



Matt Duray  
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## **The Windows 10 Deadline is Approaching Fast - Are You Ready?**

*Connect Telephone & Computer Group Urges Business Owners to Prepare for October 14, 2025 and Avoid a Costly IT Crisis*

BILLINGS, MT – June 26, 2025 - Connect Telephone & Computer Group, a leading managed technology services provider (MTSP), is encouraging business owners to prepare now for the upcoming end-of-life for Windows 10. Small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs) that utilize Windows 10 to support their infrastructure will be affected by this on October 14, 2025, and businesses without a plan will be compromised. Starting on that date, Microsoft will officially discontinue all support for the operating system, meaning no more security updates, no feature enhancements, and no technical support. This means organizations will be exposed to security leaks, teams relying on obsolete tools and no ability for anyone to assist.

"If your organization is running Windows 10 after the deadline, you're gambling with your security, performance, and productivity," said Matt Duray, President at Connect Telephone & Computer Group. While technology will still function, it will degrade on an accelerated schedule. First, security vulnerabilities will go unpatched, leaving systems wide open to modern cyberattacks. Next, no technical support will be available from Microsoft. No feature or

performance updates will be provided, and many organizations may find themselves unable to run critical software or interface with updated platforms, due to incompatibility issues.

"This is where a proactive technology provider like Connect Telephone & Computer Group is invaluable," said Duray. "We manage our customers' technology 24x7 and help them plan for obsolescence, so they are always secure, supported, and productive. This helps avoid large capital expenditures and maintains productivity across teams and systems. If your current provider hasn't already started talking to you about a Windows 10 transition, that's a red flag."

The biggest surprise for many Windows users is that much of the hardware (aka computers, laptops, servers, etc.) made more than 3-5 years ago will not meet the minimum system requirements for upgrading to Windows 11. This will force many organizations into large, unexpected capital expenditures, especially if they want to keep their teams busy.

"This isn't just a software update. Most older desktops, laptops, and servers will simply not be compatible with Windows 11," added Duray. "So, if you've been trying to stretch your hardware lifecycle just a little longer—you're officially out of runway."

The team at Connect Telephone & Computer Group is helping

businesses to plan for this transition by following a 4-Step Plan:

1. **Determine Windows 11 Compatibility for All Hardware:** Connect Telephone & Computer Group strongly advises organizations to evaluate their current hardware to determine Windows 11 compatibility.
2. **Develop a roadmap for replacing outdated devices:** By taking the time to do this ahead of the deadline, organizations will seamlessly operate.
3. **Avoid DIY upgrades:** Organizations that forget to plan are often tempted to "do-it-yourself" upgrades, which can result in total data loss, system instability or voiding their cybersecurity insurance.
4. **Partner with Connect Telephone & Computer Group:** We recommend you work with a certified managed technology services provider like Connect Telephone & Computer Group. The company is ISO 27001 Compliant. Only a handful of providers in the U.S. and Canada are compliant.

While Microsoft will make Windows 11 software freely available, upgrading isn't as simple as clicking a button. Connect Telephone & Computer Group encourages all existing customers and local businesses to start

evaluating their technology infrastructure immediately, rather than wait until the last minute when inventory and support resources may be scarce.

“If you’re running on outdated machines and aging servers, this is the moment to invest in your long-term efficiency,” Duray concluded. “The older your hardware is, the slower, less secure, and more

expensive it becomes to maintain. Let’s use this deadline as an opportunity to upgrade wisely.”

#### **ABOUT CONNECT TELEPHONE & COMPUTER GROUP**

Connect Telephone & Computer Group is Montana’s premier telephone and data

communications group. Connect provides industry-leading products, serviced by the most certified technicians in the region. The company’s local dispatch center delivers round-the-clock service to ensure system reliability. The Connect Group also offers comprehensive service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and emergency service guaranteed within 4 hours.