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Live Communications Server Administration

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Andrew Edney and Rui Maximo

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Pro LCS

Live Communications Server Administration



Andrew Edney and
Rui Maximo

Pro LCS: Live Communications Server Administration

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For Katy
—Andrew Edney

To my wife, Anne, and my children, who keep me going when I can no longer.
—Rui Maximo

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JOHN LAMB has more than 12 years of experience in software development and IT infrastructure design, including more than 8 years with Microsoft in the United States and United Kingdom holding senior roles in both product development and consulting. John recently left Microsoft to cofound Modality Systems in London, a company that specializes in the design and implementation of Live Communications Server and Office Communications Server real-time communications systems. The company's projects are notable for delivering advanced solutions to large enterprises, carriers, and hosting companies.

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Thank you to our readers for your support. I look forward to hearing from you.

Rui Maximo

Introduction

Instant messaging has been around for a while now, and most people use it on a daily basis so are used to what it can do for them. Businesses are starting to wake up to the fact that IM is a great tool for work purposes, not just for chatting to your friends and family. However, this brings with it a whole new group of problems, issues, and concerns, not to mention complexity. Microsoft has had a couple of versions of Live Communications Server on the market now, with the latest version being Live Communications Server 2005 SP1. This book aims to give you a better understanding of what the Live Communications Server 2005 platform actually is; what it can do for you and your business; and how to deploy it, manage it, and troubleshoot it successfully.

Based on the SIP protocol as the control channel, Live Communications Server can easily extend its existing instant messaging capabilities into other media such as web conferencing, audio, and video. Live Communications Server introduces a paradigm shift that resonates with customers. Ultimately, people are trying to reach other people using the best and most convenient means of communication—whether it be by email, IM, telephone, or otherwise—without needing to recall personal information such as phone numbers. Live Communications Server centralizes these means of communications around the user's presence, intelligently exposing the most appropriate medium based on the user's current activities. In essence, Live Communications Server acts as your personal digital assistant.

So now that you know all that, wouldn't it be useful to have a single source of information and guidance for Live Communications Server 2005. Well, guess what? You have it right here in your hands. Yes, that's right, this very book will be your guide to everything that Live Communications 2005 has to offer, including how to install, configure, use, and troubleshoot it. It is packed with advice and guidance to help you get the most out of the product so that you can start benefiting from its use immediately.

