Subject: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Thu, 19 Nov 2015 22:02:52 GMT
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Hi All,

I just installed the Windows 10 November update on my laptop, and the update removed my FTP client without any prior approval or warning.

Most of my work is web work, so this is the FTP client that has all of my password stored for all of my clients. It's part of the essential core of my laptop that allows me to make a living. I use it to work in the car when my son is napping, but I digress...

For me, this is a big deal and a major violation.

I was able to re-install it, and my settings were retained, which is good.

But, we've entered an era when a non-optional windows update can remove any program from your computer - not just stupid universal "apps" - without any prior permission to do so.

Next time, it could be PARIS or any other tool we use to make a living that could be deleted without warning.

If you haven't upgraded to Windows 10 already, don't.

I wish I used a Mac.

Mike

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by ronj_91602 on Thu, 19 Nov 2015 22:17:30 GMT
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Thanks Mike for the heads up!

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by excelav on Fri, 20 Nov 2015 05:16:27 GMT
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That sucks! I was chomping at the bit to upgrade to Win 10, hey it's FREE!!! Not so fast. It sounds like Windows 10 will be a complete invasion of your privacy. Maybe I have some misunderstandings about Windows 10, but to me it sounds like it is spyware. The things I have read sounds like the Microsoft mothership is a giant dongle that records your every move, checks all your software and their license. In so many words, they say that it's nothing bad, not to worry. To me, it sounds like they want to know everything you do on your computer and EVERYTHING

about you. It's about marketing and pushing products at you, but my question is who else will get a hold of my information? How secure is my information going to be with all the hacking going on? They say it's all to provide a better computing experience, my question is, for who? It's not something I want. MS says you can revert back to your old operating system for a limited time, but they have made it difficult to do so and I hear people lose stuff trying.

The other thing as I understand it is, in 2016 MS is going to automatically update you to Windows 10 in the background if you have update on, and if you don't have update on you will not be able to get security updates. Nice choice! If what I hear is true, it's a gun to the head.

You can turn things off in some versions for security reasons, but there are those that say MS is still recording what you do regardless to that. Check out the MS forums. They are not the only ones, if you use Google Chrome they are recording what you do as well. If you use Google voice search or commands they are even recording your voice. Your voice is like a unique finger print. So why are they recording our voices? What is the real purpose? I think it's an invasion of privacy and they get you with the user agreements.

It's just rotten, I wish I could use something like Linux Mint and never look back. Everybody should read up on the issues with Windows 10.

  http://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonkelly/2015/11/02/microsoft
-confirms-unstoppable-windows-10-tracking/

  http://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonkelly/2015/10/30/windows-1 0-upgrades-now-automatic/

  http://bgr.com/2015/07/31/windows-10-upgrade-spying-how-to-o pt-out/

And now this!
  http://bgr.com/2015/08/28/windows-10-features-spying-windows -7-8/

  http://www.techtimes.com/articles/102542/20151103/microsoft-
says-it-cannot-stop-windows-10-from-spying-on-you-doesn-t-th ink-you-should-be-concerned.htm

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Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Sun, 22 Nov 2015 16:45:18 GMT
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Hi James,

Thanks for posting the links.

I wish I could agree that Linux is the answer. The lack of a stable driver API means that a vendor either has to open source their driver or they have to waste money chasing the constant changes in every new version of the kernel.

I don't think that most hardware vendors will ever open source their drivers because it means giving up trade secrets to competitors. The lack of a stable driver api means that resources that

could be used improving the driver get wasted keeping up with version changes. When there's only 1.5% of the market using Linux to begin with, it just doesn't make any sense.

Plus, there's the ever present threat of being sued if one doesn't open source their driver because of the way the GPL is being interpreted by some, including Linus.

There will never be a UAD driver for Linux. There will never be Steven Slate products for Linux. As much as I'm opposed to PACE, most vendors have a different point of view. And, while I'm deeply skeptical that the current crop of plugins really come close to real hardware, eventually I'm sure we'll get there. The future is certainly plugins. Some feel that future is here now.

I've already seen this lack of a stable driver api hurt Linux in one of the two places that it's strong: Android. I had a tablet that couldn't be upgraded to a newer Android version because one of the component vendors didn't put out a new driver. If there had been a stable driver api, the old driver could have been used. Instead, it got recycled.

There are problems with Apple, too. Their hardware is expensive and there are very few options. But, I think it's where I'm headed. I suspect my next device will be a Macbook pro. I'll get a thunderbolt to expresscard adapter for PARIS. I'll dual boot to the copy of Windows 7 Professional I bought a few years ago. When it goes out of support, I'll just turn off the network card. Over time, I'll probably work on a MAC driver.

Free BSD would be perfect except that no one uses it. They are free, open source, and have a stable driver API. But, it's the Beta to the Linux VHS. No one uses it.

All this could change if the right person or people at Microsoft get fired. There are a lot of good things about Windows 10. It's fast. The programmers at Microsoft are doing some very good things. The management is not.

Just my 2 cents.

Mike

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Mon, 23 Nov 2015 01:10:20 GMT
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Just an update - I contacted the vendor of my ftp client (Smart FTP), and asked what the compatibility issue was that caused Microsoft to uninstall their program during the update process.

This was their response:

"There are no compatibility issues with SmartFTP. The problem is with Microsoft."

So, Microsoft uninstalled a program that I use every day for work and payed for without any reason at all.

Microsoft is the problem indeed.

All the best,

Mike

I agree with Mike, completely. I'm typing this on a laptop I upgraded to Win 10. I wish I had not.

Nothing really works better and the obvious issues, like what Mike reported, are just the tip of the iceberg. Win 10 is data mining, sending that info back to the mothership and also updating itself whether you like it or not.

I've had to go get a cup of coffee, in the middle of doing something important, because Win 10 decided to update itself during what should have been a quick reboot to correct something acting glitchy. We're talking 15 minutes, with no opt-out or warning. Sha-baam!

And yes, I've disabled about everything you can. Win 10 is insidious and just mostly ignores you or finds a way to do it anyway, on the lowdown.

I'm with Mike. Probably get a MacBook next go-round. And all my DAWs will live on Win 7 until that won't work anymore. Which is hopefully never.

In summary, Microsoft has gone all Facebook on us and is linking, sniffing, searching and reporting all manner of stuff that really aggravates me. I'm not giving them any more of my dollars.

Hi Brian!

I'd just like to add that part of the Windows 10 fiasco is a result of cost cutting.

To try to prop Windows profits back up to where they were before the mobile revolution, Microsoft laid off half their software testing staff. They are relying on privacy violating telemetry to catch the bugs in the field instead of paying testers to find them first.

This include bugs in Windows 7 patches. That's why Microsoft has been sneaking Windows 10 style spying into Windows 7 via updates.

The quality of Windows 7 updates is going to be as affected by this decision as are updates for Windows 10. Unfortunately, it's not the case that we can simply use Windows 7 and keep it patched for the next five years to avoid all of the issues with Windows 10.

All the best,

Mike

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Wed, 25 Nov 2015 03:39:51 GMT
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It looks like this is starting to hit the news.

 http://www.wired.co.uk/news/archive/2015-11/24/windows-10-up date-removing-software

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Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by excelav on Wed, 25 Nov 2015 07:41:44 GMT
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Hey Mike, I'm wondering if we could run Paris and Plugins on the following with Mac OSX or Linux?

Wine or Winelib

WinOnX
http://www.winonx.com/video/

PlayOnMac

Wineskin

Mike, you mentioned Mac OSX and FreeBSD. At the core of Mac OSX is FreeBSD.

A somewhat interesting article.
http://www.wired.com/2013/08/jordan-hubbard/

It's too bad BeOS didn't get developed further.

James

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Wed, 25 Nov 2015 15:04:13 GMT
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BeOs would have been wonderful! That was a complete tragedy.

But, OSX is nice, too. It's built on parts on FreeBSD. The driver API is different, as is the GUI.

I would love to be able to write a driver that worked on both, but it doesn't work that way.

As for using Wine, I suspect it can work, but VST plugins would probably not work at all or poorly. My feeling is that we'd have a better OS experience, but a diminished PARIS experience.

It's probably better to dual boot.

If we had an affordable MAC option that had PCIe slots and we had the source code to the effects subsystem, it would be the obvious choice to write an OSX driver.

As it is, I'm not sure how many people are willing to buy an expansion chassis and a thunderbolt adapter for that chassis to run PARIS. Plus, re-writing the effects subsystem is a huge job.

There are no perfect options here, unfortunately.

The best possible outcome may come if we all refuse to upgrade to Windows 10, refuse to buy a Windows phone, and refuse to buy a Windows tablet. If everyone does this, we can grind the Windows 10 platform to a halt. The executives that engineered this disaster might get fired. We might be able to have a good relationship with Microsoft again.

Where there is life, there's hope.

All the best,

Mike

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by excelav on Wed, 25 Nov 2015 18:27:18 GMT
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I wish the Haiku project would go somewhere, but that would not help Paris users.

There is a reason Windows 10 is free, your handing MS the rights to your privacy. It's a way to get people to go along with their scam. Like one of the articles said, people do not read the license agreements, because they are way too long. They are slipping this in without most people knowing what is going on. I think everybody needs to write and call Microsoft to object to the tracking and privacy invasion. It wouldn't be the first time Microsoft would have to do an about-face with their operating systems. If enough people stop buying and stand up and object, they will have to do something. I would think that if they are forcing the upgrades, there'd be a lawsuit.

I'm shutting off all updates. I will keep my PC off line and use Mac OS for the internet. I think FireFox is the way to go on Android and Windows. I will even try out FireFox OS on my old Android devices when I have time. For privacy there is also the TorBrowser and Startmail.

James

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by Ted Gerber on Mon, 30 Nov 2015 18:39:42 GMT
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This seems like a useful link for reducing M$oft's intrusion:

 http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/bitwise/2015/08/win dows_10_privacy_problems_here_s_how_bad_they_are_and_how_to_ plug_them.2.html

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by Ted Gerber on Mon, 30 Nov 2015 18:40:56 GMT
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Sorry - that went to page 2.

Here's the start of the column:

 http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/bitwise/2015/08/win dows_10_privacy_problems_here_s_how_bad_they_are_and_how_to_ plug_them.html

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by excelav on Tue, 01 Dec 2015 02:44:04 GMT
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I guess we kind of knew this as well. Welcome to our new world.

   http://www.zdnet.com/article/fbi-can-force-companies-to-turn -over-user-data-without-a-warrant/?tag=nl.e589&s_cid=e58 9&ttag=e589&ftag=TREc64629f

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by Richard Kelley on Tue, 01 Dec 2015 04:03:01 GMT
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I understand all the security crap Microsoft is messing with, but if your recording computer is not hooked up to the internet, and when you install 10 you do the custom route and shut off all the crap, is it worth while to go to 10? Does Paris work on 10 ? It is funny, all I want is my Waves VST plugins to work with Paris. The J37 and Kramer tape plugins would add a lot of Punch to Paris. Maybe we have to have a talk with Bill Gates Martian parents ! Ha Ha !

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by excelav on Tue, 01 Dec 2015 12:30:18 GMT
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Good point Rich. I don't really know if it is even worth going to 10??? I think the majority of the benefits of Windows 10 have to do with being connected. Also having 10 delete other software and so on is an issue. Until MS does the right thing, I'd say turn off updates for sure on all versions of Windows.

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Fri, 04 Dec 2015 12:55:56 GMT
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I've gotten PARIS to run on the initial release of Windows 10. I didn't spend very long using it, but it seemed to work fine.

Windows 10 feels faster to me when using it. That may be all screen updates that have nothing to do with meaningful performance, or it may mean lower ASIO buffer sizes. I'm not sure.

I read an article about Windows 8 that said OS improvement meant lower buffer sizes were possible as compared to Windows 7, but the difference may have been negligible. I'm getting 64 samples on Windows 7 with 20 year old PARIS hardware. The theoretical limit on Windows is 44 samples (or 48 at 48k) because the scheduler only wakes up once per millisecond. Even in a perfect world on Windows, 64 is pretty close to as good as it gets.

An example of Windows 10 going wrong: To change the file associations, there is a new "universal" dialog. It's a big long list of file types. There is no sort function. There is no search option. The list goes on for pages and pages because there is a huge amount of space between each file type, presumably so it can be used on a tablet. It's such a major step back from what's in Windows 7. The whole OS is becoming like this. I have to use classic shell because the new Start menu is terrible.

And, this is on top of stability issues, privacy issues, forced updates, no patch notes, and removing applications without permission.

I'm getting pretty confident that Windows 8/10 will be discussed in business schools alongside

New Coke as a major business disaster. Time will tell.

I wouldn't refuse security updates, though, unless you take the machine off the Internet.

All the best,

Mike

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Sat, 02 Jan 2016 14:01:15 GMT
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Hi all,

I just thought I'd post something about downgrade rights.

Microsoft is pushing Windows 10 really hard, and one of the arguments they make to get people to try Windows 10 is that you can always go back to your previous operating system within 30 days.

that may not be entirely true.

If you do this with an OEM version of Windows, you lose the right to run your old OS after official support ends.

You can go back to your original OS, but, as I read it, the initial Windows 10 upgrade replaces your Windows 7 or 8 license with a Windows 10 license. So, after reverting to Windows 7 or 8 from Windows 10, you are now running your old copy of windows under the downgrade rights section of a Windows 10 license.

It states:

"If you acquired a device from a manufacturer or installer with a Professional version of Windows preinstalled on it, you may use either a Windows 8.1 Pro or Windows 7 Professional version, but only for so long as Microsoft provides support for that earlier version as set forth in (aka.ms/windowslifecycle). This agreement applies to your use of the earlier versions..."

So, you could end losing your Windows 7 license, just for trying Windows 10, as soon as Windows 7 support ends.

All the best,

Mike

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by excelav on Sun, 03 Jan 2016 21:34:05 GMT
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Now Microsoft scare tactics??? Not cool.

Microsoft Warns Windows 7 Has Serious Problems

  http://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonkelly/2016/01/02/microsoft
-windows-7-problems/?utm_campaign=yahootix&partner=yahoo tix

Subject: Re: Windows 10 warning
Posted by mikeaudet on Mon, 04 Jan 2016 00:57:50 GMT
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Hi James,

I read that, too.

Here is the key quote:

"And so, as we are pushing our ISV [Independent Software Vendor] and hardware partners to build great new stuff that takes advantage of Windows 10 that obviously makes the old stuff really bad and not to mention viruses and security problems."

Microsoft has promised to support Windows 7 with security updates until Jan. 14, 2020. Is Microsoft Marketing chief Chris Capossela trying to scare us, or is he admitting that Microsoft will not be honouring that commitment in order to force us on to Windows 10?

Let's hope this all plays out for the best because it doesn't look very good right now.

All the best,

Mike

Hi All,

I don't know if you heard but, Microsoft is stopping Windows 7 support for Skylake systems on July 17th 2017.

My feeling is that if Microsoft is willing to kick it's Enterprise customers where it hurts to force Windows 10 on everyone, there isn't much we can do that they are likely to care about. They just bit the hand that feeds them. Let's hope the Enterprise customers bite back.

I was speaking with a programmer friend, someone I really respect, about all this, and he made the point that even if Microsoft hired back all of their software testers, they couldn't come close to catching as many bugs as the telemetry is going to catch. I'd rather a slightly buggy system and keep my privacy, but it is something to think about.

I just bought a copy of Windows 10 Education, which allows disabling telemetry, and PARIS and the new ASIO driver are working perfectly so far. I have more testing to do, but so far so good. I'm in the camp of PARIS users that like to stay on current CPUs, so the Skylake thing is a problem for me staying on Windows 7 forever, as much as what Microsoft is doing makes me sick.

I'm thinking really hard about switching to a Mac depending on what they release this spring. If a quad core mac mini comes out, I think my Windows days may be numbered, except to dual boot for PARIS. Even then, I keep thinking about a Mac driver so I can be rid of Microsoft once and for all. Would anyone be interested in that? One would need to spend a fair bit of money on thunderbolt expansion and a PCI expansion chassis. And, it would take a few years.

The ASIO is coming along really well. I'm about half way done the control panel, and then it's done. It's the home stretch. I'm also working on a scherzo update.

Hope all is well with everyone!

Mike