



HP Drives Down Cost, Complexity of PC Configuration Management

PALO ALTO, Calif., Sept. 6, 2006 – HP today announced enhancements to its entry-priced PC hardware and software configuration management solution, which is designed to significantly reduce the costs and complexity of managing PCs.

HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager 2.0, or Premium Edition, offers medium-sized organizations and departments within larger enterprises a reliable, easy-to-use and cost-effective PC configuration management solution. The latest version offers significant new manageability features across multi-vendor, Windows®-based client products, and also adds supports for HP thin clients.

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In addition, HP announced that for the first time all commercial HP notebooks, desktops and workstations will begin shipping with a pre-loaded HP OpenView Configuration Management agent. This expands the company's client management portfolio to help further drive down PC manageability costs.

"Today's announcement demonstrates how HP uses its breadth of offerings to deliver tightly integrated hardware and software solutions," said Jeri Callaway, vice president and general manager, Commercial Solutions, Personal Systems Group, HP. "By pre-loading an HP OpenView agent across our client-based products, HP is offering the most comprehensive PC management solution portfolio in the industry."

Enhanced manageability with cost-effective upgrade path

HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager offers IT administrators a quick-to-deploy solution with maximum out-of-the-box functionality, including discovery and inventory, operating system deployment and migration, patch management, software deployment, software usage metering, remote control and HP hardware configuration management.

"As client-based devices continue to proliferate in the mid-market, the need to control the cost and complexity of managing changes to these devices has become a critical concern," said Ronni Colville, research vice president, Gartner. "Customers of all sizes are seeking solutions that simplify and automate configuration changes, while offering the ability to cost-efficiently grow and expand to keep pace with shifting business requirements."

New and enhanced manageability features of HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager include:

- HP hardware management – integrated management capabilities for HP hardware, including BIOS (basic input/output system) settings management, automated BIOS

- and driver updates, alert monitoring and power management;
- Operating system image deployment – for remotely deploying and migrating operating systems;
- User setting migration – providing automated capture and deployment of operating system, applications and user settings among different PCs or operating systems;
- Software usage metering – enabling IT to accurately track software usage across the enterprise to optimize software licensing costs;
- Integration with HP ProtectTools – for remotely initializing embedded Trusted Platform Module chips and remotely deploying and managing the HP ProtectTools software application; and
- Increased scalability – offering twice the scalability of the previous version.

In addition, a free add-on to HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager provides support for Intel's Active Management Technology (AMT), enabling customers to take advantage of powerful new remote management and diagnostics capabilities built into PCs with the upcoming Intel vPro technology.

Since the capabilities offered by Intel's AMT are based in hardware and firmware, HP OpenView can offer technicians this functionality even if a PC is powered off, its operating system is down, or its software agents are missing. These capabilities enable IT administrators to improve the efficiency of help desk services, shift more workload off-hours to avoid interference with users' productivity, and deliver a better service overall.

HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager also helps to lower the barrier of entry for customers on the way to becoming an Adaptive Enterprise by providing an easy migration path to other, more fully featured, highly automated and scalable solutions in the portfolio.

By providing a strong foundation for future requirements, the solution allows customers seeking quick time to value and ease of use to invest in the entry-priced offering today and then cost-effectively upgrade as their needs evolve.

"HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager provides an affordable, integrated solution that is easy to install, implement and use," said Deb Traub, vice president, OpenView Products, HP. "The compelling new manageability features delivered by HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager 2.0 offer customers a powerful solution with a cost-efficient growth path toward the full strength of the HP OpenView portfolio."

Pre-loaded agents accelerates time-to-value

HP also announced that an HP OpenView Configuration Management agent will now come pre-loaded on all commercial HP notebooks, desktops and workstations. The offering reduces the costs associated with managing PCs by eliminating the time spent by IT administrators to deploy agents on machines prior to managing them.

The pre-loaded agent allows customers to quickly take advantage of the free-of-charge HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager Basic Edition to automatically detect HP devices and perform hardware management operations on HP client-based products. Basic Edition customers can seamlessly upgrade the software to HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager Premium Edition to take advantage of the full range of hardware

and software management functionality offered by the solution.

More information about the HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager and HP OpenView management software is available at www.hp.com/go/openview.

Pricing and availability

HP OpenView Client Configuration Manager 2.0 is expected to be available directly from HP and its channel partners in October. Starting U.S. list price for the Premium Edition is \$75 per seat license.⁽¹⁾ HP OpenView Configuration Management agent is shipping today with select HP notebooks, desktops and workstations.

About HP

HP is a technology solutions provider to consumers, businesses and institutions globally. The company's offerings span IT infrastructure, global services, business and home computing, and imaging and printing. For the four fiscal quarters ended July 31, 2006, HP revenue totaled \$90.0 billion. More information about HP (NYSE, Nasdaq: HPQ) is available at www.hp.com.

¹ Estimated U.S. street price. Actual price may vary.

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