



Solution Brief: Soft-Aid Software Deployment Readiness Assessment

Properly evaluate your readiness to deploy new or upgraded software and ensure that you plan and budget accordingly

Gain strategic insight

Before deploying a software upgrade or a new software solution, you should consider hardware and software application compatibility. You need to know what software and hardware are running in your existing environment. You need to know which computers support the new software. And you need to know whether your current software is compatible.

Soft-Aid can provide the information to make informed deployment decisions. We can determine the cost and potential compatibility issues before deployment. Working with a Soft-Aid consultant before a major software rollout offers several important advantages:

- ▶ Identify hardware or software compatibility issues, and how they can be resolved, before deployment.
- ▶ Improve software planning and budgeting processes to avoid unbudgeted expenses, resource constraints, and unrealized savings.
- ▶ Ease the procurement and deployment process and reduce the time necessary for the software rollout.
- ▶ Solidify the business case for the software rollout.

▶ Develop long-term PC life cycle management processes.

▶ Create a remediation and purchase plan for machines that do not conform to the software requirements.

Strategic consulting services that get results

Soft-Aid uses a four step approach to assess an organization's readiness to deploy new software.

Step One: Identify system requirements

We will identify system requirements for new software.

We will compare publisher requirements to those recommended by third parties and to your own specifications.

Step Two: Inventory your network

We can inventory the hardware and software in your environment. If you already have a suitable inventory tool, your consultant will help you utilize it. Otherwise, we can assess your environment and recommend a tool solution that meets your company's immediate or long-term needs.

We can also perform a physical inventory, as required, of peripherals such as printers.

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For More Information

To explore how Soft-Aid can help assess software deployment readiness, or to learn more about Soft-Aid's other Software Asset Management services, please contact us at info@aid.com or by phone at 781-569-0410. You can also visit our website at: www.aid.com

Step Three: Analyze and assess readiness

We will assess where there may be application incompatibilities that require further testing and examination.

With respect to hardware, we will categorize computers into those that are ready for deployment, those that can be upgraded, and those that cannot support the new software.

We will also assess potential compatibility issues with your other hardware such as peripheral and network devices.

With respect to software, we will identify where there may be software application incompatibilities and quantify the risks.

Step Four: Present findings and recommendations

We will provide a report and presentation detailing the current state of your environment, which catalogues hardware and software readiness.

We will also estimate the direct cost to achieve readiness, which includes the cost of the software itself and any necessary upgrades.

We will report on the degree of standardization and potential incompatibilities between software and hardware.

Upgrading to Windows Vista:

- ▶ When considering Windows Vista upgrades, we can:
- ▶ Determine the readiness of your computers to upgrade to Vista.
- ▶ Identify potential areas of software incompatibility with Vista.
- ▶ Assess the unique compatibility issues involved with upgrading to Vista.

The Soft-Aid Advantage

Our team consists of former IT Directors, IT Asset Managers, Software Account Managers, and Licensing Specialists, who have provided Software consulting services for over one hundred clients.

We can rapidly inventory hardware and software in networks of any size or topography and across platforms.

We employ proven project management strategies to ensure projects are done on time, on budget, and correctly.



Soft-Aid

The Software Asset Management Specialists

781-569-0410 www.aid.com