

Microsoft Services QuickPlan

Microsoft Services QuickPlan for Integrated Communications with Live Communications Server

Plan Microsoft's real-time collaboration servers and services helps enable people to communicate instantly across organizations in a manageable and more secure way. Organizations can now run their own enterprise instant messaging (IM) network, address security concerns, and manage employees' IM usage. The result: greater communication efficiency, more informed decision making, and communications across geographies.

Microsoft® Services QuickPlan for Integrated Communications with Live Communications Server is designed to provide you with technical expertise in the early stages of your deployment project.

Overview

In today's fast paced business environment, organizations have a strong need to communicate in real-time so they can quickly resolve issues and make decisions faster. Live Communications Server 2003 provides your business with enterprise-ready instant messaging, presence awareness, and an extensible platform that connects people, information, and business processes.

This service provides a rigorous process that helps ensure your environment is designed and developed to get maximum business value from your investment.

This is the first step in the larger Microsoft Services Portfolio for Integrated Communications, a comprehensive service delivering Microsoft best practices and implementation guidance that will efficiently lead you through design and testing, into deployment, long-term operations, and maintenance.

This service covers the following main areas:

- **Requirements:** We begin with a review of your business requirements and the vision and scope of the project. Framing the vision and scope early in the process focuses the project, creating more valuable results with less risk.
- **Existing Environment:** Next, our consulting team captures key data points about your existing environment so that the design accommodates your needs. Our team assesses your current network infrastructure, environment, interoperability, operations, and legacy Windows® environment.
- **Design Considerations:** We begin design from a logical perspective, taking your business drivers into account, and consider Windows 2003 and migration or deployment path choices. We then cover Live Communications Server architecture, infrastructure, hardware and software requirements, configuration, and integration assessments,

as well as Active Directory® structures, domain controllers, performance, and topologies.

- **Deployment:** Our team will cover testing, installation, configuration, integration, migration, and synchronization to help ensure successful deployment of Live Communication Server in your environment.
- **Maintenance:** After our professionals have reviewed major decision points and risk analysis, we focus on administration tools, back up and restore, and disaster recovery. We also cover Microsoft Operations Framework and support options.

Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is a central element of a Microsoft Services QuickPlan and is incorporated into all activities. Early identification of these risks is vital so that they can be addressed quickly, before they jeopardize your ability to complete your project on time and on budget.

Deliverable

Interactive design sessions, in which your team learns how to apply Microsoft best practices to your environment, are a key benefit of a Microsoft Services QuickPlan. Understanding how the decisions were made is critical to your ability to implement the recommendations. You will receive a detailed written report that includes information gathered, decisions made, and a summary of the next steps needed to successfully deploy Live Communications Server.

Consulting Team

QuickPlan consulting offerings are delivered by Microsoft Services consultants working together with our Microsoft Certified Partners. This gives you Microsoft best practices combined with a third-party perspective.

Timeline

Microsoft Services QuickPlan for Integrated Communications with Live Communications Server is intended for delivery in two weeks. A typical schedule is shown below:

Week 1	Week 2
Kickoff	
Existing Environment	
Design Considerations	
Midpoint	
Deployment	
Maintenance	
Close-out	

Outline of Topics Covered

Existing Environment

- Review key business requirements
- Network Infrastructure
- Existing environment (operating system, hardware, software, LOB applications)
- Interoperability
- Operations
- Legacy Windows environment
- Migration or new deployment
- Active Directory structure
- Software distribution point (IntelliMirror, Logon Script, SMS, Group Policy)
- Security policy

Design Considerations (Continued)

- Risk management
- Operations management
- Migration of legacy Windows
- Test lab setup
- Security:**
- Active Directory structures
- Domain controllers
- Certification authority
- Group Policy Objects (GPO)
- Transport Layer Security (TLS) encryption
- Real-Time Transfer Protocol (RTP) encryption

Design Considerations

- Live Communications Server architecture/infrastructure
- Hardware and software requirements
- Live Communications Server role
- Live Communications Server components to deploy
- Live Communications Server application
- Windows Messenger 5.0 or higher
- Configuration/integration assessments
- Network infrastructure
- Active Directory structures
- Domain controllers
- Performance
- Topologies/forest
- Exchange IM
- Synchronization
- Server Software Development Kit
- DNS SRV record integration
- MOM applications
- Migration

Deployment

- Test lab
- Testing
- Installation
- Configuration
- Integration
- Migration
- Synchronization
- Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)
- Presence Leveraging Extensions (SIMPLE)
- Active Directory structure
- Network topology
- Integration
- Security policy

Maintenance

- Administration tools
- Backup and restore
- Disaster recovery — database backup tool
- Monitoring
- Planning for growth
- Future enhancements
- Support

For More Information

For more information about consulting offerings and support available from Microsoft Services, visit www.microsoft.com/microsoftservices or call 1-800-MICROSOFT and reference the designated code "MSPN" (US Only). For assistance outside the U.S., please contact your local Microsoft office. A list of local offices can be found at www.microsoft.com/worldwide.