

Migration versus Roll-out

By Dell Krauchi

Introduction

In the transition "*from one thing-to-another*", it might be appropriate to first *introduce*, and second, *to briefly discuss*, two very important terms to be made aware of when it comes to this transiting process. As to the overall efficacy of this brief introduction to these two terms, we will just have to wait and see.

Migration

Simply refers to a planned and gradual transition "*from one thing-to-another*" with the eventual objective of completely removing the "*the-one-thing-for-the-other*".

- For example, I need to replace my existing system for another whilst still employing that previous system. When all has been *successfully* completed, then to remove that previous system entirely – as that previous system should *really-and-truly*, no longer be required.

Roll-out

Simply refers to a non-planned and non-gradual transition "*from one thing-to-another*". This situation generally occurs during a "*crash*" of an existing system – often with no previous redundancy measures in place. Depending on the situation, this roll-out process can take a few hours to a few days.

- Roll-outs have been the cause of numerous small businesses going "bankrupt" – due entirely to the fact that they were not able to restore the data from the previous system, as there were, as noted, no previous redundancy measures in place...such as backups, and so on.

Observations

1. As hopefully can be deduced from the above comparisons, migrations are preferred, in terms of cost, time and peace of mind.
2. On the other hand, roll-outs can be very costly, can take time, and most definitely, do not provide peace of mind.
3. The two keys here are "*redundancy*" and "*planning*".

Transitioning from 32-bit to 64-bit

A great-and-very-practicable-example of migration versus roll-out – would occur when transitioning from 32-bit to 64-bit.

Key #1, "Redundancy"

Redundancy simply refers to having previously data available on "*the-one thing*". This "*data*" would consist of 1) hardware listings, 2) software listing, 3) known-noted-changes to the software from the "*default*", and 3), and most importantly, "*backups*"!

Key #2, "Planning"

Planning here simply refers to "*not having to rush the transition process!*" The existing system is still functioning, I have taken inventory of my current environment, and there are backups in place.

To continue...

I have completed my 64-bit environment, and discover that the some-or-all of the 32-bit plug-ins are NO LONGER AVAILABLE in 64-bit!! No need to "*sweat it out*" here! I now have *the leisure*, to research for an acceptable replacement for the 32-bit plug-in to 64-bit. The key here is – is I have the time to perform this needed research! "*Whew!*"

Summary

The two hopefully obvious take-a-ways here, as previously noted, are "*redundancy*" and "*planning*". It might also be helpful to be prepared if my existing system does suffer from a "*crash*" and a potential "*roll-out*" is required.

At least, I have taken inventory of my current environment, and I have current back-ups of that all-important data! Lastly, I also hope that my "*money*" *tree*" has grown significantly enough to provide the much-needed cash for the replacement system.

Closing comments

As with everything that I write, I always hope that what is written is written in language that is both understandable and practicable. Your comments to this, and other, articles are very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick", written in a cursive style.

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