

Professional Live Communications Server

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I would like to dedicate this book to my wife, Christy, and our kids, Paige, Bailey, and Davis, who have been so patient with me throughout this whole process. I have traveled most of the world during the writing of this book and they have been so awesome, even during my really busy days, and I couldn't be happier to have them in my life.

— Joe Schurman

About the Authors

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Joe Schurman is the co-founder of Connected Innovation and is a member of the Microsoft Unified Communications Readiness team for Microsoft. As a Microsoft Most Valuable Professional for Live Communications Server, Joe is deployed globally to provide training for Microsoft employees, partners, and customers in each region of the world. Joe has authored several whitepapers, has developed many Live Communications Server 2005 SP1 readiness kits, provides global speaking engagements, sales and technical training world tours, Microsoft TechNet webcasts, and has developed the Microsoft Live Communications Server 2005 SP1 certification program, due out later this year. Joe's articles and comments have been featured in *Pocket PC Magazine*, *Waggener Edstrom*, *AMR Research*, *Wainhouse Research*, and several other publications. Joe is also a black belt in Chinese Kung Fu as well as a United States National Kung Fu judge.

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Randy Thomas started his IT career as a support person for a company in Houston, and then was blessed enough to get an opportunity to become a consultant for a content management company during the tech boom. He traveled around the world for them for a long time, thanks to an incredibly understanding spouse and children. He thanks his wife, Abbie, and two daughters, Samantha and Emma, for being so gracious while he was always gone. After moving to Washington, D.C., he was granted some very nice government projects building CM and Portal solutions with high security. He had pretty much lost all passion for the IT industry until the day he started working with Live Communications Server and all that goes with it. He then began traveling around the world speaking about and training people on Live Communications Server and unified communications. Randy also spends a lot of time on the newsgroup sites where he tries to help as many people in the community as possible. Currently, he lives in The Woodlands, Texas, where baby number 3 is on the way.

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— Joe Schurman

Introduction

The purpose of this book is to provide a real-world understanding of Microsoft Office Live Communications Server 2005 SP1. The book begins by providing an introduction to this technology and the suite of Unified Communications products offered by Microsoft, including a business introduction. Starting with Chapter 4 until the end of the book, we cover the lower level technical details of Live Communications Server and Communicator configuration, and provide notes from the field, which include troubleshooting information and where to find additional resources.

Who This Book Is For

This book is targeted for those who want to understand Microsoft Unified Communications products or are looking for an enterprise collaboration and communications solution, as well as those who need technical information related to Live Communications Server 2005 SP1 that cannot be found in existing technical whitepapers.

What This Book Covers

This book provides an introduction to and overview of Microsoft Unified Communications products, which include Live Communications Server 2005 SP1, Live Meeting 2005, and Communicator 2005. In addition, it offers technical configuration and troubleshooting information for Live Communications Server 2005 SP1 and Communicator 2005. This material covers Live Communications Server 2005 with Service Pack 1 and Communicator 2005 as part of the Microsoft Unified Communications product suite, which has recently been updated to the Microsoft Unified Communications group.

How This Book Is Structured

The chapters have been organized to begin with an introduction and overview of Microsoft Unified Communications products. Subsequent chapters explain how to introduce this technology to the enterprise. The heart of the book covers the technical configuration of Live Communications Server 2005 SP1 and Communicator 2005 for those who are deploying this technology or are reviewing this technology for deployment within their own infrastructure. We end the book by providing troubleshooting information, answers to frequently asked questions, resources, and templates for test plans and design guides.

What You Need to Use This Book

If you would like to follow along with some of the steps outlined in this book, we recommend that you deploy Live Communications Server 2005 SP1 on a physical or virtual server running Microsoft Windows Server 2003. To run Communicator 2005, you will need a physical or virtual PC running Windows XP or Windows Server 2003. To fully test Microsoft Office integration with Communicator 2005, you need to be running Microsoft Office 2003 with Service Pack 2.

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