



## Microsoft Windows Server 2008 and System Center Managing, deploying, and protecting Windows Server 2008 with System Center

### What Is System Center?

System Center is Microsoft's family of systems management solutions designed to make IT more productive and efficient by allowing the IT department to apply best practices to systems management, deployment, and data protection.

The System Center solutions can work together to provide an integrated, end-to-end management solution. They are designed to simplify IT operations and to capture and analyze information about your infrastructure and business processes. They also give IT the ability to offer comprehensive management of physical and virtual infrastructures in an efficient and effective manner.

### Benefits of Using Windows Server 2008 and System Center

Windows Server 2008 delivers the next generation of server technologies to the Windows Server environment. The most secure version of Windows Server yet, Windows Server 2008 is hardened to prevent failures and includes features such as Network Access Protection to prevent unauthorized users from accessing network resources.

Using Windows Server 2008 with System Center also delivers these improved services for your business IT customers:

- **Improved Management & Monitoring**  
As the central location for unifying Microsoft Web technologies, proactive management and monitoring of your Windows 2008 servers will be critical.
- **Deploying Server Configurations**  
Getting Windows Server 2008 deployed in standardized configurations is critical. Once the

operating system is deployed it is important to keep all installations up-to-date in terms of patches, hot fixes, and application updates.

- **Hosting Virtual Servers**  
With Hyper-V server virtualization technology, individual physical servers will be hosts to multiple virtual servers. Managing and maintaining those virtual servers can be a time-consuming task without the proper tools.
- **Protecting Data**  
Data protection for Windows Server is a key component for running and maintaining a successful computing infrastructure.

### Better Together: System Center and Windows Server 2008

There are four members of the System Center family that are most applicable to IT administrators responsible for Windows Server 2008 installations:

- **System Center Configuration Manager 2007**  
System Center Configuration Manager is the best choice for a centralized deployment and configuration of Windows Server 2008. It builds on the deployment technologies that have been developed for the Windows platform and leverages existing Windows deployment tools such as the Windows Pre-installation Environment (Windows PE).

Administrators can use Configuration Manager to leverage other Microsoft deployment technologies such as Solution Accelerators to build

completely automated Windows Server 2008 deployments.

- **System Center Operations Manager 2007**  
Systems Center Operations Manager provides an end-to-end service management and monitoring solution for your entire Windows IT environment.

The Operations Management Packs for Windows Server 2008 will give Operations Manager the ability to provide in-depth health reports with an included knowledgebase that provides detailed information about health status issues and alerts. The Windows Server administrator can then get an enterprise-wide view of the health, performance, and stability of all of their managed servers from a single console.

- **System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2007**  
Virtual Machine Manager is able to monitor virtual servers and the physical machines hosting them. It can also view reports generated by Operations Manager giving the administrator a seamless methodology for monitoring their server environment, both physical and virtual.
- **System Center Data Protection Manager 2007**  
Data Protection Manager on a Windows Server host is capable of backing up not only the host, but also any of the virtual machine guests running on the host regardless of what operating system the guest is running.



## System Center Product

## Benefits for Windows Server 2008

### System Center Operations Manager 2007

- Operations Manager 2007 will deliver over 22 operations management packs, providing monitoring for each Windows Server 2008 server role, and key features and capabilities within each role
- Operations Manager 2007 can monitor infrastructure components while delivering in-depth knowledge to help understand and manage the health and performance of your IT environment.

### System Center Configuration Manager 2007

- Configuration Manager 2007 can automatically deploy applications that run on Windows Server 2008.
- Configuration Manager 2007 can help ensure that the computers in your test environment have the same level of service packs and updates as your production environment.

### System Center Data Protection Manager 2007

- Data Protection Manager 2007 creates a backup that you can use as a recovery method should you need to restore a target computer to a pre-deployment configuration.
- Data Protection Manager 2007 is aware of virtualized environments that allow intelligent backup of VMs through Microsoft's Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS).

### System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2007

- Virtual Machine Manager 2007 can perform physical-to-virtual or virtual-to-virtual conversion allowing you to easily replicate physical or virtual servers in your production network.
- Virtual Machine Manager 2007 provides a simple and cost-effective solution for unified management of physical computers and VMs, consolidation of underutilized physical servers, and rapid provisioning of new VMs.

## For Further Information

### Windows Server 2008 Home

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsserver2008/>

### System Center Home

<http://www.microsoft.com/systemcenter/>

### System Center Configuration Manager 2007

<http://www.microsoft.com/systemcenter/configmgr/>

### System Center Operations Manager 2007

<http://www.microsoft.com/systemcenter/opsmgr/>

### System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2007

<http://www.microsoft.com/systemcenter/scvmm/>

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