A Report on Legacy System - Windows XP
Software Engineering Activity

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Write a report on any one legacy system w.r.t where, how it is getting used, what are the problems with that legacy system? Is it a legacy system? Is it time to move from that legacy system? If so, what should be done?

1. **Report of any one legacy system.**
   Ans: Windows XP.

2. **Where is it getting used?**
   Ans: There are data for 75,897 companies using Windows XP. Most of the companies using Windows XP are in the United States and in the computer software industry. Windows XP is most commonly used by companies with 50,200 employees and $1 million in revenue. Windows XP usage data goes back to 3 years and 8 months.[1]

Who uses Windows XP?

Some of the companies that use Windows XP include:

Company	Website	Country	Revenue	Company Size
Univera, Inc.	univera.com	United States	1M-10M	10-50
BROOKINGS INSTITUTION	brookings.edu	United States	100M-200M	500-1000
Zimmerman Advertising LLC	zadv.com	United States	100M-200M	500-1000
Federal Emergency Management Agency	fema.gov	United States	>1000M	>10000
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS, INC.	confidentialrecordsinc.com	United States	0M-1M	1-10

[1]

3. **What are the problems with that legacy system?**
   Ans:
   Mainstream support for Windows XP ended on April 14, 2009, with extended support lasting another five years.

This means that anyone still running Windows XP has not received support from Microsoft for roughly 7.5 years now, including almost all security updates and fixes for vulnerabilities that may have been discovered. That's a massive amount of time in tech and more than enough to render the operating system a security nightmare with likely a large number of unpatched vulnerabilities.

While Microsoft has backported fixes for some of the more serious vulnerabilities in Windows XP, such as EternalBlue and BlueKeep, there are many more vulnerabilities that threat actors could exploit.

This makes connecting a Windows XP device to the Internet a risky proposition and why all security professionals recommend users upgrade to a supported version of Windows.

Also, it will not get any new features.[2]

Most games are created specifically for video cards that support DirectX 10 and DirectX 11, which is a type of technology developed by Microsoft to allow games to run smoothly on Windows operating systems. Windows XP only supports DirectX up to version 9, making games look less appealing graphically, and the only solution is to upgrade to Windows Vista or Windows 7.

The Community of Windows XP is too little, because it is closed-source. Also it can't be installed in multiple devices as the product activation is limited.

While prior versions of Windows like Windows 95, included chipset drivers, XP will refuse to boot if a hard drive is moved to a machine with a different motherboard.

4. **Is it time to move from that legacy system? If so, what should be done?**
   Ans: Yes, it's time to move from the legacy system(Windows XP).
   The following things we can do for a smooth transition from Windows XP:

   1. If the hardware is capable for that machine, we can install newer versions of windows like windows 10, windows 11.
   2. If the hardware is not capable for that machine, we can install some lightweight os like ubuntu, zorin os etc.

3. We can also install lighter versions of linux and can customize the user interface like windows xp to give a feel to the consumer that he is using windows xp only.
4. If in an organization there are some people who are still using windows xp and are reluctant to move to a newer operating system, then we need to train them slowly so that they can cope up and finally become ready to use a newer operating system.

References:

[1] https://enlyft.com/tech/products/windows-xp
[2]https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/microsoft/its-windows-xps-20th-birthday-and-way-too-many-still-use-it/