

# System and Software Deployment

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## Deployment



#### Definition

- The delivery, assembly and management at a site of the resources necessary to use a version of a software system
  - Make a software system available to its users
  - A coherent collection of artifacts, such as executable files, source code, data files, and documentation, that are needed at a site to offer some functionalities to the end users
- Getting software out of the hands of the developers into the hands of the users.

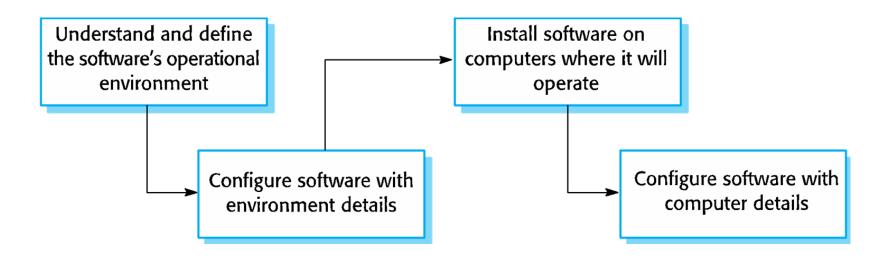


#### Definition (2)

- Software deployment is all of the activities that make a software system available for use. Examples:
  - Get the software out to the customers
  - Creating Installation Packages
  - Documentation Installation Guide, User Manual
  - Installation
- Deployment strategies may vary depending of what kind of software we create
  - Web, Desktop, Mobile



#### System Deployment





#### Software Releases

- Requirements/Design/Prototype: Plans made and approved
- Alpha: Foundation finished, software structure building started
- **Beta**: Main structure has been built, working on details
- Release Candidate (RC): Small adjustments
- Release To Market (RTM): Ready for use/sale

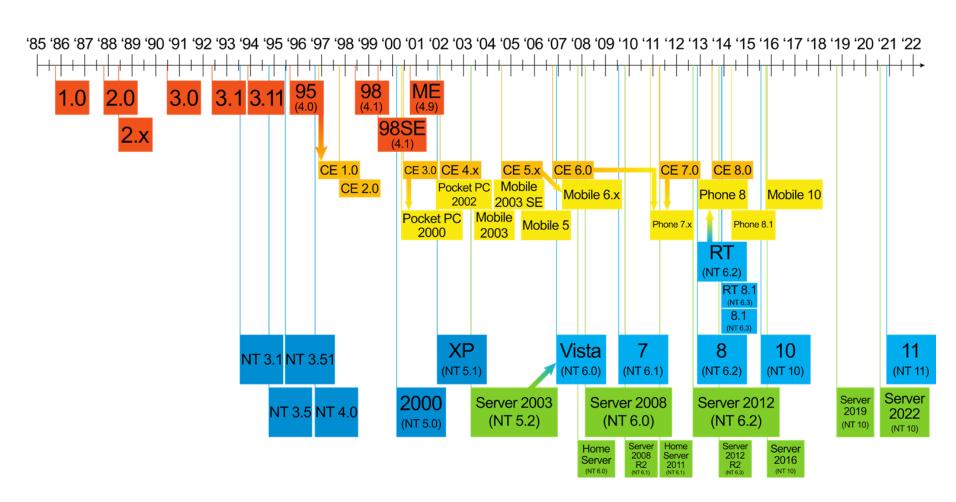


#### Maintenance Release

- After software is released
  - Patches: Small fixes
  - Service Packs: Collection of small fixes
  - Upgrades: Addon, plugins, or additional features
- Planning for next releases



#### **Example: Windows Timeline**





#### Why Deployment is Hard?

- More than 50% of commissioned software is not used, mostly because it fails at deployment stage.
- 80% of the cost of (commissioned) software comes at and after deployment.



#### Technical Deployment Issues

- Change management
   Introducing hardware and software changes
- Dependencies management among software components
- Large-scale content distribution
  - Network reliability
- Interoperability of heterogeneous platforms



#### Technical Deployment Issues (2)

- Deployment coordination and customization
  - Big-bang or incremental
- Internet integration
- Security and lack of control
- Mobile app and devices heterogeneity



#### Deployment Issues

- **Business Processes**: Most large software systems require the customer to change the way they work.
- **Training**: No point in deploying software if the customers can't use it.
- **Support**: The need goes on, and on, and on.
- **Deployment**: How do you physically get the software installed.
- **Equipment**: Is the customer's hardware up to the job?



#### Deployment Issues (2)

- **Expertise**: Does the customer have the IT expertise to install the software?
- Upgrades: Can't avoid them!
- **Integration**: Shall the software interact/integrate with other systems of the customer.
- Performance: The Customer may not have the same hardware performance as in the Development/Test Environment



# Development, Test, and Production Environment



#### "It Works on My Computer"

- Make sure to test your software on other Computers and Environments!
- Everything works on the Developer Computer, but...
  - The Customer computer is not the same as the developer's
  - The Customer may not use the same OS
  - The Customer may not use the same Web Browser



#### "It Works on My Computer"

- Therefore it is very important to test the software on other computers and other environments, different versions of hardware, different versions of web browsers, etc.
  - Development Environment (your computer),
  - Test Environment, and
  - Production Environment



#### Development, Test, Production



Typically the
Developers Personal
Computer with
Database, Web Server
and Programming
Software

A clean PC/Server (or a network with PCs and Servers) where you install and test your Software. Usually set-up as Virtual Environment The Customers
environment where
you install the final
software (Servers and
Clients)



#### **Test Environment**

- A setup of software and hardware on which the testing team is going to perform the testing.
- This setup consists of the physical setups (hardware and software)
  - Includes Server OS, Client OS, database server, front end running environment, browser (if web application), web server, or any other software components required to run this software product.
- The setups usually mimics production environments.



#### **Production Environment**

- The setting where software and other products are actually put into operation for their intended uses by end users.
- A real-time setting where programs are run and hardware setups are installed and relied on for organization or commercial daily operations.



# **Key Points**



#### Design for Deployment

- Deployment involves configuring software to operate in its working environment, installing the system and configuring it for the operational platform.
- Vulnerabilities may be introduced at this stage as a result of configuration mistakes.
- Designing deployment support into the system can reduce the probability that vulnerabilities will be introduced.



#### Deployment support

- Include support for viewing and analysing configurations
- Minimise default privileges and thus limit the damage that might be caused
- Localise configuration settings
- Provide easy ways to fix security vulnerabilities
- Make sure the application is well tested
- The application should be easy to install



### Questions?