

engage



Fresh Start for Donated Computers

Executive Summary

The Fresh Start for Donated Computers program is designed to remove the licensing barriers that prevent schools from utilizing donated computers. Many donated computers are delivered to schools without the appropriate paperwork or CDs for the original Windows operating system. The Fresh Start program provides the proper documentation and Windows installation CDs to Primary and Secondary (K-12) schools around the world at no cost and with minimal paperwork.

Value

As part of the Partners in Learning initiative, the Fresh Start program helps to address the problems that Primary and Secondary (K-12) schools experience when they receive donated machines with no proof of an operating system (OS) license.

Donated computers are an economic necessity for educational programs around the world. It is estimated that 10 percent of all computers in schools in the U.S. are donated, with donations representing up to 50 percent of the install base at some schools.¹ In Europe, donated machines are even more prevalent, representing approximately 35% of the entire installed base.² Schools rely on these donated computers to provide access to technology for their students.

In many cases, however, schools that receive donated computers are not provided with the necessary documentation to prove that the operating system installed on the computers has been legally licensed. Properly managing these donated technology resources has been a time consuming, confusing, and often difficult procedure for schools. The Fresh Start program streamlines the license process. With minimal effort, schools can take advantage of the Fresh Start no-cost solution, to receive proper licensing for Windows operating systems and request installation CDs for donated computers that no longer have a working operating system installed.

Functionality

The Fresh Start program assumes that any Pentium II (or equivalent) and older computer donated to a school was originally licensed with Windows. Schools report the number of donated machines they have to the Fresh Start program through a Web site. After reviewing a school's information, Microsoft sends a license letter to the school and, if requested, a copy of a Windows 98 and/or Windows 2000 CD. Schools must then track and report the number of donated machines they receive once a year. Donated computers received between reporting cycles are considered to be licensed to run Windows 98 or Windows 2000 until the next reporting cycle. This program is only for Primary and Secondary (K-12) schools and the donated machines licensed through this program must be retained by the institution and

Fresh Start for Donated Computers
No-cost licensing for your donated computers

¹ EdSG K-12 Tracker Data, updated monthly

² Ministries of Education, Europe



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cannot be transferred to students or other external organizations. Higher Education (college, university and vocational technical institutes) customers are not eligible.

The computers licensed through this program must meet the following specifications:

- Personal computers must be received as a donation.
- Personal computers must be previously used.
- Personal computers, to the best of the school's knowledge, must have had a Windows operating system previously installed.
- Only personal computers with Intel Pentium II (or equivalent) and older processors are eligible for inclusion in this program.

Personal computers with Intel Pentium III (or equivalent) and newer processors that have a Windows Certificate of Authenticity (COA) sticker affixed to the machine already have sufficient documentation for a valid Windows operating system license and therefore do not need to be reported through the Fresh Start for Donated Computers program. However, schools must provide proof that these computers were donated.

Availability

The Fresh Start for Donated Computers program is now available to schools in the United States. Primary and Secondary (K-12) schools can apply once throughout the calendar year. At any time during the year, schools can report the total number of qualifying donated personal computers in their installed base and receive the documentation they need to ensure proof of a valid Windows operating system license. Each subsequent year schools can report newly acquired qualifying donated computers and receive the same benefit.

To participate, schools should begin by reviewing the eligibility requirements of the program. If the school and its donated computers meet the Fresh Start program requirements, a simple online application initiates the process. After the information provided is reviewed by Microsoft, a License Grant Letter and, if requested, an installation CD of Windows 98 and/or Windows 2000 media will be sent.

More Information

For more information about Fresh Start, see <http://www.microsoft.com/education/?ID=FreshStart>

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