

The all-in-one software appliance
To support your business objectives



Lotus® software

Lotus® Foundations™

Focus on your business, not IT, with the IBM Lotus Foundations *Start* software appliance.



Highlights

- *Provides essential software to run a small business with no in-house technical expertise required*
- *Helps to save time, lower costs and simplify IT maintenance with automated installation and configuration*
- *Backs up and saves data at regular intervals, helping to minimize the potential for lost information and the need to redo system settings or preferences when your system crashes*
- *Provides protection for users and computers in your system from incoming e-mail viruses and spam without having to install software on every machine*
- *Provides security for connections between multiple office locations—whether employees are at home or on the road, the software allows them to access files as if they were in the office*
- *Provides the tools your employees need to be productive, like e-mail, calendars, documents, presentations and spreadsheets—there's no need to purchase office productivity software*
- *Offers full functionality in a single package at a single, low cost—no add-ons, no extras, no surprises*

Running your business is a full-time job. And that job is to stay focused on keeping your customers happy, your employees productive and the business profitable. Building a technology foundation for your business is probably not something you or your team has time to worry about. You're likely facing cost pressures—and budgets, as always, are tight. And if your business is like many others, you're attempting to deal with all these challenges while running the business with off-the-shelf e-mail, scheduling and other applications that have been pieced together over the last couple of years. And while everything seems to work—for the most part—what you may not know is that an integrated, effective IT solution can help you to make your people more productive, reduce your overhead and improve your bottom line.

You need to link to that new office you just opened across town. And enable your people to work from home or on the road. You need less spam in everyone's e-mail in-boxes and you need to stop the next virus waiting to take down your PCs. You want to make these things happen, but you just don't have the time or the people to do it. You need an automated solution that works, so you don't have to. You need a solution that's affordable. And you need a solution that comes with the resources you need, so you can stop worrying so much about IT and focus on running your business. IBM Lotus® Foundations™ *Start* software is the answer.

Lotus Foundations *Start* is a software appliance that provides the essential software needed to run your business in an all-in-one package that gets everyone connected and helps protect your data from loss without breaking the bank. It's a unique solution because it's self-configuring and self-managing, meaning it doesn't require you to have an in-house IT staff to set up, run or maintain it.

Start includes the IBM Lotus Domino® platform and IBM Lotus Notes® software, enabling your employees to send and receive e-mail, manage their calendars and search the Web, all from a single screen. Bundled Lotus office productivity tools let you create and edit the documents, spreadsheets and presentations you often attach to your e-mails. And business essentials like file management and directory services enable your employees to file, share and access those documents and other information from a common location, a more efficient and effective option than storing files on multiple PCs. An added benefit is that, whether your employees are on the road or at home, the Lotus Foundations *Start* virtual private network (VPN) allows them to access files and work as if they were sitting in the office.

Antispam, antivirus and firewall technologies are standard, protecting employee in-boxes and the network from e-mail spam and viruses capable of slowing your operations, or worse yet, taking down your computer systems. And even if your systems do go down, be it from a power outage, system crash or even someone tripping over the power cord, Lotus Foundations *Start* has you covered. It frequently backs up and saves your data, so your information and system settings can be recovered in a matter of minutes.

In short, *Start* helps minimize technology hassles and enables you to get back to the important task of running your business.

Keep your systems safe and your in-boxes clear with integrated security software

Protecting your network and business information is just as important as your business' alarm system or the locks on its door. With a built-in, auto-configuring firewall, you control who and what has access to your network. Also included with Lotus Foundations *Start* is antivirus and antispam protection, which safeguards your network and e-mail from the kind of outside intrusions that could seriously harm your business. These solutions reside on the appliance, not on your team's personal computers, which means that threats can be stopped before they ever get to individual PCs. And with reduced levels of unsolicited e-mails and spam reaching personal in-boxes, your team can more quickly find and respond to important messages, and avoid the danger of downloading viruses masked as legitimate e-mail attachments.

Connect and communicate for improved productivity

Working in a vacuum is a thing of the past. Businesses need to communicate within the organization and with the outside world. With Lotus Domino and Lotus Notes software, it's easy to share information. Employees can respond right away to whatever your customers might need, set up meetings and share calendars, organize e-mail and search the Web, all from their desktop screens. And to ensure employees can access e-mail and calendars from home or on the road, Lotus Foundations *Start* provides IBM Lotus Domino Web Access software, which means that e-mail and calendars are available from any computer that has Internet access. With the added flexibility of IBM Lotus Domino Access for Microsoft® Outlook software, employees who are comfortable using the Microsoft Outlook client can continue to do so. Individual users can still decide for themselves how they like to work best, keeping them comfortable, happy and productive.

Lotus office productivity tools, included at no extra cost, allow users to work with documents, spreadsheets and presentations as they have always done. Your business is free to break the costly cycle of regular office productivity version upgrades and can end any concerns about no longer being able to open older files from previous software versions. You can focus on keeping your team productive—working on causes to further the business.

Help save time and money with easy, automated IT functionality

With limited or no technical skills, many businesses struggle to keep up with ever-increasing technical demands from just about every corner of the business. Your business partners can help, but they can't physically be with you all the time managing your IT systems. And even if they could, you couldn't afford the expense.

IBM understands the challenge. Lotus Foundations *Start* is a self-governing system that automates many critical tasks and provides proactive system checks. With self-configuring, self-managing, self-protecting and self-healing features, your hands are off while the system prioritizes and handles workloads, anticipates and defends against unauthorized system access and potential threats, and detects, diagnoses and repairs potential issues.

Face it, unless you're taking precautions to protect your IT systems, your business is at serious risk of losing the critical information that keeps you in business in the first place. The automated, self-managing features of Lotus Foundations *Start* help to give you peace of mind knowing that your systems are safe, and that the technology side of your business is always up and running.



Why the Lotus Foundations *Start* solution?

Unlike many competitive products, Lotus Foundations *Start* is an all-in-one, integrated package. No other purchase is necessary, and there are no hidden costs. *Start* is a unique solution for your unique needs, and it differentiates itself from the competition because:

- *Its automated capabilities mean that you don't need costly, onsite IT skills.*
- *It automates installation, configuration and updates, helping to save you time and money.*
- *It automatically backs up your data at regular intervals.*
- *In the event of a system failure, information and configuration settings can be recovered in minutes.*
- *Antivirus, antispam and firewall security protection is automated and comes as standard—so your systems are protected without having to buy add-on software.*
- *Office productivity tools come as standard.*
- *It runs on the Linux® platform, a stable, proven operating system that is less prone to system crashes and security breaches.*

Lotus Foundations *Start* isn't a scaled-down or de-featured big business offering. It is quite the opposite. It's designed and customized for businesses with little to no IT expertise. It provides a largely hands-free approach to IT management, so that your business gets the essential software needed to run the business, without having to worry about all the technical details. Let Lotus Foundation *Start* take care of technology, so you can focus on getting back to business.

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