

## CCS Implements Minor Rate Increase Starting March 1st

We at CCS Technologies pride ourselves in ensuring that we keep our pricing competitive for our West Michigan clients. We do this by offering discounts on pre-paid hours, using remote tools to save on travel costs and by billing in increments of 1/10ths of an hour – without rounding up. We also pride ourselves in providing important IT services with no long term contracts. This allows us to be one of the most cost effective IT solutions for businesses in all of West Michigan and is one of the reasons that so many of these businesses have switched over to us from other IT solution providers.

Starting March 2020, CCS Technologies will be raising our standard business service rate from \$115 an hour to \$120. This represents less than a 5% increase over our last rate increase several years ago. CCS Technologies is committed to offering you the quality you expect and deserve as we continue to minimize any price increases while still achieving our desired goals of offering you enhanced services.

**You may still lock in our old rates PLUS a 10% discount of those rates by purchasing pre-paid blocks of hours. When purchased in blocks of 20 hours, we will credit your account and subtract from this balance until completely used. These pre-paid hours never expire and can be carried over from year to year. They can be applied to ANY standard service and in any increment. When purchasing in blocks, our rate is only \$103.50 per hour which amount to some of the lowest rates in West Michigan! Please give us a call at 616-997-8808 and speak with Bonnie or e-mail us at [support@ccstech.net](mailto:support@ccstech.net) and we can explain further or sign your business up for these discounts.**

## End-of-Life for Windows 7

By Michael Hegedus

Microsoft has officially ended its regular support for Windows 7 but nearly a third of all computers are still utilizing the decade-old operating system. For those with the outdated system, what's next?

### No More Updates

When a Microsoft Windows operating system reaches it's end-of-life date, it means that there will be no more official patches or security updates. Put simply, Microsoft is no longer obligated to address remaining or future vulnerabilities on the Windows 7 operating system. It is only a matter of time after a security flaw is found before cyber attackers are capable of exploiting those gaps in security to infect their victims with malware and ransomware.

### What Are the Risks?

Although Windows 7 is over ten years old, there have still been major flaws discovered and exploited within the last few years. The global WannaCry ransomware attack of 2017 was only possible because those first infected Windows 7 users had not been up-to-date. In fact, just last June the National Security Agency (NSA) sent an urgent warning about newly found vulnerabilities. The kinds of infections used in these attacks are typically the most powerful as well, capable of making a computer completely unusable unless wiped of all data.

### What To Do Next

The greatest act a user can take to protect themselves from the vulnerabilities of Windows 7 is to immediately upgrade to Windows 10. Most personal computers have already been approved by Microsoft to be upgraded to Windows 10 without purchase but even if your computer is not, Microsoft offers the most recent operating system digitally in the Microsoft Store for \$125. CCS Technologies can assist with this process whether you are in a business environment or a home user. However, if you are unable to upgrade to Windows 10 because of software requirements or other reasons, it is highly recommended that the device is disconnected from the Internet to lower the chances of infection.

"Relax...we're on IT"

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### CCS Technologies Store Hours

#### Allendale Store

Mon-Fri 8 - 5:00

#### Grand Haven Store

Mon-Thu 8 –5  
Fri 10 - 5 & Sat 10-3

**STILL USING WINDOWS 7? AVOID THE VULNERABILITIES WITH A NEW PC PREPARED FOR YOU WITH THE NEWEST VERSION OF WINDOWS 10**



**SMALL, SUPER FAST AND SETUP BUSINESS READY!!**

- AMD Ryzen 5 Pro 3400G 3.7 GHz Quad-Core CPU
- 8 GB DDR4 RAM
- 256 GB SSD Hard Drive
- AMD Radeon RX Vega 11 Graphics
- Windows 10 Professional 64-bit
- 12 Month CCS Warranty
- 36 Month Manufacturer Warranty