

FOCUS ON FINANCE

Microsoft Ends Support for Windows 7

By Focus Omaha

On Jan. 14, 2020, Microsoft will end its support for Windows 7 operating systems. By the end of 2020, Microsoft Office 2010 also will reach its end of support. FNTS, a leading global cloud and IT managed services provider, recommends organizations take a proactive approach and make the shift to Windows 10 and Office 365 as soon as possible.

“When a product reaches its end of support, free technical assistance and software updates are no longer made available, leaving systems vulnerable to viruses, malware and other cyberthreats,” said FNTS President Kim Whittaker. “Ensuring operating systems and software are consistently updated is crucial to avoid costly downtime.”

There are a lot of people that have a fear factor associated with switching systems, but Whittaker said, “I think that’s a common concern with upgrading. What we’ve seen as it relates from Windows 7 to 10 is that it’s a seamless transition. For servers with 2008 moving to 2016, you should allow for a testing period on a test server so you know if you have any compatibility issues. It generally only takes a few hours to switch.”

Whittaker says Microsoft’s new changes can be an excellent opportunity for digital transformation. “FNTS has been helping businesses make the shift to Windows 10 and Office 365 to stay current on advances in cloud, software and data center offerings. As a certified Gold Partner with Microsoft, FNTS fully optimizes its services to fit all business models, allowing companies to work

smarter and faster while increasing cost savings, security and support,” said Whittaker.

FNTS is offering a free 30-day trial of Windows 10 and Office 365. Organizations seeking more information can visit info.fnts.com/make-the-shift.

UP THIS WEEK

Beyond Meat

Stocks rose 27% last week due to McDonald’s announcing it will be expanding the PLT sandwich, which replaces bacon with the plant version of Beyond, to a total of 52 Canadian locations. Impossible Foods then dropped out of the competition for the Mickey D’s US partnership.

Tesla

Stocks have climbed 35% over the past month alone, becoming the most valuable American car company in history. The electronic carmaker is now more valuable than GM and Ford combined, despite losing almost a billion dollars over the last year while GM and Ford made over \$20 billion in profit. Investors are relying on Tesla being the future of the auto industry.

DOWN THIS WEEK

Boeing

Internal emails released to Congress aren’t going to help fix the ongoing 737 Max issue. Some of these emails described the plane as “designed by clowns” and “supervised by monkeys.” Additionally, they discussed concealing problems to receive FDA approval, and not wanting to put their own families on a MAX simulator trained aircraft.



A vibrant, space-themed poster for Deja Vu Lounge Karaoke. The background is a starry galaxy. At the top, the text "Deja Vu LOUNGE" is written in a white, cursive font. Below this, a large, glowing blue microphone is positioned diagonally. In the center, the word "KARAOKE" is written in large, white, dotted letters. Below that, the text "EVERY TUESDAY w/ DJ PRETTY BOY" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath, "9pm - Midnight" is written in a similar font. At the bottom, "Deja Vu LOUNGE" is repeated in the same cursive font as at the top, followed by the phone number "(402) 502-9995" and the address "1021 S 178TH ST., OMAHA, NE 68118" in white, bold, sans-serif font. Silhouettes of people with their hands raised are visible in the background.