

Directions

on Microsoft

INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS OF MICROSOFT STRATEGIES & TECHNOLOGIES

2008 Research Agenda >

This schedule summarizes upcoming research and analysis projects as of December 18, 2007 and is subject to change at any time. DIRECTIONS publications and advisory services provide actionable analysis of shifts in Microsoft strategy, product and technology roadmaps, delivery schedules, organizational changes, alliances, sales & marketing initiatives, licensing, and other Microsoft policies and programs. For more information, call 425.739.4669 or visit www.DirectionsOnMicrosoft.com.

Topic	Publish Date	Title	Description
Windows and Mobile	Feb-08	Terminal Services in Windows Server 2008	Better Web access and integration with the Windows PC UI lead features of Microsoft's remote graphics terminal technology.
	Feb-08	Windows Server 2008 Licensing	How companies can buy the new server OS with and without virtualization technology.
	Feb-08	RESEARCH: Windows Server 2008	Evaluation of the next major Windows server release.
	Mar-08	Windows Server Virtualization (Hyper-V)	A new hypervisor, a thin software layer that boots initially and then operates virtual machines, delivers virtualization support for Windows.
	Apr-08	Caching Aids SoftGrid Distribution	A new caching feature enables organizations to distribute SoftGrid-packaged applications to offline users, substantially enlarging the potential user base for a technology that minimizes application conflicts.
Business Applications and Services	Feb-08	Dynamics CRM 4.0	The latest customer relationship management application adds support for multi-tenant installations, among other improvements.
	Mar-08	Dynamics Live CRM Service	Microsoft's first large-scale hosted business application hits the street.
	May-08	RESEARCH: Dynamics CRM 4.0	An introduction to the latest version of Microsoft's customer relationship management application, online service, and developer platform.
	Jul-08	Dynamics AX 5.0	An overview of the upcoming release of Microsoft's primary enterprise resource planning product.

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Topic	Publish Date	Title	Description
Systems Management and Security	May-08	Forefront Edge and Access Server	The successor to Internet Security and Acceleration (ISA) Server, not yet named, takes advantage of the Windows Server 2008 network stack and includes acquired technologies for URL filtering and remote access.
	Jun-08	Service Desk Asset Management	The new Service Desk product will integrate with Configuration Manager to track hardware and software assets.
	Jul-08	Service Desk Trouble Ticketing and Reporting	Service Desk will include the successor to Reporting Manager for analyzing monitoring and configuration reports, and will provide trouble ticketing and problem resolution support.
Application Platform	Feb-08	ASP.NET 3.5 Extensions	A grab bag of improvements to Microsoft's Web access and data access APIs will come before the next major update to the .NET Framework.
	Mar-08	Visual Basic 6 Retirement	Planning for the retirement of Visual Basic 6 Extended Support.
	Apr-08	SQL Server 2008 BI Improvements	Master data management and other improvements in the next version of Microsoft's business intelligence platform.
	Apr-08	Dynamics CRM Development	Microsoft's CRM product supports basic customer management out of the box, but most businesses will use APIs and tools to match the product to their businesses.
	May-08	SQL Server Management and Development Improvements	Policy-based management and spatial data types lead improvements to Microsoft's database management system.
	Aug-08	RESEARCH: SQL Server 2008	The new database management system includes developer, business intelligence, and management improvements.
Sales, Marketing, and Services	Mar-08	Healthcare Strategy	Healthcare is the first target industry for Microsoft's move into vertical business applications.

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Topic	Publish Date	Title	Description
Corporate and Legal	Feb-08	ORGCHART (Online)	Online update of our chart of Microsoft's 600+ top executives and their responsibilities.
	Apr-08	ROADMAP: Enterprise Software and Services	Updated release and retirement information for Microsoft's most important enterprise products.
	Apr-08	ORGCHART	Online and hardcopy update of our chart of Microsoft's 600+ top executives and their responsibilities.
	Jul-08	ROADMAP: Enterprise Software and Services	Updated release and retirement information for Microsoft's most important enterprise products.
	Jul-08	ORGCHART (Online)	Online update of our chart of Microsoft's 600+ top executives and their responsibilities.
	Oct-08	ROADMAP: Enterprise Software and Services	Updated release and retirement information for Microsoft's most important enterprise products.
	Oct-08	ORGCHART	Online and hardcopy update of our chart of Microsoft's 600+ top executives and their responsibilities.