

ITS Technical Notes

Windows Enterprise Announcement

November 3, 2006 – IE 7.0 to be approved on Enterprise WSUS Server Dec 19

IT Services has finished reviewing feedback provided by several departments and colleges regarding the release of Internet Explorer 7.0 on the Enterprise WSUS server.

IT Services has decided to delay the "approval for installation" of Internet Explorer 7.0 on the Enterprise WSUS server until Dec 19, 2006 (approx 4:00 PM). This date corresponds to the Tuesday after final week for the current semester (and after the time final grades are to be submitted).

Nearly all feedback received indicated IE 7.0 could be released "any time". However, because this product is the main user interface to some critical classroom functions and teaching tools (such as WebCT) and university business (such as ADIN and WebMail) it was decided to delay the release until the end of the semester. Since Microsoft itself is spreading the worldwide release of IE 7.0 over several months the risk of "out of sync" updates to this product until Dec 19 is considered minimal.

IE 7.0 appeared on the Enterprise WSUS server November 1 but was not approved for release as previously agreed to and announced. Since this product will be installed on many other systems on campus not using the Enterprise WSUS server (most notably student systems) our control is limited.

Our testing of this update indicates that systems pointed to the Enterprise WSUS server and configured for "automatic download and install" will silently install IE 7.0 when it is approved for installation on the WSUS server. A reboot will be required. Systems configured for "download only" will wait for a local administrator to approve the installation after the download is ready.

Departmental IT admins are encouraged to test (and update as necessary) critical software used with IE 7.0 as soon as possible.

More information from Microsoft on IE 7.0 is available at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/default.mspx>