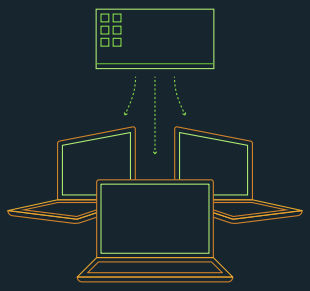
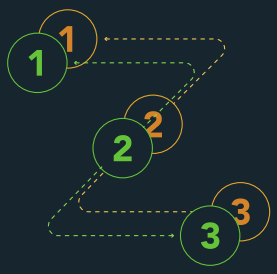


Deploy in roughly equal time

Admins need about the same amount of time to deploy Microsoft Windows 10 images for AMD and Intel processor-powered systems



Follow the same steps

Admins complete the same Windows 10 image deployment process for AMD and Intel processor-powered systems

Deploy a Microsoft Windows 10 image to AMD processor-based systems without altering existing processes

Windows 10 image deployment to AMD processor-powered laptops and desktops took similar time and the same number of steps as deployment to systems powered by Intel

Adding new systems to your existing IT landscape comes with many concerns. How well will AMD processor-based systems integrate into your existing management environment? If you're worried about the IT experience and altering existing processes, don't be—your IT managers can image AMD processor-powered systems just as easily as they would systems powered by Intel®processors.

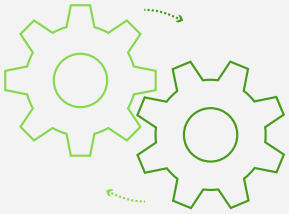
In our hands-on work at Principled Technologies, we found no significant time difference between imaging systems powered by AMD processors and systems powered by Intel processors. In addition, imaging the AMD processor-based laptops and desktops required the same set of steps as their Intel processor-based counterparts. So, your IT managers can deploy Windows 10 AMD processor-based systems without developing new processes.

Image deployment doesn't have to be a factor in your choice of laptops and desktops. We'll show you how easy it is to deploy Windows 10 to a mixed environment of AMD and Intel processor-based systems.

Keep doing what you know

High-performance computing demands have driven the performance capabilities of AMD processors and systems, giving a boost to the company's success and recognition as of late.[1] But as performance has helped AMD processors earn their place in more workstations and desktops, IT managers need to understand how to manage AMD processor-powered systems as well as Intel processor-based systems.

Users and organizations may have shied away from AMD processor-powered systems in the recent past because they believed managing the systems can take longer and be more complex than what they're used to. As IT managers routinely deploy images, either as new deployments or updates, neither an organization nor an IT pro want to introduce devices that will disrupt existing workflows and require learning new processes. If IT managers can apply an established Windows 10 deployment process to new AMD processor-powered systems without adding more steps and time, then AMD processor-powered systems can fit easily into the existing infrastructure of most organizations.



Automate management with Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager task sequences

Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM) allows enterprise-class organizations to manage their fleet of systems. This includes enacting task sequences to image operating systems for computers.

Task sequences are a set of instructions for a computer to follow to accomplish a goal. Our task sequence included applying the operating system, configuring networking settings, adding drivers, and updating the target system.

We used a task sequence to deploy Windows 10 and necessary drivers to the following business-class systems:

AMD

Lenovo® ThinkPad™ A275
12.5-inch laptop featuring an AMD PRO A12-9800B processor (2MB Cache, up to 2.70GHz)

HP EliteDesk 705 G3 Small Business Desktop PC
Desktop featuring an AMD Ryzen™ 5 PRO 1500 processor (18MB Cache, up to 3.50GHz)

Intel

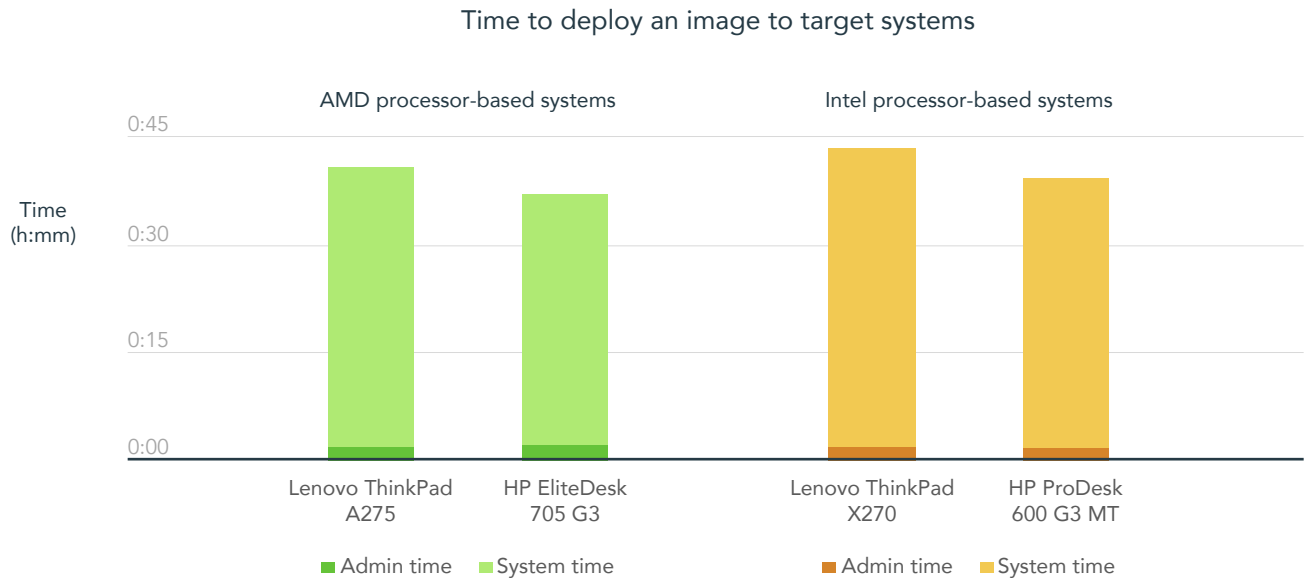
Lenovo ThinkPad X270
12.5-inch laptop featuring an Intel Core® i7-7600U processor (4MB Cache, up to 2.80GHz)

HP ProDesk 600 G3 Small Form Factor PC
Desktop featuring an Intel Core i5-7600 processor (6MB Cache, up to 3.50GHz)

Have the same experience regardless of processor

In addition to new device deployments, IT managers deploy images to update operating systems with performance and security improvements. Having an established process for image deployment ensures these OS rollouts can happen in a similar fashion regardless of who is doing them. In our tests, deploying the Windows 10 image to AMD and Intel processor-based systems required the same number of steps: 35 steps for both laptops and 34 steps for both desktops.

We found minimal time difference as well. We timed how long our IT manager needed to complete the necessary tasks (IT manager time) and how long the systems took to finish the automated portion of the deployment (system time). AMD made up the Intel IT manager time advantage with less system time, saving nearly three minutes for the laptops and two minutes for the desktops.



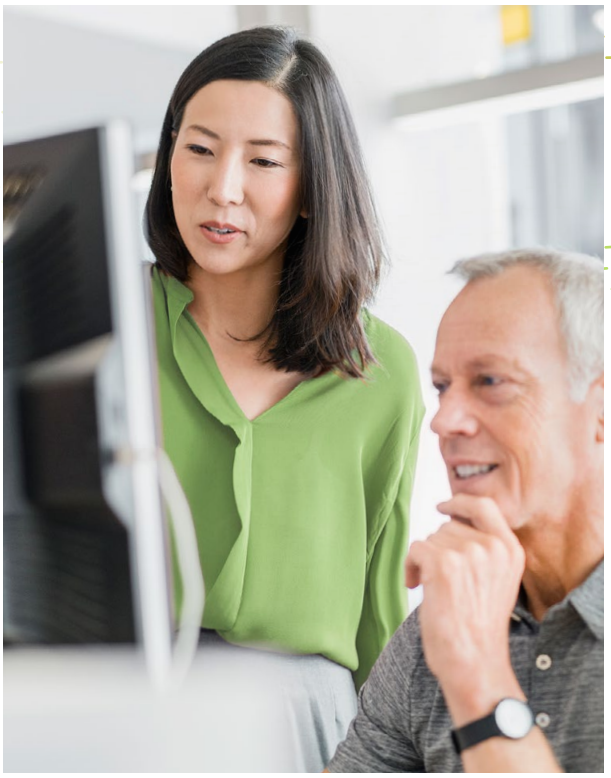
With AMD processor-powered systems in your organization, your IT managers will have the same experience deploying a Windows 10 image as they would with Intel processor-powered systems. Choosing AMD systems won't place an additional burden on your IT managers performing this task or force your users to wait longer to use their laptops and desktops after a Windows 10 deployment or update.

Same vendor experience for installing drivers

Enterprise-class organizations often have well-established methods for preparing new systems for their employees, including loading a custom image. Without the correct drivers, the system imaging will not work. The drivers must be added to the imaging server so that it can recognize the target system and apply the appropriate drivers while imaging the computer.

When downloading drivers from the internet, we found Lenovo and HP supported AMD processor-powered systems just as they would Intel processor-powered systems. All drivers were available on the same web page in driver packs, so your IT managers can download all the required files at once from one location. After installing the task sequence to install the drivers on the systems, we saw no missing drivers.

After deploying Windows 10, our task sequence completed all updates and customizations. The process of downloading and adding the drivers required the exact same number of steps between vendors. As the process is the same, installing correct drivers to AMD processor-powered systems will not introduce additional time or steps that can disrupt your workflow.



Conclusion

Deploying Windows 10 to AMD processor-powered business systems isn't slower or harder than deploying the OS to similar systems powered by Intel. We found it took a similar amount of time and the same number of steps to deploy Windows 10 to AMD and Intel processor-powered laptops and desktops. By seeing this kind of equality for AMD systems management, you can focus your next systems purchase on performance and cost, areas where AMD processor-powered systems also compete.

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1 "Report: AMD's CPU Market Share Steadily Climbing," April 23, 2018, https://www.extremetech.com/computing/264853-independent-research-shows-amds-cpu-market-share-steadily-climbing

Read the science behind this report at http://facts.pt/ieldfr ▶

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