Windows 7
End of Support

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What does Windows Embedded Standard 7 going End of Support mean for you?

In October 2020, Windows Embedded Standard (WES) 7, will go end of support. Windows 7 for Embedded System and Windows Server 2008/2008R2 for Embedded Systems have just both gone End of Support in January 2020.

But don't worry – you have options, and in this guide we'll explain them, so that you can decide what's best for your business and your embedded products.
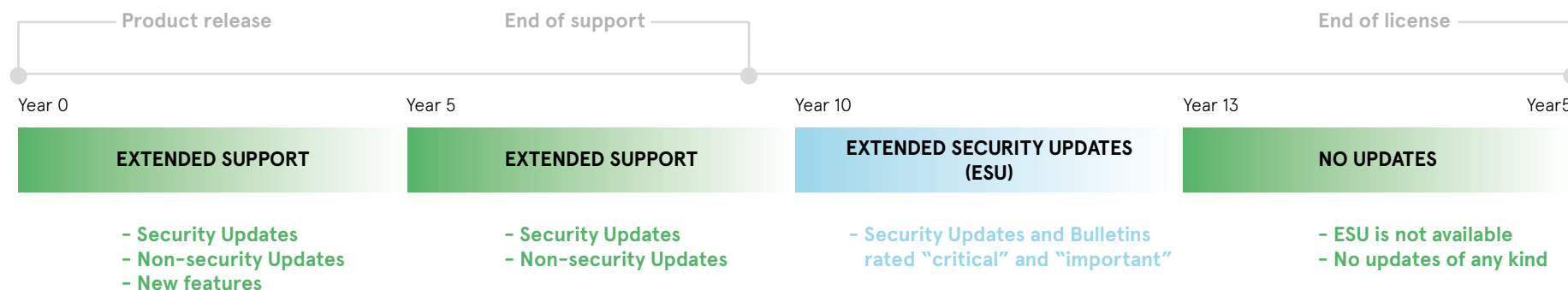
01.
What does going
End of Support mean?

When Microsoft launch a new product, they always give an indication of how long that product will be available. The good news for Embedded products is that the lifespan of a licence has usually been much longer than the standard product. At launch, Microsoft provide 3 key dates – end of mainstream support, end of extended support, and end of life (end of licence).

A number of major Embedded operating systems and server products are going or have just gone End of Support, see below.

Microsoft Product Family	Product End-of-Support Date
Microsoft SQL Server 2008/2008 R2 for Embedded Systems	July 9, 2019
Windows 7 for Embedded Systems	January 14, 2020
Windows Server 2008/2008 R2 for Embedded Systems	January 14, 2020
Windows Embedded Standard 7	October 13, 2020
Windows Embedded POSReady 7	October 12, 2021

After the product exits mainstream support, it enters extended support. Issues related to functionality will no longer be considered, but Microsoft will address any new, security-related issue and release security updates. Ideally, you'd migrate to a more up to date version of Microsoft licencing, but sometimes that not always possible straight away. If that's the case for you, there is another option – Avnet Integrated have launched a new Extended Security Updates Program.

Product release — End of support — End of license

Year 0   Year 5   Year 10   Year 13   Year5

EXTENDED SUPPORT	EXTENDED SUPPORT	EXTENDED SECURITY UPDATES (ESU)	NO UPDATES
– Security Updates – Non-security Updates – New features	– Security Updates – Non-security Updates	– Security Updates and Bulletins rated "critical" and "important"	– ESU is not available – No updates of any kind

02.
What is Avnet's Extended Security Updates (ESU) Program?

In partnership with Microsoft, Avnet Integrated can offer customer the option to extend Microsoft product support, for up to a maximum of 3 years, beyond the official End of Support dates.

The new Extended Security Updates (ESU) program will ensure your embedded products continue to receive security updates and bulletins rated "critical" and "important" for an extended period of time and hence extend the lifetime of your products.

03.
What does the ESU program offer?

Microsoft strongly recommend that you migrate to a newer licence version as soon as possible, but Avnet Integrated's ESU program can also provide you and your customers with vital time to migrate to a newer product – for example Windows 10 IoT Enterprise, Windows 10 IoT Core (replaces CE) or Windows Server for Embedded Systems 2012R2, 2016 or the latest Windows Server® IoT 2019.

EXTRA TIME TO MIGRATE	**CRITICAL AND IMPORTANT**	**ACTION REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE**
For customers requiring ore time to make the move to modern products, the ESU program is available for certain legacy products as a last resort option.	ESU includes "critical' and `important' security updates for up to a maximum of three years after the product's end of support date.	Participating in the ESU requires certain agreements to be in place with Microsoft and the installation of prerequisite software in conjunction with an ESU-specific key.

04.
ESU - What's included?

ESU INCLUDES
1. Security updates and bulletins rated "critical" and "important" (typically released monthly or as needed) 2. Support to resolve issues related to ESU deployment and security updates

ESU DOES NOT INCLUDE
1. New features, customer - requested non-security updates, design change requests 2. Support for root cause analysis or filing of bugs

The ESU is purchased annually for a maximum of three years and there is no minimum commitment or quantities.
It does however require additional ESU agreements to be put in place.

If you wish to hear more about the Extended Security Updates (ESU) program or you would like to know more about Avnet Migration Consultancy Support both from a hardware or software perspective, or how to speed up migration and deployment then please contact your Avnet Integrated account manager or your local **Avnet Integrated office.**

Examples of recent "critical" and "important" security updates include:

Event/Incident	Petya	Meltdown/Spectre (speculative execution side channel attacks)
Severity/Impact	Critical/remote code execution	Important/information disclosure

05.
Migrating to Windows
10 Enterprise

Of course, if you're ready to move up to a newer version of Microsoft Windows Embedded licencing, Avnet Integrated can help with that, too!

With Windows 10 IoT Enterprise there is no longer a difference between desktop and embedded versions of the software. Windows 10 IoT Enterprise allows you to build fixed purpose devices in the same way as previous separate embedded licencing used to. The difference in the titles indicates a difference in the licence terms about how they can be used.

Because fixed purpose, embedded products such as ATM machines, digital signage, kiosks and devices like point of sale terminals, industrial automation systems and healthcare and medical devices is locked down to a single or fixed set of applications, the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) can licence the device to the user with the software attached. These types of devices typically perform a single important task and therefore don't require feature updates as frequently as desktop devices. They often have a longer lifespan and so keeping them stable and secure becomes more important.

06.
Windows 10 IoT Core

This is a new product that Microsoft has introduced as part of the release of Windows 10. It is based on something called "OneCore" and runs the same kernel that is present on the desktop OS. However, this OS is more limited with regard to the services and features that are present or can be added to its image. The footprint it requires is around 2 GB of storage.

Why switch to Windows 10 IoT Enterprise?

Windows 10 IoT Enterprise builds on Windows 10 Pro, adding premium features designed to address the needs of large and mid-size organizations (including large academic institutions), such as:

- Advanced protection against modern security threats

- Full flexibility of OS deployment

- Updating and support options

- Comprehensive device and app management and control capabilities

07.
Stronger Security

Security is ever more important in today's world and Windows 10 changes the game for security by protecting user identities, devised and information with a comprehensive, intelligent solution.

Threat protection – You can protect your devices from cyber threats, detect advanced attacks and data breaches, automate security incident response and improve security with Microsoft Defender Advanced Threat Protection (ATP).

There are a whole host of other features available in Windows 10 Enterprise and Windows 10 IoT Enterprise and our team will be happy to run you through the options, so that you can decide what's best for your business and your embedded devices.

Visit **https://www.avnet.com/wps/portal/integrated/about-avnet/avnet/locations-contact-us/** and find out where your local office is.

Let's talk – contact us:
www.avnet.com/integrated
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Windows Defender ATP
Built-in. Cloud-powered.

ATTACK SURFACE REDUCTION	NEXT GENERATION PROTECTION	ENDPOINT DETECTION & RESPONSE	AUTO INVESTIGATION & REMEDIATION	SECURITY POSTURE	ADVANCED HUNTING
Resist attacks and exploitations	Protect against all types of emerging threats	Detect, investigate and respond to advanced attacks	From alert to remediation in minutes at scale	Track and improve your organization security posture	Advanced threat hunting

Management and APIs