



Introducing Microsoft SharePoint Foundation 2010

3400 Peachtree Road, Suite 1750

Atlanta, GA 30326

(404) 812-3123

<http://www.arkeystems.com>

info@arkeystems.com



Microsoft®
SharePoint® 2010



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Executive Summary

This paper describes how Microsoft® SharePoint® Foundation 2010 is the next step forward for the Microsoft fundamental collaboration technology framework, Windows® SharePoint Services 3.0. An overview of SharePoint Foundation 2010 as the *essential* solution for organizations that want a secure, manageable, Web-based collaboration platform is provided. Specific benefits for information workers, IT professionals, and developers are described. And for organizations that want a more feature-rich solution, an overview of SharePoint 2010 is included.

WHO SHOULD READ THIS PAPER?

Organizations, business units, and teams seeking increased team productivity and access to the people, documents, and information they need as well as SharePoint developers seeking an extensible platform for building Web-based applications.

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WHY TODAY'S ENTERPRISE NEEDS COLLABORATION

The demand for robust collaboration solutions in enterprises has grown exponentially during the past few years. According to Forrester Research,¹ in 2009, nearly one in two businesses will make use of "Enterprise 2.0" software, a term which describes the use of social computing technologies such as blogs, wikis, community workspaces, and content subscription services in the workplace. Businesses are realizing that collaboration tools that allow people to interact with other people, content, and information support strategic business goals while reducing IT costs.

Companies who have implemented a collaboration platform are bringing social-computing capabilities into the enterprise to increase organizational productivity by giving information workers easy, natural ways to share insights and collaborate. They are supporting content management by allowing employees to upload content to a centralized location and manage it in a compliant way so that it can be used by others. Finally, they are realizing that empowering employees to collaborate around businesses intelligence means that information critical to the success of the business can be shared and that raw data can be turned into actionable results.

However, not all organizations are taking a holistic approach to their deployments of collaboration solutions. Either by deliberate strategy or because grassroots demand for consumer applications gets ahead of IT governance, these organizations end up supporting and maintaining multiple platforms and technologies for various departments, functions, and roles. This not only increases risk and complexity, it can also add to operating costs. The organizations that are seeing the greatest benefits are those that are looking at enterprise-wide deployments of collaboration solutions.

With its latest release of the SharePoint 2010 family of products, Microsoft delivers a robust, secure, and integrated platform for enterprise collaboration. Microsoft collaboration capabilities are integrated into a complete business productivity platform, and are not a separate silo of applications and servers disconnected from other data-center technologies. From the perspective of the user, this means that collaborative capabilities appear in the context of familiar environments such as SharePoint workspaces and Microsoft Office system applications. From the IT perspective, it means that they can be managed using the same administration tools and IT skills as the Microsoft back-office products the organization already owns. And because the functionality is embedded in the platform, it takes much less IT time and effort to say yes when information workers demand integrated, collaborative solutions.

¹ Forrester Research, The Enterprise 2.0 Buyer Profile: 2009

INTRODUCING MICROSOFT SHAREPOINT FOUNDATION 2010

Windows SharePoint Services is now Microsoft SharePoint Foundation—the essential starting point for organizations that want the business benefits of Web-based collaboration combined with the value and security of an enterprise solution.

SharePoint Foundation 2010 is a versatile technology that enables organizations and business units of all sizes to increase the efficiency of business processes and improve team productivity. With tools for collaboration that help people stay connected across organizational and geographic boundaries, SharePoint Foundation 2010 gives people access to documents and information they need. People can access collaboration capabilities through a familiar, Web-based interface and everyday tools including the Microsoft Office system of productivity programs. The familiar and intuitive look of SharePoint Foundation 2010 means it can be deployed rapidly with less disruption to current work practices and with less demand for training and support.

SharePoint Foundation 2010 also gives organizations a cost-effective foundation platform for building Web-based business applications that can scale easily to meet the changing and growing needs of business. Robust administrative controls for managing storage and Web infrastructure give IT departments an effective way to implement and manage a high-performance collaboration environment.

SharePoint Foundation 2010 helps you to:

- **Collaborate easily and effectively:** Connect teams and increase productivity by providing easy access to the people, documents, and information they need through out-of-the-box SharePoint Foundation 2010 elements, which include blogs, wikis, team workspaces, and document libraries. This provides employees with the ideal way to share information and collaborate around a customized Web site.
- **Deploy a manageable infrastructure:** SharePoint Foundation 2010 offers tools like Windows PowerShell™ Administration to boost administrators' productivity and health monitoring to provide deep insight into server performance and health. This enables you to make the most of your organization's resources by deploying a manageable, scalable, and reliable collaboration platform that enables self-service by employees.
- **Build Web applications:** Increase business process efficiency by creating Web applications and workflow scenarios on the highly customizable, extensible platform of SharePoint Foundation 2010.

WHY UPGRADE TO SHAREPOINT FOUNDATION 2010?

As an evolution of Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, SharePoint Foundation 2010 significantly enhances capabilities for information workers while delivering a more robust and manageable collaboration platform. SharePoint Foundation 2010 connects and empowers people while cutting costs with a unified infrastructure. This new version offers many new and enhanced features to help organizations of all sizes connect teams and increase productivity by giving employees easy access to the people, documents, and information they need, when they need it, where they need it.

Not only has SharePoint Foundation 2010 improved the functionality for information workers, it will help boost the productivity and effectiveness of your administrator as well. SharePoint Foundation 2010 is a governable platform that enables IT to manage it on an enterprise level, with the management and monitoring tools required by enterprise-level deployments. SharePoint Foundation 2010 has expanded and enhanced the manageability of the platform with new administration and performance tools that help IT professionals optimize their resources and provide a collaboration platform that is tailored to the needs of the company.

For developers, customizing the out-of-the-box capabilities to respond rapidly to changing business needs has never been easier. SharePoint Foundation 2010 offers the tools, capabilities, and extensibility to design and create business solutions that can be integrated with existing line-of-business data, tools, and processes.

SHAREPOINT FOUNDATION 2010 TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

To implement a SharePoint Foundation 2010 environment, your infrastructure must support the following minimum requirements:

- Windows Server® 2008 64-bit operating system with SP2 or later, OR Windows Server 2008 R2 64-bit
- Microsoft SQL Server® 2005 64-bit with SP2, SQL Server 2005 Express 64-bit, SQL Server 2008 64-bit or SQL Server 2008 Express 64-bit
- Microsoft .NET Framework 3.5 with SP1 installed

Level 1 Internet browser options for Windows:

- Windows Internet Explorer® 7 32-bit
- Windows Internet Explorer 8 32-bit
- Firefox 3.x 32-bit

Level 2 Internet browser options:

- Windows Internet Explorer 7 64-bit
- Windows Internet Explorer 8 64-bit
- Firefox 3.x on non-Windows operating system
- Safari 3.x

Moving from SharePoint Foundation 2010 to Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010

Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010 extends SharePoint Foundation 2010 to provide a full-featured business collaboration platform that scales from the enterprise to the Web. This enables businesses to meet growing demands for internal and external collaboration and meet the fast-changing requirements of the new world of business—knowledge transfer, support for the next-generation workforce, virtual teams, open innovation, collaboration with partners and customers, and more—with a single, extensible, centrally managed enterprise platform.

Whether deployed on-premise or as hosted services, SharePoint Server 2010 helps companies cut costs with a unified infrastructure while simplifying how people find and share information across boundaries.

- **Connect and empower people** by letting them work together in ways that are most effective for them. Whether through the PC, browser, or mobile phone, SharePoint Server 2010 offers an intuitive and familiar user experience and enables people to find the most relevant experts to collaborate with, while providing them with self-service information that significantly enhances their decision-making capabilities.
- **Cut costs with a unified infrastructure** that offers enterprise-scale manageability and availability. Whether deployed on-premise or as hosted services, as part of an intranet, an extranet, or the Internet, SharePoint Server 2010 lowers total cost of ownership by offering an integrated set of features.
- **Rapidly respond to business needs** with dynamic and easily deployed solutions. Whether it's an end user or a professional developer, SharePoint Server 2010 offers the tools and capabilities to design and create business solutions that can be integrated with existing enterprise data, tools, and processes.

WHY UPGRADE TO SHAREPOINT SERVER 2010?

Companies wanting to build out a full-featured collaboration platform that allows them to collaborate inside and outside the organization should consider upgrading to SharePoint Server 2010, which builds on the core technologies of SharePoint Foundation 2010 and provides new layers of capabilities, customization, and scalability. SharePoint Server 2010 is recommended for larger companies, enterprise deployments, and portal scenarios.

Key advantages of SharePoint Server 2010 include:

Cut costs with a unified infrastructure

With SharePoint Server 2010 you can provide information workers with all of the organizational productivity services they need in a single, extensible infrastructure. The consolidation of business collaboration solutions onto SharePoint Server 2010 makes it possible to cut costs through lower training costs, increased IT productivity, and enterprise-wide management tools, all within a governable and compliant platform.

Empower employees through access to information

Self-publishing of content from any source allows you to scale information-sharing from the team to the entire enterprise. Empowering employees to manage portal content directly keeps information current and saves time and cost, and puts business people in control of business processes without the involvement of IT resources.

Find the right content and expertise to increase productivity

Because SharePoint Server 2010 can reach across SharePoint Foundation 2010 and other data repositories—including Lotus Notes—you can deliver the most relevant data no matter where it's stored. Search is the dominant navigation tool used, and empowering information workers to find the right content or people with the right expertise more quickly leads to increased productivity and decreased redundancy.

Connect people to enhance teamwork

Social networking and people search in SharePoint Server 2010 allows employees to find and leverage the expertise of coworkers, amplifying the impact of each individual in the organization. With My Sites as a personal profile, information workers can manage and increase the scope of their networks to increase productivity and engagement with the company.

Rapidly respond to business needs

Whether it's an end user or a professional developer, SharePoint Server 2010 offers the tools and capabilities to design and create business solutions that can be integrated with existing enterprise data, tools, and processes, allowing organizations to respond rapidly to business needs.

Share data throughout the organization

Now you can empower your employees to share and collaborate around line-of-business (LOB) data in a familiar and easy user experience. The Business Data Catalog enables publishing data from SAP and other popular LOB platforms directly into SharePoint sites, making collaboration around the data possible without requiring expensive LOB clients for all users.

Ensure regulatory compliance

With SharePoint Server 2010, all employees can turn any document into a record when necessary with built-in Enterprise Content Management. Giving document management to everyone improves information discovery and increases reuse of critical assets while reducing business risk through records management.

Make informed decisions

SharePoint Server 2010 democratizes business intelligence by combining structured and unstructured information together to give decision makers access to information anytime, anywhere. Interactive dashboards and Excel® Services enable users not only to access the data to make the right decision with deeper analytics, but to capture and share that decision with others quickly.

Facilitate employee self-service

SharePoint Server 2010 facilitates employee self-service and reduces the burden on IT through Business Process and Forms. Utilizing forms, workflows, and business processes saves time and increases business agility.

Standardize content management

Web content management (WCM) capabilities in SharePoint Server 2010 provide easy-to-use functionality to create, approve, and publish Web content, enabling you to quickly get more information out to employees, partners, and customers with a consistent look. The speed and ease of WCM empowers employees to provide fresh, relevant, and high-quality content, while saving time and cost by standardizing on SharePoint Server 2010 for all content management, including Web assets.

Improve technology adoption

Remove technological barriers for employees with one platform that works with familiar, easy-to-use business productivity software. Save time and cost of training while increasing employee efficiency.

In short, SharePoint 2010 takes the collaborative foundation of SharePoint Foundation 2010 to another level. Additional features sit on top of SharePoint Foundation 2010, use its core framework, and extend it in such a way that is beneficial to larger companies, enterprise deployments, and portal scenarios.

DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF SHAREPOINT SERVER 2010

SharePoint Server 2010—The Business Collaboration Platform

SharePoint Server 2010 has been designed to enable people to interact with each other and with content and information to increase their productivity within their business environment. Whether it's an end user, a designer, or a professional developer, SharePoint Server 2010 offers the tools, capabilities, and extensibility to design and create business solutions that can be integrated with existing line-of-business data, tools, and processes. Investments like the integration with Microsoft Visual Studio® 2010 will enable organizations to rely on existing pools of programming expertise to enrich the SharePoint platform and increase the ROI on their investments.

In addition, with SharePoint Server 2010, IT has a governable platform complete with the management and monitoring tools required by enterprise-level deployments. The deployment flexibility offered by SharePoint Server 2010 enables IT departments to optimize their resources and provide a collaboration platform that is best-adjusted to the needs of the company. The choice of deploying across intranets, extranets, or the Internet to engage employees, partners, and customers with the same platform, coupled with the ability to host the enterprise's SharePoint deployment in the cloud, makes scaling-up and scaling-out a more achievable option.

Finally, by consolidating different business-productivity systems onto the SharePoint platform, IT will be able to invest fewer resources in guaranteeing the stability, availability, and compliance of the enterprise's collaboration platform. In addition, IT departments will be able to reduce costs associated with training, maintenance, and more.

Conclusion

More and more organizations worldwide are realizing the business benefits of using Microsoft SharePoint as their platform for enterprise collaboration. SharePoint Foundation 2010 and SharePoint Server 2010 update the core SharePoint technologies to meet the rapidly changing needs of businesses operating in a more cost-conscious and competitive environment. Not only are they making it easy for employees to collaborate using familiar social computing tools, but they are doing so without placing an incremental burden on their IT organization. This is because SharePoint Foundation 2010 and SharePoint 2010 can be managed using the same administration tools and IT skills as the Microsoft productivity tools the organization already owns.

On the other hand, stand-alone social computing applications, even those designed for enterprise use, add new layers of complexity to data center management, security, systems performance, and user support. With the Microsoft SharePoint platform, however, organizations are leveraging the investments they have already made while providing information workers an experience that is consistent with tools they are already using. This dramatically increases adoption and reduced training and support costs.

SharePoint Foundation 2010 and SharePoint Server 2010 allow organizations of all sizes to connect and empower people through a cost-effective, unified infrastructure that leverages their existing investments in Microsoft technologies.

Next Steps

To get more information about SharePoint Foundation 2010 or SharePoint Server 2010, please contact your Microsoft Account Manager or visit one of the following locations:

- [SharePoint Products and Technologies](#) offers a variety of white papers and other resources.
- [MSDN® SharePoint Server Developer Center](#) contains numerous technical resources from a developer's perspective about Microsoft SharePoint products and technologies.
- [TechNet Microsoft Office SharePoint Server](#) contains numerous resources on how to deploy, manage, maintain, and support SharePoint 2010.
- The [Microsoft SharePoint Team Blog](#) is the official blog of the SharePoint Products and Technologies Group.