UNLEASH THE POWER OF WINDOWS 11 PRO MODERN DEVICE DEPLOYMENT

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE

Today's mobile-intensive users and cost-limiting business environments demand a new approach to device deployment, especially during critical scale-ups.

Windows 11

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INTRODUCTION

The days when simply handing over a piece of organization-issued hardware to a user was sufficient are long gone, eclipsed by challenges like technological advances, increasing cyber threats, and the rise of hybrid workspaces.

Modern complexities like these are forcing organizations to reassess device deployment processes and consider solutions that drive increased efficiency, security, cost-effectiveness, and competitive advantage.

Today, device deployment — especially on a large scale, as with workforce expansions and device refreshes — requires careful consideration of several factors, including:

Remote Deployment

Personalization

Security Protocols

Integration

Training

Software Configuration

Strategic Alignment

MODERNIZING DEVICE DEPLOYMENT

The prevalence of remote and hybrid users today creates new challenges for logistics, security, user experience, and competitive advantage. A new Zero-Touch approach to device deployment accounts for these challenges while streamlining the deployment process.

THE NEW DEPLOYMENT PARADIGM

The rise of hybrid users, mobility, and decentralization requires instant access to applications and data, irrespective of physical location.

Even for organizations that have users on-site, remote device deployment is crucial. Unpredictable situations such as transportation disruptions, extreme weather events, or even health crises, will continue to be expected. In these situations, modern remote deployment enables users to be productive with minimal interruption.

Modern remote deployment, particularly when integrated with Windows 11 Pro, can significantly impact an organization's return on investment (ROI).

Windows 11 Pro devices equipped with advanced deployment features deliver

25%

decrease in deployment time and costs[1]

1. Source: Commissioned study delivered by Forrester Consulting "The Total Economic Impact™ of Windows 11 Pro Devices", December 2022. Note, quantified benefits reflect results over three years combined into a single composite organization that generates $1 billion in annual revenue, has 2,000 employees, refreshes hardware on a four-year cycle, and migrates the entirety of its workforce to Windows 11 devices.

Finally, as organizations grow, ramp up projects, and refresh devices, success depends on the ability to deploy devices swiftly, regardless of end-user location, and without the logistical challenges of on-site deployment.

SECURITY IS A PRIORITY

Along with logistical deployment challenges, security must remain paramount. Modern threats require modern solutions, and older deployment methods often do not protect against today's vulnerabilities.

70%
of survey respondents found their organization's mean time to detect, respond, eradicate, and recover from a security breach took longer than seven days to complete[1].

89%
of web application breaches involved some form of credential abuse[2].

99.9%
of identity attacks can be thwarted by turning on multi-factor authentication[3].

1. Forrester, Total Economic Impact Study, 2022
2. Verizon, 2023 Data Breach Investigations Report
3. Microsoft, Azure Active Directory, Microsoft Community Hub

Modern Windows 11 Pro device deployment strategies ensure protection against emerging threats by integrating advanced security measures. These can be configured from the outset, providing added layers of protection whether devices are used on- or off-site. Microsoft reported that 99.9% of identity attacks can be thwarted by turning on multi-factor authentication[3].

END USER SATISFACTION

Modern Windows 11 Pro device deployment creates an environment for talent to thrive. Being able to refresh devices at scale and in a timely fashion allows for maximum productivity. Up-to-date devices can also have a big impact on job satisfaction. Satisfied employees not only contribute more to the organization but also reduce turnover rates, saving businesses substantial costs in the long run.

Enhancing the end-user experience with smooth deployment processes also allows employees to open devices and get right to work, maintaining productivity.

According to McKinsey, we're facing a potential global shortfall of 4.2 million IT workers by 2030[4].Employers hoping to attract top talent will have to strengthen their employer value proposition significantly. One key way to do this is by following deployment processes that remove the tedious nature of manual configuration and provisioning, dismantling obstacles to employee productivity and job satisfaction.

4. Source: Mckinsey, Generative AI and The Future of Work in America, 2023

MODERN TECH DRIVES COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Modern device deployment processes are more likely to leave IT workers and end users happier and more productive, keep systems and data more secure from cybercriminals, and enable agility and resilience — all of which improve competitive advantage.

With the importance and benefits of modern device deployment established, you might be asking "How should we modernize our device deployment processes?" "What steps should we take?" At Connection, we hear these questions frequently.

This comprehensive guide aims to empower IT and business leaders to effectively transform their device deployment processes to meet modern challenges.

We'll discuss the important part modern technology plays. Devices with the latest TPM 2.0 chips already installed as well as modern operating systems, such as Windows 11 Pro, equipped with advanced features that enhance user experience, security, and compatibility, are table stakes.

Beyond just concepts, you'll find actionable steps, best practices, and an introduction to Connection's suite of services that seamlessly integrate into modern paradigms, driving optimal efficiency and value in your device deployment processes.

Whether you're an IT manager tasked with deploying hundreds of devices, an executive evaluating the ROI of your IT investments, or a strategist looking to align deployment with broader business goals, transforming device deployment can bring myriad opportunities.

We hope this information will help you harness the full power of modern device deployment.

THE CONVERGENCE OF TECHNOLOGY, OPERATIONS, AND STRATEGY

As we discuss best practices and protocols for device deployment, we'll cover three fundamental components widely recognized as drivers of organizational performance and growth:

Strategy refers to the overarching vision and business goals related to choosing devices that best support the organization's users' positions.

Technology represents a vast array of tools, platforms, software, and protocols, transforming deployment into a sophisticated and dynamic process that plays a pivotal role in modern Windows 11 Pro device deployment.

Operations concern the practical aspects of deploying technology, such as how to properly and efficiently configure and deliver Windows 11 Pro devices for end users. It also includes device training to ensure end users can be as productive as possible.

These three disciplines— strategy, technology, and operations — work together to determine the success and longevity of an organization's digital infrastructure.

Understanding their intricacies better should help you predict and prepare for successful modern device deployment within your organization.

STRATEGY FOR WINDOWS 11 PRO DEVICE DEPLOYMENT

Developing a comprehensive device deployment strategy is crucial for ensuring efficient operations, security, and optimal productivity within an organization.

Problem: Complexity

Device deployment is no longer simply a logistical task. In today's dynamic landscape, it's a complex, strategic endeavor that:

✓ Aligns deployment with organizational goals

✓ Balances myriad competing priorities

✓ Proactively navigates risk

✓ Adapts to a rapidly changing technological landscape

Solution: Develop a streamlined strategy

A strategy is essentially a plan for creating value within an organization. In the case of device deployment, a well-structured strategy will streamline operations while optimizing costs, enabling productivity, enhancing employee satisfaction, and ensuring organizations have the ability to respond to future changes quickly and seamlessly.

1. **Align strategy with overarching goals**

    • What are your organization's device deployment objectives?

    • How can technology facilitate them?

2. **Develop device deployment strategies that prioritize the following:**

- Flexibility
- Cost-efficiency
- Security
- Productivity (automation)
- End users (their needs and preferences)
- Training
- Standardization and consistency
- Diverse configurations (when doing so makes economic sense)
- Compliance and regulatory adherence (for certain sectors)
- Planning for eventual device refreshes
- Feedback loops for continuous improvement

3. **Identify potential deployment risks and develop plans to mitigate them**

4. **Stay up to date**

- Review emerging technologies and trends regularly and integrate ones that make sense into your deployment strategy.

Best Practices

1. **Regularly assess and refine your deployment strategy** in response to feedback and changing business landscapes.

2. **Engage stakeholders from multiple departments** in strategy formulation to ensure solutions are comprehensive.

3. **Build flexibility into your strategy** to accommodate unforeseen challenges or opportunities.

TECHNOLOGY IN DEVICE DEPLOYMENT

Problem: Seamless, scalable deployment at cost

IT teams today need deployment technology that scales, secures, streamlines and prioritizes user experience without breaking the budget.

The key is to ensure new Windows 11 Pro devices are deployed to teams that can be spread out globally with layers of protection enabled out-of-the-box for a reported 3.1x reduction in firmware attacks, and 2.8x fewer instances of identity theft[5].This includes the proactive out-of-the-box security including TPM 2.0.

Organizations can keep costs down with Windows 11 Pro that is designed for simplicity, with 99.7% app compatibility[6] and hardware integration that makes it easy to deliver a productivity upgrade. Windows 11 Pro supports the broadest app, peripheral and device ecosystem.

> "Automation is critical for eliminating repetitive, manual device management tasks, especially for large deployments."
>
> –Deloitte,
> The tech stack goes physical
> Dec. 7, 2021

5. Sold separately
6. App Assure program data

Solution: Streamline device deployment

To combat these operational challenges, streamline your device deployment operations. This approach will enhance efficiency, minimize errors, and accelerate timelines.

Here's how:

1. **Upgrade to Modern Windows 11 Pro devices.** In a Total Economic Impact Study by Forrester, researchers found that Windows 11 Pro users realized a 25% decrease in time and cost of deployment[1].

2. **Leverage a reputable, Cloud-based deployment and management platform like Microsoft Intune** that works flawlessly with Windows 11 Pro devices.

3. **Set up and configure new devices using Windows Autopilot, a Windows 11 Pro feature.** The benefit? In the same study mentioned above, Forrester's research found that end users redirected 50% of the time they recouped toward productive work. While that means they spent the other 50% enjoying a longer break, both activities culminate in a better employee experience.

4. **Consider partnering with an outside vendor** set up to tackle pre-configuration for thousands of devices at a time, with multiple persona configurations, to free up IT administrators for growth-oriented activities and digital transformation projects.

5. **Develop relationship with a reliable value added reseller** who would maintain a buffer stock for essential components to navigate supply chain inconsistencies.

6. **Establish robust training programs** to make sure IT teams and end-users understand the deployment process as well as device functionalities.

1 Source: Commissioned study delivered by Forrester Consulting "The Total Economic Impact™ of Windows 11 Pro Devices", December 2022. Note, quantified benefits reflect results over three years combined into a single composite organization that generates $1 billion in annual revenue, has 2,000 employees, refreshes hardware on a four-year cycle, and migrates the entirety of its workforce to Windows 11 devices.

Best Practices

1. **Security first.** Ensure all Windows 11 Pro devices are equipped with encryption tools and multi-factor authentication. Regularly update security software. Consider Secured-core PC and Microsoft Pluton for your most sensitive data.

2. **Test integrations.** Before deploying, test how new devices will integrate with existing systems and networks.

3. **Preconfigure devices** with Windows Autopilot before distributing to employees.

4. **Audit regularly.** Review and update deployment configurations periodically to match organizational changes and technological advancements. Conduct regular device check-ups to identify and address potential issues early on. Consider cost-cutting moves like offloading solutions that duplicate those included with the Windows 11 Pro license, such as endpoint encryption and remote logins.

5. **Keep detailed records** of all deployment processes, configurations, and device statuses for transparency and future reference.

6. **Maintain feedback Loop.** Establish a clear channel for end-users to report post-deployment issues. Their insights are invaluable for refining and improving subsequent rollouts. Keep feedback channels open so end-users can relay their experiences, allowing for continuous improvement.

7. **Ensure backward compatibility**. Organizations not fully transitioned to the cloud can use automated software management tools to automate installations and updates with scripts for common configurations. One such tool is Microsoft's System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM). Windows 11 Pro has also been designed to be compatible with most Windows 10 apps, reducing the cost of software redevelopment or re-purchasing.

PARTNER WITH CONNECTION FOR MODERN WINDOWS 11 PRO DEVICE DEPLOYMENT

Connection takes a collaborative approach to the design, integration, and deployment of technology to calm the confusion of IT. By delivering industry-leading technology solutions, we help our customers enhance growth, elevate productivity, and empower innovation.

We understand that strategy drives success and consult with customers to provide guidance aligned with business objectives and help craft winning device deployment strategies based on our vast industry knowledge. Our expert insights and guidance ensure your deployment strategy won't just be effective, but prescient.

To make the most of today's modern device deployment landscape, we offer the solutions to streamline and accelerate deployment including:

- Cloud integration solutions
- Pre-provisioning
- Seamless zero-touch deployments
- Cutting-edge security configurations to protect devices and data

We help organizations deploy devices that are ready to drive productivity from the moment they're powered on.

WHAT'S NEXT?

In an era marked by rapid technological evolution and global connectivity, how IT departments configure, provision, and deploy devices to end users can have significant repercussions.

Today's fast-paced digital landscape calls for excellence in Technology, Operations, and Strategy — three pillars that are pivotal for effective device deployment.

As complexities continue to increase in response to an ever-changing, dynamic world, aligning these elements is a crucial step toward modernizing and equipping your organization for the future.

IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESSES THAT DON'T ADAPT

Businesses that fail to modernize their device deployment processes face multiple challenges.

First, they risk hampering productivity. Traditional deployment methods can be time-consuming, leading to delays in the acquisition and setup of essential tools.

Second, outdated deployment techniques might not take into consideration modern security threats, thus exposing the organization to potential data breaches.

Finally, businesses may face increased costs in the long run, as inefficient processes often lead to redundancy and waste.

Ultimately, these lagging organizations must contend with the potential loss of competitive advantage. We live in a time when agility and adaptability are key drivers of success. Organizations that stick with legacy deployment strategies will find it increasingly difficult to attract and keep top talent, who often expect state-of-the-art tools and flexible working conditions.

Let Connection help guide you through the nuances of modern deployment to ensure success and sustainability for your organization.

Contact our Account Team to learn more.
1.800.800.0014
www.connection.com/windows11

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