college faculty and staff

Sun JES/Communications Suite Webmail – students

Alternative Product(s):

Microsoft Outlook

Thunderbird

MacMail – Macintosh

Entourage - Macintosh

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

GroupWise is Novell NetWare savvy, supports authenticated SMTP, and is site licensed at WMU. Microsoft Outlook provides similar functionality as GroupWise but for the Sun JES/Comms Suite users.

Technical Considerations:

For administrative users, Blackberry Exchange Services as well as other Smartphone syncing software capabilities are necessary.

Future Directions:

E-mail review is currently underway with a pilot offering of MeritMail (Zimbra) taking place Summer/Fall 2009

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

500 Internet Browser - Windows

Definition:

Software that allows viewing of HTML and script based (Java) web content and that is capable of downloading a variety of common file formats.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Microsoft Internet Explorer
Mozilla Firefox

Preferred Product (Academic):

Microsoft Internet Explorer
Mozilla Firefox

Alternative Product(s):

Apple Safari
Opera

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Internet Explorer is the de facto standard in web browsing with a strong following of Mozilla Firefox users. Both browser developers have established strong commitment to security of their product.

Technical Considerations:

Please reference the Architecture and Standards Compatibility Matrix for the use of a web browser for accessing mission critical applications – portal, student information system, human resources, time accounting, etc. In addition, the GoWMU portal has a listing of supported browsers; please consult before installing any product other than those listed above.

Future Directions:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001
Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

510 Internet Browser – Apple Macintosh

Definition:

Software that allows viewing of HTML and script based (Java) web content and that is capable of downloading a variety of common file formats.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Apple Safari
Mozilla Firefox

Preferred Product (Academic):

Apple Safari
Mozilla Firefox

Alternative Product(s):

Opera

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Safari is the de facto standard in web browsing for the Apple OS with a strong following of Mozilla Firefox users. Both browser developers have established strong commitment to security of their product.

Technical Considerations:

Please reference the Architecture and Standards Compatibility Matrix for the use of a web browser for accessing mission critical applications – portal, student information system, human resources, time accounting, etc. In addition, the GoWMU portal has a listing of supported browsers; please consult before installing any product other than those listed above.

Future Directions:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001
Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:
600 Web Publishing

Definition:
Software for the Creation and Publication of HTML Based Web Content.

Rationale:
Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):
Adobe Dreamweaver

Preferred Product (Academic):
Adobe Dreamweaver

Alternative Product(s):
NVU

Justification for Preferred Product(s):
Powerful publishing tool with a large group of expansion tools available from Adobe.

Technical Considerations:

Review Cycle:
Annually

Timeline:
Effective Date: April 1, 2001
Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

700 Online Course Management Tool

Definition:

A development tool for placing courses online and facilitating the organization of course materials on the Web. Includes features such as conferencing/discussion, online chat, quizzing, electronic mail, grade maintenance, calendar, navigation tools, and student self-evaluation.

Rationale:

Standardizing greatly simplifies technical support requirements as well as increasing OIT's and other support areas ability to provide development support to faculty.

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Blackboard Vista

Preferred Product (Academic):

Blackboard Vista

Alternative Product(s):

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Blackboard Vista meets our needs (discussion lists, chat, and on-line testing to name a few) and is fairly simple to use. Blackboard Vista will allow us to continue our Web-based delivery of courses.

Technical Considerations:

As of Spring, 2009, a group of faculty and staff are tasked to review Course Management products and make a recommendation to the Academic and Information Technology Council of the Faculty Senate.

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
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Category:
800 Page Layout

Definition:
Software that is capable of bringing together text and wide range of graphics formats and allows for WYSIWYG layout and Postscript output.

Rationale:
Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):
Adobe InDesign

Preferred Product (Academic):
Adobe InDesign

Alternative Product(s):
Quark Xpress, Microsoft Publisher

Justification for Preferred Product(s):
InDesign and Quark are both industry standards, InDesign has the more common and user friendly interface.

Technical Considerations:
Adobe has become the defacto standard for Page Layout applications.

Future Directions:
PageMaker is end-of-life.

Review Cycle:
Annually

Timeline:
Effective Date: April 1, 2001
Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

900 Graphics – photographic manipulation - pixel based

Definition:

Software that is capable of manipulation images and graphics at the pixel level and reading and writing to a wide variety of graphical file formats.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Adobe PhotoShop Elements

Preferred Product (Academic):

Adobe PhotoShop Elements

Alternative Product(s):

Adobe Photoshop CS4 Suite of products
GNU Image Manipulation Program (GIMP)

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

The Adobe PhotoShop line of products is the established industry standard for pixel based photo manipulation.

Technical Considerations:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

910 Graphics – drawing

Definition:

Software for the creation and manipulation of graphic images with a full complement of drawing and painting tools.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Adobe Illustrator

Preferred Product (Academic):

Adobe Illustrator

Alternative Product(s):

OpenOffice Draw

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

These two applications have similar capabilities and industry support. Illustrator's interface is consistent with other Adobe products, thus file transfer is truly seamless.

Technical Considerations:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1000 Statistical Packages

Definition:

Software for the collection, organization, interpretation, and presentation of numerical information.

Rationale:

Any non-trivial set of numeric values requires automated statistical analysis to test assumptions, compute regressions and trends, and categorize observations.

Approved Standard:

Software that operates across the range of platforms used by applications at the University that can extract data, store in various formats, can group data, and can perform all required statistical processes and tests.

Preferred Product (Administrative):

SPSS

SAS

Preferred Product (Academic):

SPSS

SAS

Alternative Product(s):

Minitab

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Both products are industry standards for particular statistical applications.

Technical Considerations:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1100 Mathematical Packages

Definition:

Software that performs complex mathematical, statistical, and engineering computations, is programmable and can produce graphical output.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Maple

Preferred Product (Academic):

Maple

Alternative Product(s):

Math CAD, Math Lab

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

One of the industry standards and is a more cost-effective solution.

Technical Considerations:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
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Category:

1200 Project Management Software

Definition:

Project Management software is used to establish and control a planned cost profile and schedule for information technology development and maintenance projects. Most project management software uses the critical path method (CPM), a project management planning and control technique.

Rationale:

Need an automated, collaborative approach to project management within the University. An integrated project management solution will provide the following functions to project managers: consolidate team information, coordinate team activity, and track team progress. Selecting a standard product will result in ease of data interchange and reduced skills set and training requirements for project management staff.

Approved Standard:

Critical Path Method - With CPM, a critical path is computed, which monitors all tasks that will slow down the entire project if delayed.

Preferred Product (Administrative):

MS Project

Preferred Product (Academic):

MS Project

Alternative Product(s):

OmniPlan

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

MS Project is an industry standard that is compatible with the MS Office Suite.

Technical Considerations:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1300 Desktop Virus Scanning

Definition:

Software designed to search for known computer viruses and remove them.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Symantec Endpoint Anti-Virus

Preferred Product (Academic):

Symantec Endpoint Anti-Virus

Alternative Product(s):

AVG

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Symantec is a well-developed and maintained software solution that is available for site licensing University wide.

Technical Considerations:

The anti-virus solution supported must be centrally managed in order to provide effective updates of virus definitions.

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

1400 Server Operating System – File, Application, and Print

Definition:

The server operating system is the master control software that controls all internal operations on a network server. This includes communications with other networked servers and clients, managing security authorizations, reading and writing from both memory and storage devices, transfer of information to attached printers, and providing file and application service.

Rationale:

Standardizing on fewer server operating systems greatly simplifies technical support requirements and contributes directly to significantly lower support expenses.

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Novell Open Enterprise Server (OES) 2

Preferred Product (Academic):

Novell OES2

Responsible Function (Administrative and Academic):

SA

Alternative Product(s):

Windows 2003 and 2008, Mac OS X Server, SuSE

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

De facto standard

Technical Considerations:

The preferred server operating system can be application/solution vendor driven

Future Directions:

Move to software that is compatible with Active Directory, LDAP and/or Kerberos authentication systems.

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1410 Server Operating System – Database

Definition:

The server operating system is the master control software that controls all internal operations on a network server. This includes communications with other networked servers and clients, managing security authorizations, reading and writing from both memory and storage devices, and providing multi-client access to shared database systems.

Rationale:

Standardizing on fewer server operating systems greatly simplifies technical support requirements and contributes directly to significantly lower support expenses.

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

SuSE

Windows Server

Preferred Product (Academic):

SuSE

Solaris

Windows Server

Alternative Product(s):

Windows 2003 and 2008, Mac OS X Server, Novell OES2

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

De facto standard

Technical Considerations:

Future Directions:

Move to software that is compatible with Active Directory, LDAP and/or Kerberos authentication systems.

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1500 HTTP Server (web)

Definition:

The web server software is the master control software that controls all internal and external operations on a web server. This includes communications with other networked servers and clients, managing security authorizations, reading and writing from both memory and storage devices, and the monitoring and control of web traffic.

Rationale:

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Apache
Internet Information Server (IIS)

Preferred Product (Academic):

Same as above

Alternative Product(s):

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

De facto standard

Technical Considerations:

The preferred web server can be application/solution vendor driven

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1600 Desktop Security – Intel-compatible

Definition:

Software that secures the desktop so that user modifications do not impact the efficient operation of the computer.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Group Policy Object delivered via Zen/Active Directory/OpenDirectory

Preferred Product (Academic):

DriveShield

Alternative Product(s):

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

De facto industry standard

Technical Considerations:

Future Directions:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1610 Desktop Security – Mac

Definition:

Software that secures the desktop so modifications do not impact the efficient operation of the client's applications.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Mac Server Tools

Preferred Product (Academic):

Mac Server Tools

Alternative Product(s):

DeepFreeze

DriveShiled

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

De facto industry standard

Technical Considerations:

Future Directions:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE

Category:

1700 Client Imaging and Management – Intel-compatible

Definition:

Software that allows the update of the image for the desktop environment from a remote console.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Ghost
ZENworks

Preferred Product (Academic):

Ghost
ZENworks

Alternative Product(s):

CloneZilla

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

De facto industry standard and site licensed at WMU

Technical Considerations:

Future Directions:

Microsoft Deploy (deployment server)

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001

Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009

**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS:
100-1000 SOFTWARE**

Category:

1710 Client Imaging and Management – Mac

Definition:

Software that allows the update of the image for the desktop environment from a remote console.

Rationale:

Commonality of this type of application simplifies technical support

Approved Standard:

Preferred Product (Administrative):

Disk Image
CarbonCopy Cloner

Preferred Product (Academic):

Disk Image
CarbonCopy Cloner

Alternative Product(s):

Justification for Preferred Product(s):

Technical Considerations:

Available with OS X

Future Directions:

Review Cycle:

Annually

Timeline:

Effective Date: April 1, 2001
Last Reviewed Date: September, 2009