Information Technology Policy

Desktop and Laptop Operating System Standards

ITP Number		Effective Date
ITP-PLT017		November 20, 2009
Category		**Supersedes**
Platform		None
Contact		**Scheduled Review**
RA-ITCentral@pa.gov		February 2021

1.   Purpose

Provides direction regarding the provisioning and use of desktop, laptop, and tablet (collectively known as "PCs" in this policy) operating systems by Commonwealth agencies. Setting and implementing desktop, laptop, and tablet standards allows the Commonwealth to provide efficient information technology support.

2.   Scope

This Information Technology Policy (ITP) applies to all departments, boards, commissions and councils under the Governor's jurisdiction. Agencies not under the Governor's jurisdiction are strongly encouraged to follow this ITP.

3.   Policy

Agencies are to utilize the appropriate Commonwealth of Pennsylvania contracts for software to procure operating system software. Refer to ITP-BUS002 *IT Investment Review Process* for more information.

Agencies deploying Microsoft Windows 10 operating systems on PCs must adhere to OPD-PLT017A *Windows 10 Configuration Requirements*. Agencies that deploy versions of Windows 10 operating systems that are not compliant with this ITP and OPD-PLT017A risk having those devices removed and/or blocked from Commonwealth IT Resources. Refer to ITP-SEC007 *Minimum Standards for IDs, Passwords and Multi-Factor Authentication* and OPD-SEC007A *Configurations for IDs, Passwords, and Multi-Factor Authentication* (authorized personnel only) for additional configuration guidance.

Agencies are to standardize on one or more of the following current operating system standards listed in the Current Standards table below. The current standards have been tested for compatibility with enterprise applications. If a product is not listed within the Standards table, agencies must obtain an approved policy waiver before procuring or deploying a non-standard product. Emerging/Research Technologies also require an approved policy waiver. Refer to Section 8 for waiver guidance.

Windows 7 Operating System Guidance: Any Commonwealth desktop/laptop running Windows 7 (32/64 bit; any build) after 01/14/2020 will be required to obtain an approved IT policy waiver against this policy for continued use. Refer to Section 8 for waiver guidance.

CURRENT STANDARDS

(These technologies are supported by the current standards and meet the requirements of the architecture.)

Technology	Products	Technology Classification
Desktop / Laptop Operating System	Windows 10 Enterprise Build 1809 or greater (32 bit)*	Current
Desktop / Laptop Operating System	Windows 10 Enterprise Build 1809 or greater (64 bit)*	Current

*Agency IT administrators tasked with deploying Microsoft 10 Enterprise must comply with OPD-PLT017A *Windows 10 Configuration Requirements* and OPD-PLT017B *Workstation Naming Standards (authorized CWOPA personnel only)*. See Section 5 for additional information.

CONTAIN

(These technologies no longer meet the requirements of the current architecture and are not recommended for use. They are to be phased out over time. No date has been set for their discontinuance.)

Technology	Products	Technology Classification
Desktop / Laptop Operating System	Windows 10 Enterprise Builds 1511, 1607, 1703, 1709, 1803 (32/64 bit)	Contain
Desktop / Laptop Operating System	Windows 8.1 (32/64 bit)	Contain

EMERGING/RESEARCH

(Emerging technologies have the potential to become current standards. At the present time, they are to be used only in pilot or test environments where they can be evaluated. Use of these technologies is restricted to a limited production mode and requires approval of a waiver request. Research technologies are less widely accepted, and time will determine if they become a standard.)

Technology	Products	Technology Classification
N/A	--	Emerging

4.   Responsibilities

Agencies are required to adhere to the policies presented in this ITP.

5.   Related ITPs/Other References

Definitions of associated terms of this policy are published on the Office of Administration's public portal: http://www.oa.pa.gov/Policies/Pages/Glossary.aspx

Commonwealth policies, including Executive Orders, Management Directives, and IT Policies are published on the Office of Administration's public portal: http://www.oa.pa.gov/Policies/Pages/default.aspx

- Management Directive 205.34 *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy*
- OPD-PLT017A *Windows 10 Configurations Requirements*
- OPD-PLT017B *Workstation Naming Standards (authorized CWOPA personnel only) Contact RA-ITCentral@pa.gov for access.*
- ITP-BUS004 *IT Waiver Review Process*
- ITP-BUS002 *IT Investment Review Process*
- ITP-SEC007 *Minimum Standards for IDs, Passwords and Multi-Factor Authentication*
- OPD-SEC007A *Configurations for IDs, Passwords, and Multi-Factor Authentication (authorized CWOPA personnel only) Contact RA-ITCentral@pa.gov for access.*
- ITP-SFT006 *Internet Browser Policy*
- ITP-SYM006 *Desktop and Server Software Patching Policy*

6.   Authority

Executive Order 2016-06 *Enterprise Information Technology Governance*

7.   Publication Version Control

It is the user's responsibility to ensure they have the latest version of this publication, which appears on https://itcentral.pa.gov for Commonwealth personnel and on the Office of Administration public portal: http://www.oa.pa.gov/Policies/Pages/default.aspx. Questions regarding this publication are to be directed to RA-ITCentral@pa.gov.

8.   Exemption from This Policy

In the event an agency chooses to seek an exemption from the guidance within this IT policy, a request for a policy waiver is to be submitted via the enterprise IT policy waiver process. Refer to ITP-BUS004 *IT Waiver Review Process* for guidance.

This chart contains a history of this publication's revisions. Redline documents detail the revisions and are available to CWOPA users only.

Version	Date	Purpose of Revision	Redline
Original	11/20/2009	Base Document	N/A
	04/02/2014	Moved Windows XP to retire status and Windows 8.1 as an emerging standard. Merged STD-PLT017A into ITP.	N/A
Revision	02/26/2016	• Added tablets to list of PCs • Removed Background and Objectives sections • Moved Windows 8.1 (32/64 bit) to Current Technology from Research Technology status • Added Windows 10 (32/64 bit) to Emerging Technology	N/A

		• Added OPD-PLT017A Supporting Document • Removed OS imaging language • Referenced COPPAR for idle logout exemptions • Removed vendor references • Added a number of ITP references	
Revision	09/21/2016	• Moved Windows OS 10 to Current standard • Moved Windows OS 7 and 8.1 to Contain standard • Removed Note regarding Windows-based tablets required to run Windows OS 8.1 • Added Exemption section	N/A
Revision	09/13/2019	• Added OPD-PLT017B *Workstation Naming Standards* • Revised language throughout for clarity • Added/updated policy references • Updated Current and Contain Product Standards for Windows 10 builds • Removed Retired Product Standard table	Revised IT Policy Redline <09/13/2019>
Revision	02/20/2020	• Removed Microsoft Windows 7 from Contain, now retired. • Added clarifying language about use of non-listed products in Standards table • Clarified language throughout	Revised IT Policy Redline <02/20/2020>