Brief

**Licensing Windows Server 2008 Terminal Services April 2008**

**Corporate Academic ♦ Open License♦ Open License Value ♦ Select License ♦ Academic Select ♦ Enterprise Agreement**

# Summary

This licensing brief helps to clarify Microsoft licensing policies for Windows Server® Terminal Services (TS), including the new components that are in the Windows Server 2008 operating system.

**What’s New in This Brief**

This is a new brief with no previous versions.

**Details**

Microsoft licensing policies for Windows Server Terminal Services, including the new components that are included in Windows Server 2008, require that in addition to a Windows Server Client Access License (CAL), Microsoft® Core CAL Suite, or Microsoft Enterprise CAL Suite, you must acquire a Windows Server 2008 TS CAL for each user or device that directly or indirectly accesses the server software to interact with a remote graphical user interface (using the Windows Server 2008 Terminal Services functionality or other technology).

Terminal Services functionality is defined as those features or services that are running when enabling the Terminal Services role and/or role service(s) in Windows Server 2008. This includes but is not limited to Terminal Services Gateway, Terminal Services RemoteApp™ network software, Terminal Services Web Access, and Terminal Services Session Broker.

Note: No TS CALs are required for up to two users to access instances of the server software for administration purposes.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Is this a change from Windows Server 2003 licensing?**

No. The same licensing rules applied for Windows Server 2003. As Windows Server 2008 Terminal Services offers significant new functionality, this brief clarifies the licensing rights for these new features.

**Do I need a TS CAL if I am using a third-party technology like Citrix XenApp, Ericom PowerTerm WebConnect, Quest Virtual Access Suite, GraphOn Go-Global, etc. to directly or indirectly access the server software to interact with the graphical user interface?**

Yes. A TS CAL is required for any technology used to directly or indirectly interact with the graphical user interface. This includes (but is not limited to) using Microsoft Terminal Services or other third-party software that enables multiuser scenarios on Windows Server.

Note: Windows® client operating system (OS) license terms do not permit multiple users to access or otherwise use more than one licensed copy of the software simultaneously. For more information on this topic, see [**Licensing Windows Client Operating Systems in Multiuser Scenarios**](http://download.microsoft.com/download/3/d/4/3d42bdc2-6725-4b29-b75a-a5b04179958b/windows_multi_user.docx).

**Do I need a TS CAL if I am not running a multiuser environment but use functionality in Terminal Services—for example, Terminal Services Gateway?**

Yes. A TS CAL is required for the use of any functionality included in the Terminal Services role in Windows Server. For example, if you are using TS Gateway and/or TS Web Access to provide access to a Windows Client operating system on an individual PC, both a TS CAL and Windows Server CAL are required.

**Do I have to acquire Terminal Services CALs if I am only remotely administering Windows Server operating systems by using Remote Desktop for Administration?**

No. Up to two users may connect to the Windows Server operating system simultaneously to perform administrative functions without needing any TS CALs. Additional administrative users need the appropriate TS CALs.

**Where can I learn more?**

You can find additional information from the Microsoft Product Use Rights site at <http://www.microsoftvolumelicensing.com/userights/PUR.aspx>.