IT Orientation to Making End of Year Technology Purchases

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AGENDA

☐ FY2013 Changes in the Desktop Recommendations

☐ Technical Directions and Context

☐ Purchasing Guidance for Desktops, Notebooks, and Peripherals

☐ End of Year Purchasing Dates and Restrictions

☐ Resources, Credits, and Questions

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Caveats

☐ No Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) were harmed in making this presentation

☐ Some information is forward-looking and could be flat out wrong!

☐ In particular, various release dates are still in flux

☐ Parts of this presentation will age quickly
Desktop Recommendations 1st Draft: Key Considerations

- Strongly consider alternative methods of delivering the desktop and applications
  - Desktop virtualization
  - Thin client
  - Application virtualization
- Sunset obsolete operating systems
- Be aware of OS X Mountain Lion & Windows 8

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## Changes in the Desktop Recommendations Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013 1st Draft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Processor</strong></td>
<td>Core i5, Core i7, or Phenom II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAM</strong></td>
<td>4.0 GB</td>
<td>8.0 GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hard Disk</strong></td>
<td>320 GB</td>
<td>500 GB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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# Changes in the Desktop Recommendations Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013 1ST DRAFT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Display &amp; Graphics</strong></td>
<td>19-inch or 20-inch LCD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discrete Video Card</td>
<td>Discrete Video Card or Intel Integrated Graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous</strong></td>
<td>DVD±R/CD-RW Drive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80% Power Supply</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended Operating System</strong></td>
<td>Windows 7 SP1/OS X Snow Leopard</td>
<td>Windows 7 SP1/OS X Lion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Other Changes

- Windows XP is no longer supported
- Mac OS 10.5.x is no longer supported
To Be Determined …

☐ How much influence or consideration should Windows 8 get?

☐ What about SSDs/hybrids disks for the desktop?

☐ New Apple iMacs, Dell OptiPlexes, and Lenovo ThinkCentres are expected in calendar Q2/Q3 — just the time to really mess things up.

☐ Revision of pricing to be correct as of late May/early June.

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Desktop Recommendations: Things to Remember

☐ These recommendations are minimums and guidelines! ISC has no problem with:

☐ Quad core processors

☐ 24 inch displays

☐ Mini-towers

☐ Etc.
Desktop Recommendations: Things to Remember

- Three year life cycle is still an available option, though hardware cost savings is no longer a reason to choose three years.

- Business processes like life cycle planning could be a reason.

- Reduction in operating system “churn” is another possible reason.
Coming Up In 2012

☐ Intel is late with Ivy Bridge

☐ But, how late?
Coming Up in 2012:
Predicted Availability Date Ranges

- MacBook Pros
- Mac Mini
- iMacs
- MacBook Air
- Performance OptiPlexes
- Value OptiPlexes
- Mid-weight/Lightweight Latitudes
- Mid-weight ThinkPads
- Performance ThinkCentres
- Lightweight ThinkPads
- Value ThinkCentres

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Desktop Trends

- Sustainability continues to be a design motivation for desktops.

- The average desktop at Penn continues to get smaller, driven by sustainability, space, increasing ease of external peripheral connectivity, and cost factors.

- Desktops continue to move towards more sustainable materials.
Sustainability Measures

☐ 80 PLUS power supply certification has multiple categories:

☐ 80 PLUS Bronze — minimum 82% efficiency

☐ 80 PLUS Silver — minimum 85% efficiency

☐ 80 PLUS Gold — minimum 87% efficiency

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Purchasing Guidance for Four Year Windows Desktops

- **Dell OptiPlex 990** is the four year standard (72% of University sales) and has been a solid performer.

- **OptiPlex 790** (27%) is appropriate in specific cases.

- **OptiPlex 380** is the three year value system, but rarely bought (1% of sales).

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Purchasing Guidance for Four Year OS X Desktops

- iMac is the four year standard
- Mac Mini the three year value system
- Mac Pro is firmly in the workstation space, competing with Dell’s Precision and others

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Ultrabooks

- Intel’s set of standards, born out of embarrassment at how good the MacBook Airs are at what they do
- Nothing truly new but the trademark and Intel’s funding
- Intel’s requirements include relatively long battery life, quick response, light weight for screen size
- Coming from every Windows OEM that matters

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It's Not All About Desktops and Notebooks

- What are your printer life cycles?
- Printer life cycles can be long, but there needs to be some sense of their expected longevity
- Buy duplex up front for lower-end laser printers — you won't be able to add it later!
- The cut-off for HP's LaserJets is P3015 and below
It's Not All About Desktops and Notebooks

☐ In general, the trend across campus is toward fewer printers with far more capability

☐ Multi-function

☐ Duplex

☐ Color

☐ Don't forget other peripherals: scanners, projectors, external hard drives, etc.

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End of Year Purchasing Dates and Restrictions

☐ FY2012 purchases must be made by June 15th for purchasing orders and for ProCards.

☐ Purchases must be delivered by June 29th.

☐ Ensure that your Business Administrator knows that the purchase has been received!

☐ Of course, the strong suggestion is to submit your purchases as soon as possible!

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RESOURCES

☐ Desktop Recommendations Main Page

☐ www.upenn.edu/computing/arch/standards

☐ Includes quarterly purchasing guides, life cycles, and previous versions of the Desktop Recommendations

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Resources

☑ Computing Hardware Resources

☑ www.upenn.edu/computing/provider/docs/hardware

☑ Includes reviews and product notes on products from Apple, Dell, and Lenovo
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IT ORIENTATION TO MAKING END OF YEAR TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES

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