



BUYER'S GUIDE

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Deployment, Migration, and Management Tools

ALMOST EVERY IT DEPARTMENT struggles with deploying and managing network OSs and applications. Because each IT department's needs vary greatly and so many solutions are available, this Buyer's Guide lists four categories of solutions to cover the major areas in which IT departments need the most help.

The Installation Packages category lists tools to meet the needs of network administrators and software developers. Basic tools let you capture the changes made to a hard disk image during application installation and let you package the changes in a portable installation file. More sophisticated tools in this category give you more flexibility in building and customizing an installation package. A valuable feature with these products is support for creating Windows Installer packages. The benefits of Windows Installer include a standardized installation format and patching capabilities.

The PC Migration category lists tools that let you capture and transport the myriad files and configurations that personalize a computer. End users lose productivity when their desktop systems are drastically altered during a hardware or OS migration. PC migration tools have evolved to make desktop hardware and OS upgrade transitions easier on end users by migrating all the user's personal settings to the new OS or hardware.

The Cloning category lists utilities that have been around awhile and are probably the most familiar technology to network administrators. Early versions of cloning utilities simply duplicated a hard disk image from one PC to another. Today's more sophisticated cloning software automates the cloning process. Systems administrators can use networks to their advantage and clone across the network. Multicasting technology lets you simultaneously distribute one hard disk image to multiple PCs. Cloning tools also include utilities for changing computer names and the SIDs of Windows 2000 and Windows NT systems.

The Application Deployment and Management category lists the broadest range of solutions. Some solutions listed target mobile users and NT Server 4.0, Terminal Server Edition (WTS) users; however, most of this category's listings highlight solutions for deploying and maintaining OSs and applications on desktops and servers. Some solutions provide additional functionality, such as asset management and remote control. Other solutions provide enterprise-level support for heterogeneous environments. You might want to purchase a product that incorporates hardware management standards, such as Intel's Wired for Management (WfM) standard. Integrating the complementary capabilities of hardware and software can give you great flexibility in performing hands-off deployment and management tasks.

All the software listed in this Buyer's Guide serves a particular niche. Each product can help to reduce your workload by making the distributed resources on your network more manageable and satisfying your customers.

—Tom Iwanski

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Compiled by Sue Cooper

Contact Information	Product Name	Price	Description
Installation Packages			
Altiris 801-226-8500 http://www.altiris.com/	RapidInstall	\$570 for a 50-node license	Lets you build autoexecuting packages to distribute software applications, updates, and Registry changes
EmmaSoft Software 607-533-4685 http://www.emmasetup.com/	EmmaSetup 3.0	\$159.95	Developers can use this 32-bit installation software to create customized, feature-rich program installers
InstallShield Software 800-374-4353 http://www.installshield.com/iswi/	InstallShield for Windows Installer	\$995	Installation-authoring software with an Internet-enabled update patching feature to let you create software patches of your Windows Installer-based applications for Internet distribution
LANovation 800-747-4487 http://www2.lanovation.com/	PictureTaker	\$2000 for 100 licenses	Packages software installations and other software changes into compressed files; can locate predeployment file and Registry conflicts; distributes files through Web pages, CD-ROM, login scripts, as self-installing files, and as Windows Installer files
Wise Solutions 734-456-2100 http://www.wisesolutions.com/	Wise for Windows Installer 2.0	\$795	A setup-authoring environment for Windows Installer; manages installations and uninstalls at the component level; lets you advertise applications without loading software; repairs corrupted files; provides rollback functionality
PC Migration			
Altiris 801-226-8500 http://www.altiris.com/	PC Transplant Pro 2.0	\$750 for a 25-node license	Provides PC cloning and configuration, user account creation, and backup and restoration of personalized computer settings; wizard guides novice users; helps automate OS migrations
Miramar Systems 800-862-2526 http://www.miramarsys.com/	Desktop DNA	\$245 for a 5-user license	Enterprise application for system migration, application deployments and upgrades, PC refreshes, and disaster recovery; features address migration across disparate hardware, OS, and application versions; can move multiple user profiles simultaneously
Tranxition 888-416-9505 http://www.tranxition.com/	Personality Tranxport Professional 2.0	\$129 per single- user license	Moves personalized desktop interface, application settings, network connectivity, Internet settings, email messages, documents, and data files from one computer to another; also migrates OSs
Cloning			
Altiris 801-226-8500 http://www.altiris.com/	RapiDeploy	\$312.50 for a 25-node license	Maintains configuration information for all your PCs; can deploy hundreds of PCs by using IP or IPX multicast; saves exact configuration information for disaster recovery; provides a single point of management for all resources; offers remote capabilities
Eurosoft USA 401-353-9098 http://www.eurosoft-usa.com/	DISCookie	Call vendor for pricing	Uses standard TCP/IP network protocols to duplicate software directly to the hard disk on as many as 250 PCs; lets you add new PCs at any time during netcasting without disrupting other client downloads; features user-activated recovery; works with PCs in mixed-OS environments
PowerQuest 800-379-2566 http://www.powerquest.com/	Drive Image Pro 4.0	\$220 for a 10-user license	Creates an exact hard disk image for Windows deployment, hard disk upgrades, and backups; features CD-Recordable (CD-R) disc and CD-Rewritable (CD-RW) support
Symantec 408-253-9600 http://www.symantec.com/	Norton Ghost 6.5	Call vendor for pricing	Creates an exact image of the hard disk; can copy the hard disk image to any number of PCs simultaneously to create identical installations

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Application Deployment and Management			
Altiris 801-226-8500 http://www.altiris.com/	Altiris eXpress 4.1	\$1080 for a 25-node license	Remotely clones, deploys, installs, configures, backs up, restores, and manages desktop mobile PCs; provides scheduling for all PC management tasks; Altiris' brokering agents handle requests and communicate PC status to the management console
	LabExpert	\$2250 for a 50-node license	Software configuration management solution for computer labs and classrooms; can install and restore computer-specific Registry settings on an entire classroom of PCs running any OS or application
Callisto Software 630-682-8200 http://www.callisto.com/	Orbiter 3.5	\$5000 for Orbiter Server; \$100 per client at 1000 seats	Extends systems management to mobile computers; supports software distribution, hardware and software inventory, and file retrieval; optimizes low-bandwidth connections with queued messaging, checkpoint restart, and compression
Innovative Software 414-540-1530 http://www.innovative-software.com/	ImageCast IC3 4.1	\$1110 for a 100-seat license	Centralized control center for PC deployment process, automated SID generation, and post-configuration utilities in Win2K and NT; no boot disks required when hardware is Preboot Execution Environment (PXE)- and WfM-compatible
Marimba 888-800-5444 http://www.marimba.com/	Castanet 4.5	Starts at \$40,000	Updates and maintains applications written in C/C++, Java, and Visual Basic (VB) for Win2K, NT, Windows 9x, and UNIX desktops, servers, and mobile systems; provides bandwidth management, comprehensive security, and inventory and asset management; enforces application subscription policies
	Timbale for Windows Terminal Services	Starts at \$2000	Provides centralized management of server software for Windows thin-client computing environments, including Win2K, WTS, and Citrix MetaFrame; can deploy service packs, hot-fixes, printer drivers, Windows applications, and necessary compatibility scripts to centralized or distributed server farms
	Timbale for Server Management	Starts at \$3000	Centralizes control over the distribution and management of applications and content; management functions let you preview, stage, activate, verify, and monitor deployment and update of content and applications; encrypts and digitally authenticates deployments
Novadigm 800-626-6682 http://www.novadigm.com/	Radia	\$75 per client	Distributes and manages existing applications and Windows Installer-enabled applications; uses Active Directory (AD) to implement software entitlement for existing platforms; supports the Internet, intranet, and extranet; supports LAN and remote users
ON Technology 781-487-3600 http://www.on.com/	ON Command CCM	Starts at \$10 per seat	Can remotely deliver software to desktops, mobile PCs, handheld PCs, and servers; provides 100 percent unattended operation and push-based deployment to multiple PCs simultaneously; can configure individual profiles from Microsoft Management Console (MMC); can deploy shrink-wrapped and inhouse applications as well as OSs; features variable bandwidth-throttling capability and Wake-on-LAN
Open Software Associates 800-441-4330 http://www.netdeploy.com/	netDeploy Global	Call vendor for pricing	Installs, updates, and heals software on desktop, laptop, and server computers; works inside the corporate firewall or over the Internet
Perpetual 800-737-9887 http://www.perpetual.com/	Desktop Management System (DMS)	\$10 per month per PC	Uses a dual-hosted architecture to provide client-management software and services; capabilities include deployment, migration, asset management, remote control, configuration management, and conflict resolution