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Windows XP Support to End April 8th 2014

Welcome to our inaugural Technology Update Newsletter, which will bring you informative and interesting technology insights that hopefully you will find of interest, for both UNIX (IBM AIX, and Apple), Microsoft and Linux users. Comments and suggestions are always welcome, and you can visit our web site at www.beatriceco.com/bti for other technology information from Beatrice.

	Mainstream support ends	Extended support ends
Windows XP Service Pack 3	No longer supported	April 8, 2014
Windows Vista Service Pack 2	No longer supported	April 11, 2017
Windows 7 Service Pack 1	January 13, 2015	January 14, 2020
Windows 8	January 9, 2018	January 10, 2023
Office 2003 Service Pack 3	No longer supported	April 8, 2014
Office 2007 Service Pack 3	No longer supported	October 10, 2017
Office 2010 Service Pack 1	October 13, 2015	October 13, 2020
Office 2013*	April 10, 2018	April 11, 2023

As some of you may or may not already be aware of, but Microsoft has announced not to long ago that security and technical updates to the Windows XP OS will officially cease on April 8 of this year, and that it is highly recommended that you either upgrade or replace your existing Windows XP OS with another more modern version. To still use this platform will leave your computer vulnerable to security threats that would not be covered by the lack of normal Microsoft updates. Above is an official announcement and support time line from Microsoft that also details the end of support for Microsoft Office and other Microsoft Windows OS

Welcome to Pidgin



Pidgin is a chat program which lets you log in to accounts on multiple chat networks simultaneously. This means that you can be chatting with friends on MSN, talking to a friend on Google Talk, Skype, and QQ. Pidgin runs on Windows, Linux, and other UNIX operating systems. For MAC OS X, there is Adium, which is the same system as Pidgin. On systems that Beatrice maintains for customers, we now automatically install Pidgin instead of the multiple chat programmes, which eat into memory and system resources. Pidgin is easy to setup, and you simply choose your chat accounts, and enter in your system ID and password as you would on the individual chat programmes. If you want to try and use Pidgin and Adium at home, the links are provided below.

Windows, Linux and UNIX www.pidgin.im

MAC OS X www.adium.im

Enjoy, and happy chatting 💐

Block Those Pesky Advertisements on Your Browser

Adblock Plus is a real nifty and free ad blocking product that you simply install right in each of the internet browsers that you use, like Firefox, Chromium, Safari, Chrome, Opera, Android, and Internet Explorer. Adblock Plus does not interfere with your operating system, and is a first line of defense where it counts the most, your web browser. Your web browser not only can be infected by pesky ads, but also malware, script exploits, and can cause your system to be hijacked by hackers. Adblock Plus protects you from this. Beatrice automatically installs this on all browsers that we maintain, and you can use this freely on your home computer.

