Additional Information to Add Windows Server 2025 BaseWIMs, Language Packs and Features on Demand

WimAsAService

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1 Purpose of this document

This document will explain how to add Windows Server content to WimAsAService for our on-premises customers.
The topics covered in this document are:

- Windows Server 2025 baseWIM implementation
- Language Packs
- Features on Demand

2 Overview

2.1 What's New

Microsoft released Windows Windows Server 2025. They have created a new ISO containing Language Packs and Features on Demand in one single ISO file. That means you must trigger both importer scripts for language packs and features on demand, but you can do it with the same ISO file.

Key improvements in Windows Server 2025 include:

Security: As part of this release, Microsoft delivered multilayered security enhancements, including Hyper-V for built-in hardware-based virtualization and isolation for platform security, increased scalability for identity management with next-generation Active Directory, Hotpatching that speeds security updates and improves uptime, and improved server messaging block (SMB) security, including SMB signing capabilities and SMB authentication rate limiter that disrupts brute force authentication attacks.

Hybrid: The new Windows Server offers hybrid, edge, and multicloud improvements including easier onboarding to Azure Arc, with ways to deliver cloud innovations to your on-premises servers, as well as better, faster networking and unified network policy across locations.

High-performance, future-ready platform: Improved performance that can help prepare for machine learning and AI workloads. GPU partitioning across VMs with live migration and failover clustering built to support AI workloads; smaller image container size, and improved portability. Optimised NVMe performance that lowers CPU utilization. Windows Server 2025 has a refreshed interface and offers a more consistent Windows experience; including easier upgrades, WiFi, Bluetooth, and Winget command line interface package manager.

2.2 Required scripts

The required scripts are stored in the WimAsAServiceLogic folder.
Usually under E:\WimAsAServiceLogic.

The following scripts are provided to help add the ISO files to WimAsAService. When importing files for a new Windows Version, you need to follow the order described below.

Order	Name	Description
1	AutoImportBaseWIM.ps1	Adds Multiple ISO files of the selected folder and its subfolders to MDT.
2	AutoImporterLanguagePacks.ps1	Adds Language packs to the deployment Share out of the ISO file specified.
3	AutoImporterFeaturesOnDemand.ps1	Adds features on demand to the deployment Share out of the ISO file specified.

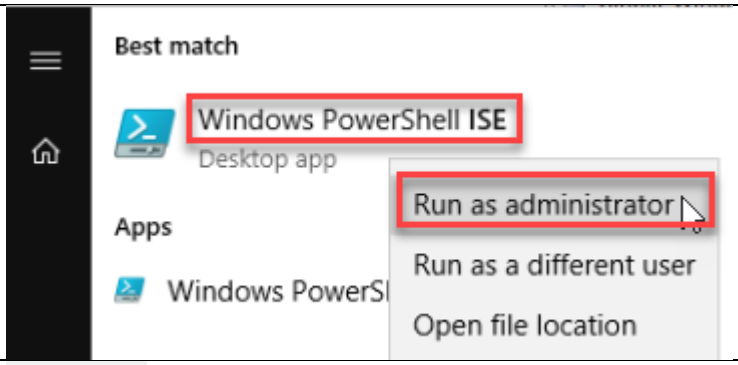
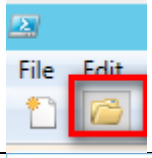
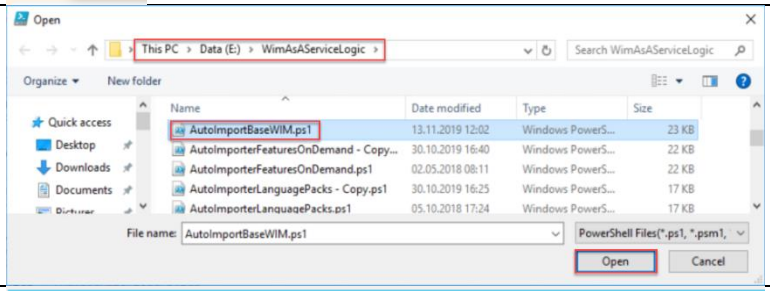
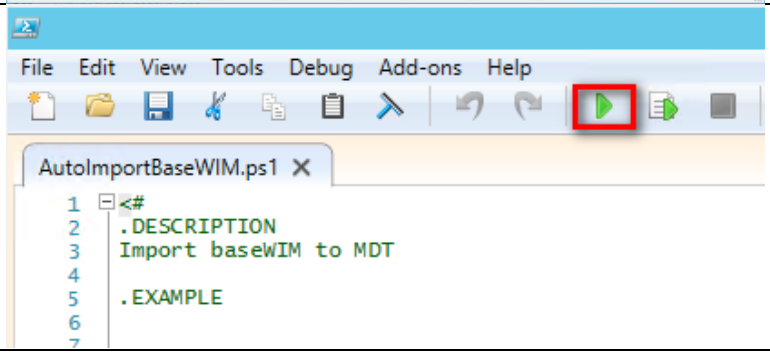
3 Usage of the scripts

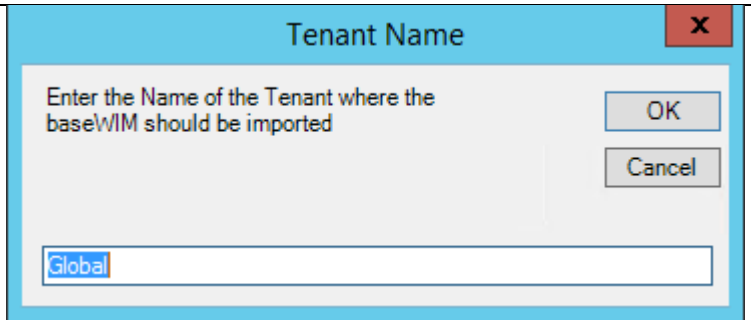
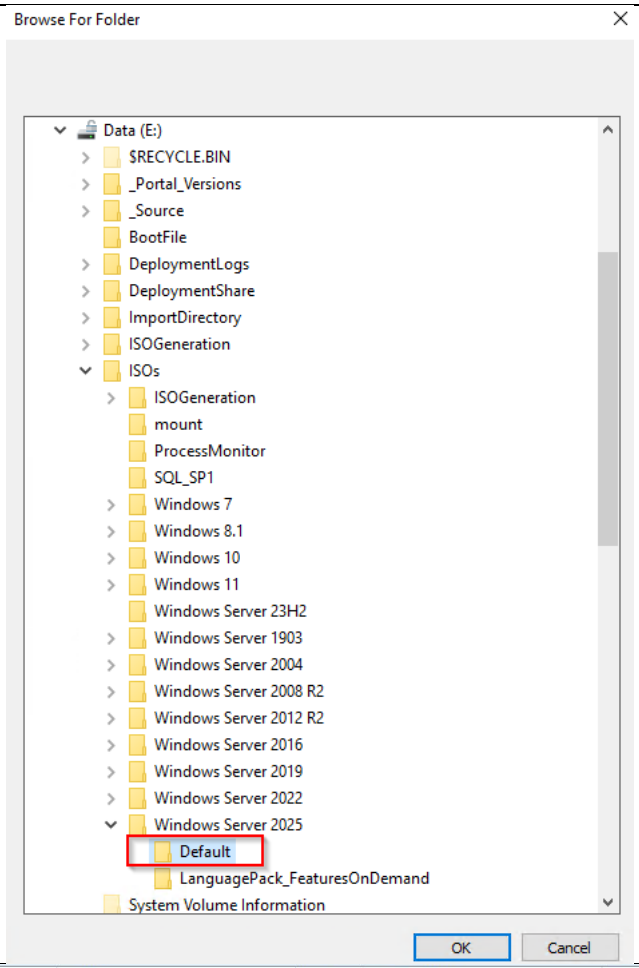
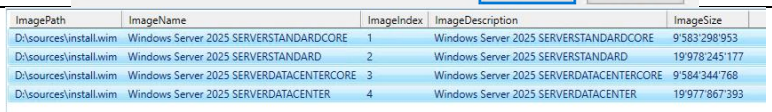
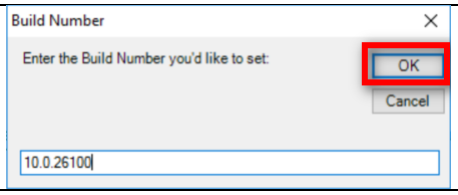
Attention: All these scripts need to be opened in a PowerShell ISE that is running with administrator permissions.

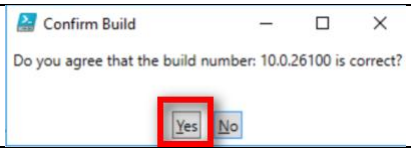
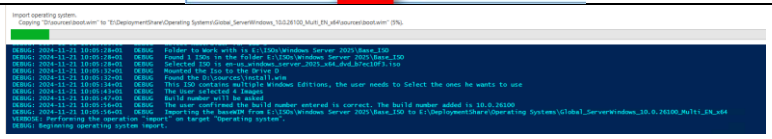
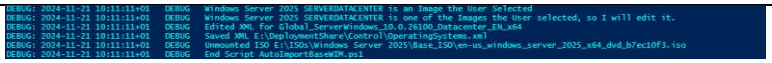
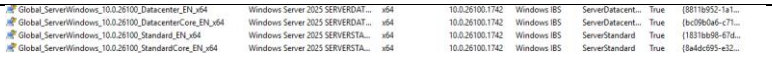
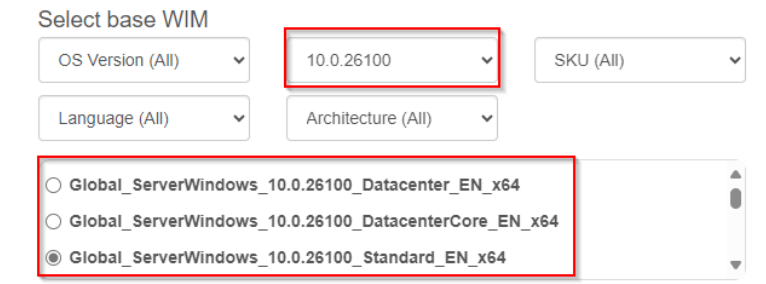
3.1 AutoImportBaseWIM.ps1

Attention: This script imports the baseWIM ISOs stored in the selected folders and all its subfolders. The choice of the folder should be well-considered and double importing of the same WIM should be prevented.

This script writes to the following logfile:
"E:\WimAsAServiceLogic_Logs\AutoImportBaseWIM.log"

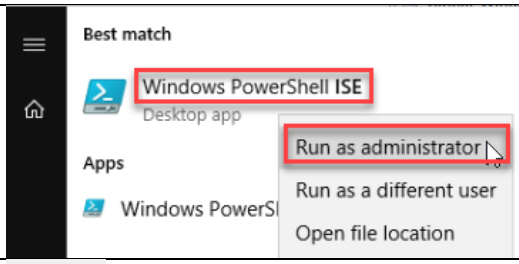
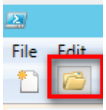
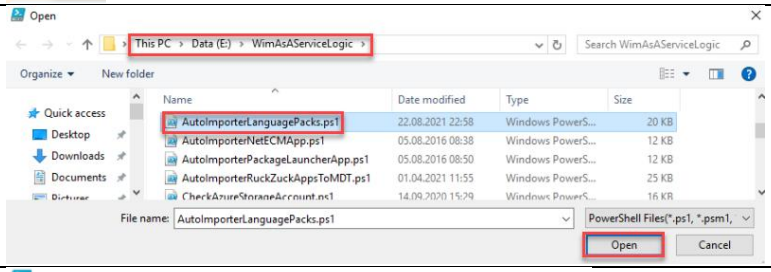
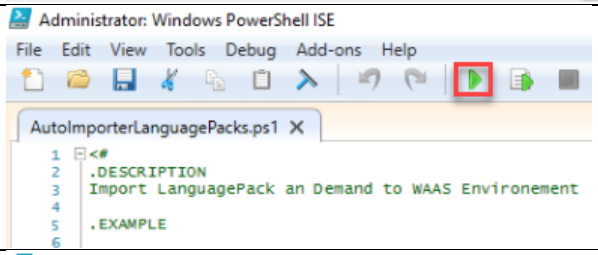
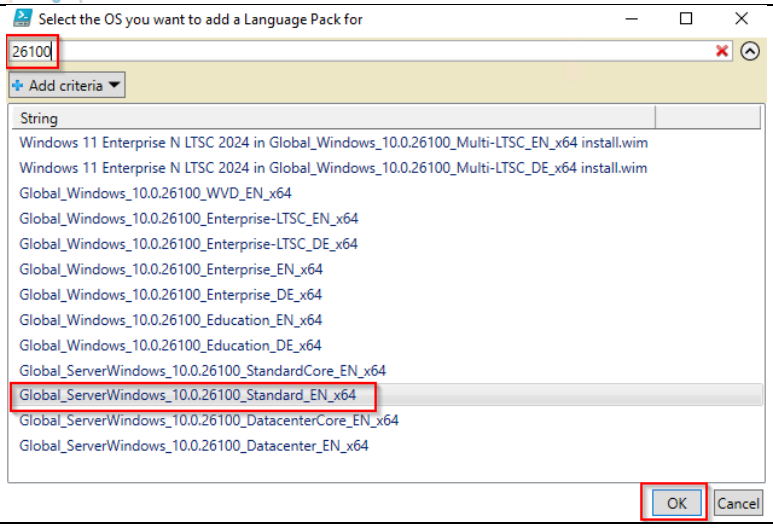
Step	Screenshot	Task
1.		Open PowerShell ISE with administrator privileges.
2.		Click on the “Open” button.
3.		Browse to your WimAsAServiceLogic folder and select “AutoImportBaseWIM.ps1”. Click on the “Open” button.
4.		Click on the “Play” button.

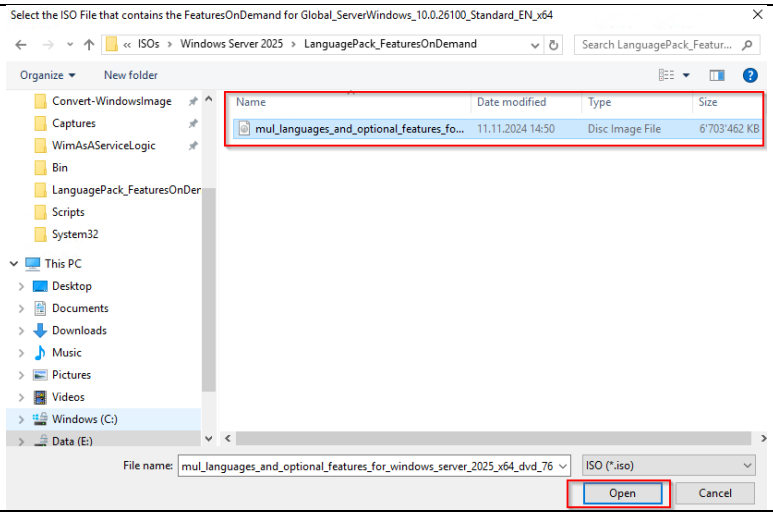
5.		Here you can tell the script for which tenant it should import the WIM files. "Global" grants all Tenants access to that baseWIM. If you want to restrict that baseWIM to one Tenant, enter its name here. When you're ready to continue click on "OK". **Attention:** On your screen this window/pop up could be covered by the ISE Window.
6.		Now browse to the folder that contains the ISO file for the Windows Server 2025 baseWIM you want to add. When you're ready to continue click on "OK". **Attention:** Make sure to only have one multi-edition .iso is inside the folder. It might be that not both of it will be added to MDT if two .iso files are in the Folder. **Attention:** The script will also work with ISO files in subfolder of the selected folder. Not only with files in the directly selected folder.
7.		Select the Editions according to what you'd like to add to WimAsAService. Once doublechecked your selection, press "OK".
8.		Here the Build Number **10.0.26100** is displayed Click on OK

9.		Agree that your entry was correct once more with “Yes”.
10.		Next, the script imports all the install WIMs you selected to MDT. This will take some time, please be patient. **Additional information:** The script is automatically mounting each ISO to a virtual CD-ROM Drive and is unmounting it again once it has imported the WIMs from it.
11.		Once the script has finished it will tell you.
12.		Check the Deployment Workbench under Global to see if your Operating Systems have been added properly. **Note:** Maybe you need to press “F5” to refresh the list.
13.		You can now log on to the WimAsAService website and add a new image type. Under “Select base WIM” you should now be able to find the WIM files you just added. Make sure that the unwanted OS are not in the selection.

3.2 AutoImporterLanguagePacks.ps1

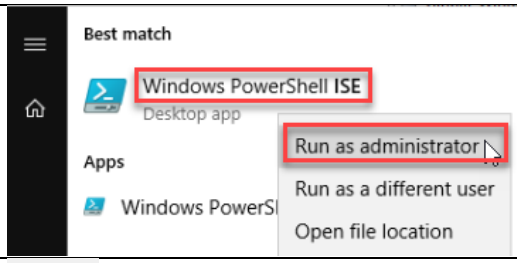
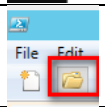
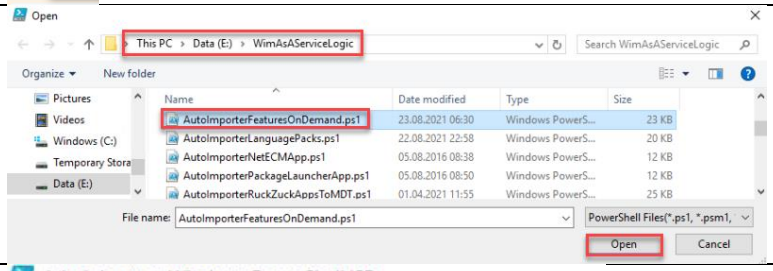
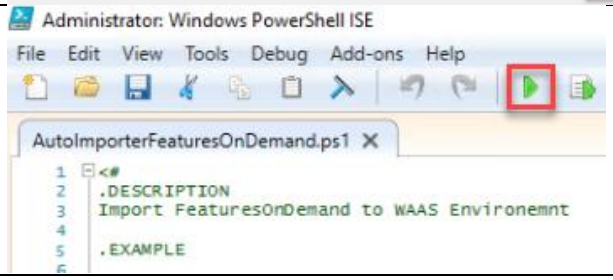
Within this script you're importing all language packs out of the iso file provided by Microsoft.

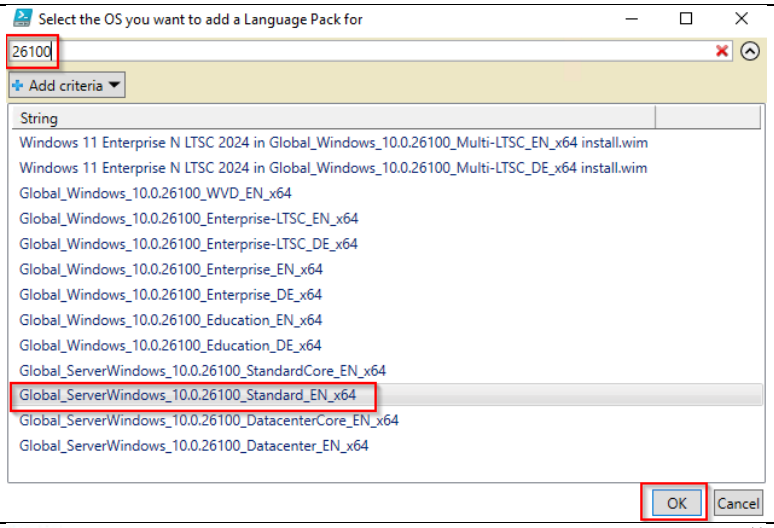
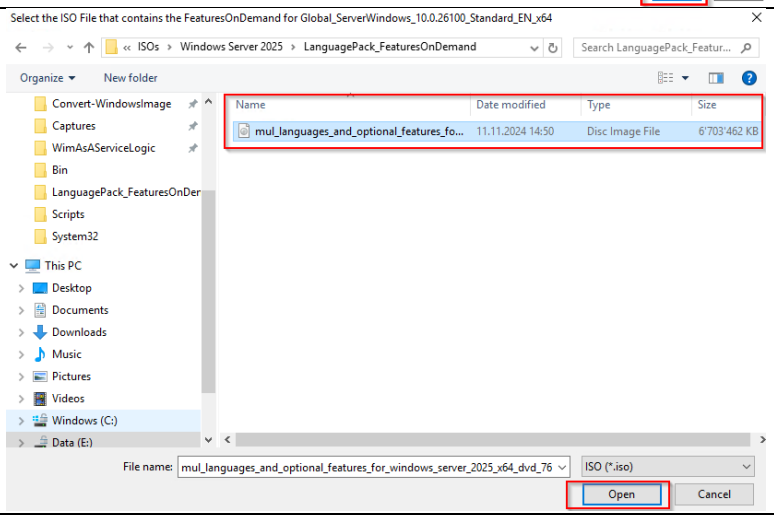
Step	Screenshot	Task
14.		Open PowerShell ISE with administrator privileges.
15.		Click on the "Open" button.
16.		Browse to your WimAsAServiceLogic folder and select "AutoImporterLanguagePacks.ps1". Click on the "Open" button.
17.		Click on the "Play" button.
18.		Select one of the Windows Server 2025 26100 Images. Since there is no 32 bits version anymore you must add the language packs only once. It does not matter which Language or SKU.

19.		Select the iso file containing the language packs and features on demand for Windows Server 2025.
20.		Wait for the script to finish

3.3 AutoImporterFeaturesOnDemand.ps1

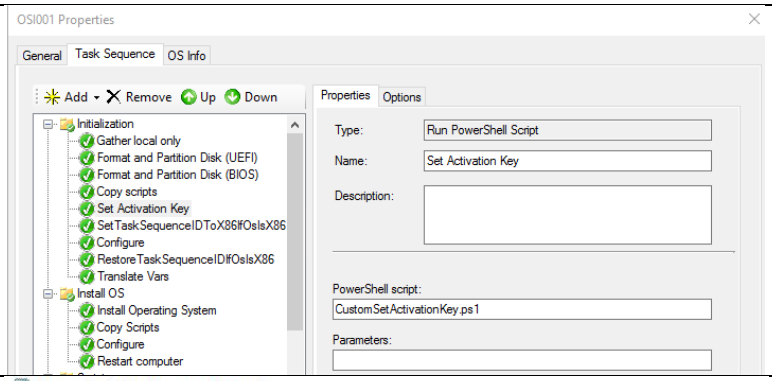
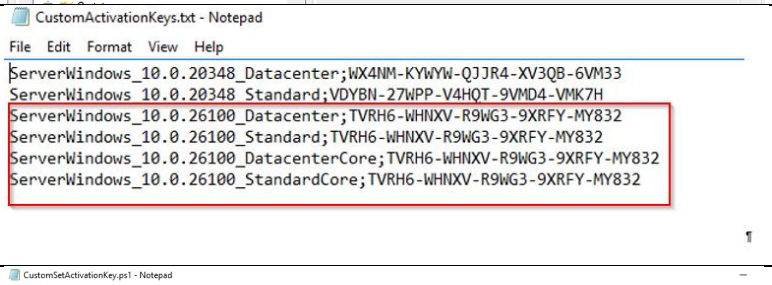
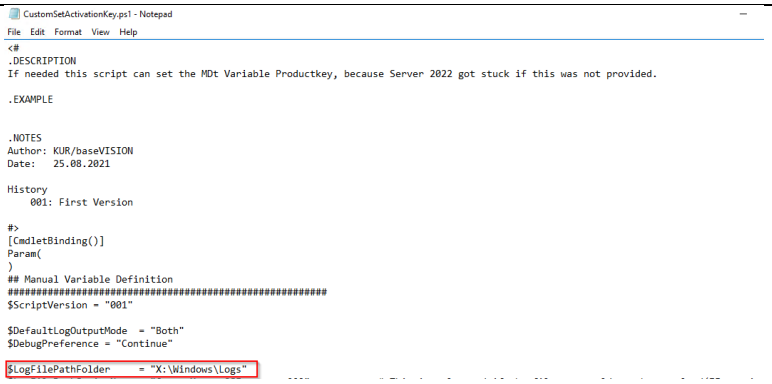
Within this additional script you're importing all features on demand out of the same file provided by Microsoft.

Step	Screenshot	Task
21.		Open PowerShell ISE with administrator privileges.
22.		Click on the "Open" button.
23.		Browse to your WimAsAServiceLogic folder and select "AutoImporterFeaturesOnDemand .ps1". Click on the "Open" button.
24.		Click on the "Play" button.

25.		Select one of the Windows Server 2025 26100 Images. Since there is no 32 bits version anymore you must add the language packs only once. It does not matter which Language or SKU.
26.		Select the iso file containing the language packs and features on demand for Windows Server 2025.
27.		Wait for the script to finish

4 Known issues and change

There is an issue whereby MDT can't gather the information regarding the Windows activation Key and gets stuck while generating for Windows Server 2025.

28.		To resolve this, we need to add generic keys to the Textfile "CustomActivationKeys.txt" on Step 5
29.		In this Textfile we put the new available generic Windows Server 2025 key.
30.		Also inside the "CustomSetActivationkey.ps1" file, located at "E:\DeploymentShare\Scripts\CustomActivationKeys.txt", changed the Directory from the "LogFilePathFolder" from "C:\" to "X:\" because it runs before Windows gets installed so there isn't a "C:\" created yet. Used for logging purpose.

5 Version history

When	Version	Who	Subject
25.11.2024	0.1	FAB	First Version
25.11.2024	1.0	WBA	Review