



# News Fact Sheet

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## Study Demonstrates High Costs for Smaller Businesses that Use Aged PCs

**June 26, 2009:** According to a new study, small- and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) that hang onto their PCs for more than 3 years in hopes of saving money during the downturn are actually setting themselves up for significant increases in maintenance and repair costs, as well as security and system failures. The study, conducted by research firm Techaisle, revealed the following:

***Older PCs Can be Subject to a 58 Percent Increase in Security Breaches*** – The study demonstrates up to a 58 percent increase in virus incidents with PCs over 3 years old. Once infected, the data shows that there is a 23 percent increase in related downtime to fix desktop systems and 22 percent increase for notebooks.

***Up to 52 Percent More SMBs Experience Serious Failures on Older Systems*** – The number of SMBs suffering from crashes with PCs less than 3 years old is small in comparison to those with older systems.

- Thirty-three percent of SMBs faced hard-drive failures in their older systems against eight percent with newer systems.
- Motherboard failures affected 14 percent of older PCs compared to 4 percent of newer PCs.
- Network card breakdowns were encountered by 26 percent of older PCs as opposed to 6 percent of younger systems.
- Forty-nine percent of those surveyed experienced power supply failures after 3 years compared with 11 percent before that time.

***Cost of New Versus Old Systems*** – According to the study, 26 percent of small-sized businesses and 43 percent of medium-sized businesses plan to keep their PCs longer than normal even though the average SMB IT budget grew 4.6 percent. Adding the averages (small/medium business) for maintenance (\$326/\$401), upgrade (\$99/\$98) and out-of-warranty service (\$120/\$210) costs for PCs older than 3 years, small businesses will pay \$545 and medium businesses \$709 on average to keep those PCs running.

Desktops and notebook systems with the new [Intel® Core™2 Duo](#) with [Intel® vPro™ Technology](#) are priced at \$699<sup>1</sup> and \$830<sup>2</sup>, respectively. Those figures do not include other

potential savings from vPro technology for reduced virus downtime, energy efficiency and enhanced productivity.

**White Paper** – Additional information can be found in the Techaisle white paper [“Cost of Maintaining PCs.”](#)

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<sup>1</sup>[www.pdspc.com/ROInow](http://www.pdspc.com/ROInow) On June 23, 2009 (prices do not include monitor)

<sup>2</sup><http://www.cdw.com> On June 15, 2009 (prices do not include monitor)