



System Center Essentials 2007

Licensing Whitepaper

Microsoft Corporation
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Executive Summary

Microsoft® System Center Essentials 2007 ("Essentials 2007") is a new management solution in the System Center family of IT systems management products. Essentials 2007 is licensed on a Server plus Management License basis like other System Center solutions. However, Essentials 2007 requires a Management License for each operating system environment, and has maximum limits in the number of Windows-based operating system environments that a single Essentials 2007 Server can manage. This paper provides an overview of how to license Essentials 2007.

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Product Overview

Microsoft® System Center Essentials 2007 (“Essentials 2007”) provides a unified management solution that enables IT professionals in midsize organizations to proactively manage their IT environment with increased efficiency.

Essentials 2007 provides a unified solution to help optimize the experience of performing a broad set of tasks across your entire IT environment. Customers also get a single console from which they can view and manage their servers, clients, hardware, software, and IT services.

Essentials 2007 accelerates troubleshooting and problem resolution. It’s a self-managing solution that notifies customers as soon as a problem occurs, then helps them proactively diagnose and fix it, accelerating problem resolution. Essentials 2007 also automates system updates and data collection for a customer’s IT environment, so it’s more secure and up-to-date.

Essentials 2007 simplifies complex management tasks like packaging and deploying software, adding Web site monitoring, and creating and configuring Group Policy. Essentials 2007 wizards also help customers quickly and easily configure security settings, deploy updates, and discover assets.

Licensing Overview

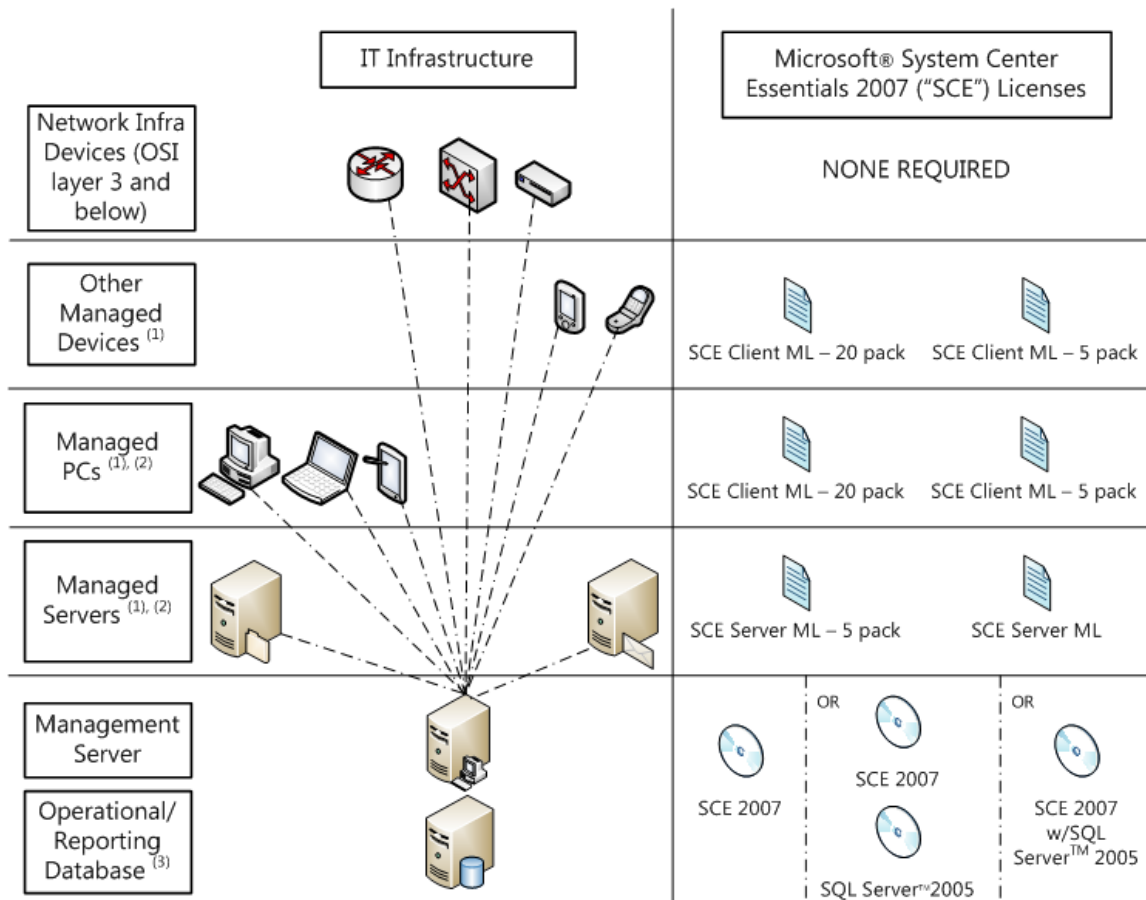
Essentials 2007 requires a Server License for the management server and a Management License (“ML”) for each managed operating system environment (“OSE”). A Server ML is required for management of each server OSE, and a Client ML is required for management of each non-server OSE.

Essentials 2007 is technically limited to management of 30 Windows-based server OSEs and 500 Windows-based personal computer (“PC”) OSEs. The Essentials 2007 product (and Essentials 2007 with SQL Server 2005 Technology product) sold through the Retail and Microsoft® Volume Licensing (“VL”) channels comes with the MLs to manage 10 server OSEs and 50 non-server OSEs. Additional Server MLs can be purchased as a single license or in a 5-pack, and additional Client MLs in a 5-pack or 20-pack.

The following Windows-based PC and Server operating systems are currently counted against the technical limits by the Essentials 2007 management server:

- *PC:*
 - Microsoft® Windows 2000 Pro
 - Microsoft® Windows XP (x86 and x64)
 - Microsoft® Windows Vista (x86 and x64)
- *Server:*
 - Microsoft® Windows 2000 Server
 - Microsoft® Windows Server 2003 (x86 and x64)
 - Microsoft® Windows Server 2003 R2 (x86 and x64)
 - Microsoft® Windows Server codename “Longhorn” (x86 and x64)

With third-party solutions, Essentials 2007 has the capability to manage devices which are running OSEs other than the ones mentioned above, although these are not counted towards the technical limits of 30 Windows-based server OSEs and 500 Windows-based PC OSEs. However, these other OSEs still require a Client ML or Server ML if they are managed. To “manage” an OSE means to solicit or receive data about, configure, or give instructions to the hardware or software associated with the OSE, other than to discover the presence of a device. MLs are not required for (i) OSEs licensed to run instances of the Essentials 2007 server software, (ii) OSEs in which no instances of software are running, or (iii) devices functioning only as network infrastructure devices (Open Systems Interconnection (“OSI”) layer three or below). There is no technically-enforced licensing limit to the number of other Windows-based OSEs and non-Windows-based OSEs that can be managed by Essentials 2007, but performance issues may limit how many should be managed.



(1) Third-party vendors could deliver functionality that would enable Essentials 2007 to manage other Windows-based OSEs and non-Windows-based OSEs

(2) Managed Windows-based PCs and servers are technically limited to a maximum of 500 PC OSEs and 30 server OSEs.

(3) The SQL Server™ 2005 instance supporting Essentials 2007 may be installed on the same server as Essentials 2007, or on a separate server

Licensing Microsoft® SQL Server™ 2005 for Essentials 2007

Essentials 2007 requires Microsoft® SQL Server™ 2005 SP1 or later (“SQL Server 2005”) to support its operational activities, including the operational database and reporting database. Essentials 2007 includes SQL Server 2005 Express Edition.

For larger deployments, customers may want to acquire SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition, and they have two options for doing so. First, SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition may be acquired separately from Essentials 2007. This is the best option for customers who will use their SQL Server 2005 instance with other applications in addition to Essentials 2007. Alternatively, customers may acquire Essentials 2007 with SQL Server 2005 Technology, which is a single offering that includes both the Essentials 2007 Server license and a runtime-restricted version of SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition, if they will use the single SQL Server instance only to support Essentials 2007. What this means is that the SQL Server 2005 software may not be used (i) to develop any new software applications, (ii) in conjunction with any software applications, databases or tables other than those contained in Essentials 2007, or (iii) as a standalone software application. The tradeoff with this offering is that it provides limited flexibility, so is only appropriate for a limited set of scenarios, but is an economical way to acquire the database required to run Essentials 2007.

Product Key Requirements

The technical limits of 30 Windows-based server OSEs and 500 Windows-based PC OSEs are effective across all distribution channels. However, whether product keys must be input to scale up to those limits is not consistent across distribution channels. Both the Essentials 2007 Server and each ML license pack require the input of product keys for purchases made through the Retail and OEM distribution channels to unlock the number of Windows-based PC and server OSEs which can be managed. It is not necessary to input the product keys for ML license packs purchased to manage other Windows-based OSEs and non-Windows-based OSEs. At this time, product keys are not required for purchases made through VL programs.

This means that customers must decide carefully between Retail/OEM and VL channels before making their initial Essentials 2007 purchase because any subsequent purchases of ML packs will need to be made through the same channel due to the differences in product key input requirements. Customers who initially acquire Essentials 2007 through the OEM channel may purchase subsequent ML license packs with product keys through the Retail channel to scale up.

For Retail and OEM purchases, a product key must be input during the Essentials 2007 setup as part of the product registration information section to unlock the management server software as well as ability to manage Windows-based PC and server OSEs based on the number of Client MLs and Server MLs included in the base configuration. Essentials 2007 sold through the Retail channel comes with the MLs to manage 10 server OSEs and 50 non-server OSEs. Essentials 2007 sold through the OEM channel may have different base configurations. When additional ML license packs are acquired, the associated product key can be entered through the Essentials 2007 Licensing Wizard to unlock the number of Windows-based PC and server OSEs that can be managed based on the MLs that you purchased. Only one product key is associated with each ML license pack, regardless of the number of MLs included in that license pack. The product key is delivered as part of the packaging in the Retail channel, and on the Certificate of Authenticity in the OEM channel.

Migration from Essentials 2007 to Other System Center Products

Essentials 2007 is technically limited to management of 30 Windows-based server OSEs and 500 Windows-based PC OSEs, and only one Essentials 2007 management server can be installed per domain. Once this limit has been reached, a customer will need to migrate to System Center products targeted towards enterprise-sized organizations. The combination of Microsoft® System Center Operations Manager 2007 ("Operations Manager 2007") and Microsoft® System Center Configuration Manager 2007 ("Configuration Manager 2007") or Microsoft® Systems Management Server 2003 R2 ("SMS 2003 R2") provide the comparable monitoring and configuration functionality that is delivered by Essentials 2007.

There are two aspects to consider in migrating Essentials 2007 to Operations Manager 2007 and

Configuration Manager 2007 (or SMS 2003 R2). First, the Essentials 2007 Migration Guide provides the details related to the technical migration. Second, customers will need to acquire the licenses for Operations Manager 2007 and Configuration Manager 2007 (or SMS 2003 R2). The following table shows how the Essentials 2007 licenses map to the licenses for these products.

IT Infrastructure Element	CURRENT LICENSING:			Comments	Recommended Way To Buy
	Essentials 2007	Operations Manager 2007	Configuration Manager 2007		
Management Server	Essentials 2007 Essentials 2007 with SQL Server™ 2005 Technology	Operations Manager Server 2007 OR Operations Manager Server 2007 with SQL Server™ 2005 Technology	Configuration Manager Server 2007/SMS Server 2003 R2 OR Configuration Manager Server 2007/SMS Server 2003 R2 with SQL Server™ 2005 Technology	If you're using SQL Server™ 2005 Express Edition with Essentials 2007, you will need to acquire the Standard or Enterprise Edition for use with Operations Manager 2007 or Configuration Manager 2007.	Standalone Licenses OR With SQL Server™ Technology License if the SQL Server instance will only be used with the System Center product that it is sold with
Managed Server OSE**	Essentials 2007 Server ML	Operations Manager 2007 Enterprise or Standard Operations Management License ("OML")	Configuration Manager 2007 Server ML/SMS 2003 R2 Server Configuration Management License ("CML")	There are 2 editions of the OML for managing servers. Which one is required depends on the workload that you want to manage. The Enterprise OML is required for management of application workloads, while the Standard OML is required for management of basic workloads, such as the operating system. Note that the licensing model for Essentials 2007 is per OSE, while the licensing model for Operations Manager 2007 and Configuration Manager 2007 (or SMS 2003 R2) is per device.	Microsoft® System Center Enterprise or Standard Server Management License ("SML") Suite
Managed PC OSE**	Essentials 2007 Client ML	Operations Manager 2007 Client OML	Configuration Manager 2007 Client ML/SMS 2003 R2 Client CML	Note that the licensing model for Essentials 2007 is per OSE, while the licensing model for Operations Manager 2007 and Configuration Manager 2007 (or SMS 2003 R2) is per device.	Microsoft® Enterprise Client Access License ("CAL")
Network Infrastructure Devices (OSI layer 3 and below)	None Required	None Required	None Required	Exception in use rights for all Management Server products.	Not Applicable
Other Managed Devices**	Essentials 2007 Client ML	Operations Manager 2007 Client OML	Configuration Manager 2007 Client ML/SMS 2003 R2 Client CML	Note that the licensing model for Essentials 2007 is per OSE, while the licensing model for Operations Manager 2007 and Configuration Manager 2007 (or SMS 2003 R2) is per device.	Standalone Management Licenses

** There are no technical limits for the number of OSEs and devices that Operations Manager 2007 and Configuration Manager 2007 can manage. Third-party solutions may be required for Essentials 2007 to manage other Windows-based OSEs and non-Windows-based OSEs.

Frequently Asked Questions

General

Q: What determines the type of ML that I need to manage an OSE?

A: The type of OSE. If the operating system running is a server operating system, a Server ML is required. Otherwise, a Client ML is required. For Windows-based OSEs, the classification is made at discovery, with Windows-based operating systems requiring a ML and technically enforced as follows:

- Client ML:
 - Microsoft® Windows 2000 Pro
 - Microsoft® Windows XP (x86 and x64)
 - Microsoft® Windows Vista (x86 and x64)
- Server ML:
 - Microsoft® Windows 2000 Server
 - Microsoft® Windows Server 2003 (x86 and x64)
 - Microsoft® Windows Server 2003 R2 (x86 and x64)
 - Microsoft® Windows Server codename "Longhorn" (x86 and x64)

Q: If I own Core CAL (and Enterprise CAL), do I have any rights to use Essentials 2007?

A: No. The Microsoft® Core Client Access License (“Core CAL”) includes the Configuration Manager 2007 (or SMS 2003 R2) Server ML, while the Microsoft® Enterprise Client Access License Suite (“Enterprise CAL”) includes the Operations Manager 2007 Client OML. Customers would need to purchase the appropriate Essentials 2007 licenses separately.

Purchases by Channel

Q: If I purchase my Essentials 2007 license through the Retail distribution channel, can I add MLs purchased through VL programs?

A: No. Purchasing Essentials 2007 through the Retail distribution channel means that you will need to enter product keys to unlock the ability to manage Windows-based OSEs for each ML pack that you purchase. ML packs acquired through VL programs do not currently have product keys associated with them.

Q: If I purchase my Essentials 2007 license through a VL program, can I add MLs purchased through the Retail distribution channel?

A: Yes. Purchasing Essentials 2007 through VL programs means that you will not need to enter product keys to unlock the ability to manage Windows-based OSEs for each ML pack that you purchase. Although ML packs acquired through the Retail distribution channel have product keys associated with them, it won't be necessary to enter a product key to unlock the ability to manage Windows-based OSEs if their Essentials 2007 management server was purchased through VL programs.

Q: If I acquire my Essentials 2007 license through an OEM, how should I acquire additional ML packs?

A: Through the Retail distribution channel. Since Essentials 2007 acquired through the OEM channel requires the input of product keys to unlock the ability to manage Windows-based OSEs, ML packs acquired through VL programs do not provide the product key you would need to do so.

SQL Server

Q: Which edition of SQL Server 2005 do I need to license?

A: For smaller deployments of Essentials 2007, customers may not need to acquire a separate SQL Server 2005 license since Essentials 2007 includes SQL Server 2005 Express Edition. For larger deployments, customers will likely need SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition, and have two options to obtain this license. If customers will be using this instance of SQL Server 2005 with more than just Essentials 2007, they should acquire a separate SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition license. Otherwise, if this SQL Server 2005 instance will be used ONLY to support Essentials 2007, customers can acquire their license more economically through the Essentials 2007 with SQL Server 2005 Technology offering. Customers can also use SQL Server 2005 Enterprise Edition with Essentials 2007, but Essentials 2007 doesn't support many of the advanced features that differentiate the Enterprise Edition from the Standard Edition of SQL Server 2005.

Virtualized Environments

Q: If a server is running virtual machines, do I only need 1 Server ML to manage it and all the virtual machines?

A: No, you would need to assign at least as many MLs to that server as OSEs that are running on the server. Each virtual machine that is running would count as an OSE, as well as the operating system instance running on the physical host machine. The appropriate type of ML would need to be assigned based on the type of operating system running in each virtual machine.

Q: If a server is running virtual machines, does it still count as 1 server out of the 30 server maximum limit which can be managed?

A: If the server is a Windows-based server, the physical host OSE and the virtual OSEs would each count

as one OSE out of the maximum limits on Windows-based OSEs which can be managed. In other words, if a customer had just one physical host server, they could only manage that physical OSE (assuming it was running a server operating system) plus up to 29 virtual server OSEs and 500 virtual PC OSEs if they are properly licensed with sufficient MLs. If this was not a Windows-based server, the physical and virtual OSEs would not count against the maximum limits, but would still require the appropriate MLs.

Q: What happens if I want to shut down an OSE?

A: Once a Windows-based OSE is discovered (and hence configured to be managed), it will count against the maximum limit, even if that OSE is no longer running any software. To shut down that OSE so it doesn't count against the maximum limit, the customer would have to first remove that OSE in the admin console so that Essentials 2007 doesn't manage it and releases the quota. If the OSE is not running any software, it wouldn't require a ML.

Management of Non-Windows-Based Server and PC OSEs

Q: Can Essentials 2007 manage OSEs other than Windows-based Server and PC OSEs?

A: Yes, through third-party solutions, Essentials 2007 could be extended to manage devices/OSEs other than Windows-based server and PC OSEs (for example, these other devices and OSEs could include smart handheld devices and Linux-based OSEs). While these other OSEs would not count against the maximum limits of 30 Windows-based server OSEs and 500 Windows-based PC OSEs, they still would need to be licensed with the appropriate ML. Also, even though there are no technically-enforced limits to these other OSEs, scalability and performance issues may limit the number of these other OSEs that should be managed by Essentials 2007.