# Windows Administrators Meeting
January 12, 2007
Notes (taken by Steve Kunz)

## Meeting Started (9:00)

## Announcements

- Scout 8.0 will be released the week of January 15, 2007 (the current target date is Tuesday January 16). Scout 8.0 is designed for Windows Vista and serves out ScoutKits compatible with "Windows Vista". Older versions of Scout will automatically update to the new version when launched after the release date. A link to the "first time installer" for Scout 8.0 will be published with the release announcement.

## Windows Vista Status and Open Discussion (Kunz and Pruski, ITS)

Kunz and Pruski gave a status report on "Windows Vista readiness". The two production KMS "license activation" servers have been deployed and are considered in "production status". Each KMS server must have 25 unique Windows Vista systems contact it for activation before activations actually occur. Watching KMS in operation it appears that one of the two KMS have reached the quota of 25, however activations still occur as each client system tries each KMS server in our "round robin" setup.

The KMS servers are restricted to only respond to on-campus IPs (VPN, PPP, student residence halls, and off-campus access are not allowed to comply with Microsoft MCA licensing restrictions). If you have problems with KMS activation on a particular system you should contact Beata Pruski (bapruski@iastate.edu) and provide 1) the error message you are seeing 2) the NetBIOS "computer name" of the system and 3) the DNS host suffix of the system. Be aware that KMS activation requires port 1688 – check local firewalls first to make sure this port is open.

An announcement of the availability of Windows Vista installer images on the normal MCA file shares have been emailed to the Microsoft Campus Agreement "contacts of record". The email refers to startup documentation from ITS. As announced previously, ITS will NOT be providing "DVD media disks" for distribution of Windows Vista under the MCA. You should build your own disks from the online images.

ITS still recommends caution for anyone building imaged systems that use MAK client activation for Windows Vista. We are looking at training or documentation in this area. Building imaged systems using KMS activation is the preferred method at this time. MAK activation should only be used for those systems without reliable on-campus connectivity.

## Open Discussion

Question: Will the daylight savings time updates appear on the WSUS server and will they be applied to the "SC" WSUS target group?

Answer: Kunz and Pruski felt at the meeting "Yes".  However, further research reveals that the DST updates (released December 12, 2006) are currently classified as "Update" – not "Critical Update".  Since the "SC" target group on the WSUS server does NOT include the "Update" classification (by design) the DST updates will NOT be applied to systems using the "SC" WSUS target group.  See:

http://tech.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin/WSUSTips.pdf

This situation of course changes should Microsoft re-release the DST updates as a "Critical Update" in the near future.  See:

http://www.microsoft.com/windows/timezone/dst2007.mspx

On this page Microsoft says "[…] While this update is being offered as optional now, once Outlook and Exchange tools are completed so that all updates and tools can be run at the same time, we expect to change the classification of 928388 to high priority or critical. […]".  So, we'll hope Microsoft "does the right thing".

Question: How can I run the Adminpak tools on Windows Vista?
Answer:  Troy Sharpe (Microsoft) indicated when he was here that the Windows Vista tools would not be available until the release of Longhorn.  At this point the recommendation is to wait for Microsoft's formal release.

Comment: Jim Wellman [AER E] indicated they have a fix for Dell DX260 power supplies that are failing and out of warranty.  It involves the replacement of three capacitors.  He also indicated they are working with Dan Carlile on a student site-license for MatLab (it will not cover faculty and staff).

Comment:  Beata Pruski noted there is a Microsoft Windows Vista event in Des Moines on January 16 (Tues).  Event registration for both the "IT Pro" and "Developer" tracks appear full at this time.

**Meeting Adjourned (10:40)**

Next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2007