

Windows 11. Upgrade or not upgrade, the pros and cons explained.

Windows 10 users have been receiving messages on their desktops encouraging them to upgrade to Microsoft's latest PC platform, Windows 11.

With Windows 8.1 support and security updates now ceased by Microsoft (from 10th January 2023), it's now even more important to consider your options.

Here at Minster we are committed to helping you to make informed decisions regarding what is best practice for you and your business. We have an experienced team of engineers who are here to guide and assist you with concerns like these.

So, the burning question is - should you click on "OK" and auto-upgrade your system? The answer is a cautious "No". Why not?

You first need to check that all the applications you are using are compatible with Windows 11, as we have already received some calls about products no longer working as expected after upgrading. Users often forget about critical but irregularly used applications, so it's worth having a discussion with us or your IT service provider first. If you're still running Windows 8.1, you could be in trouble with products no longer working too.

You also need to consider your internet connection - is it reliable? Also the amount of free disk space on your PC or laptop; there needs to be enough space to download the upgrade and then apply it. We have received calls from users where the upgrade has failed part-way through, corrupting the computer which has resulted in a complete rebuild.

Talk to your Account Manager on **01562 68211** to discuss this further, or contact us at sales@minstermicro.co.uk



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Customer Spot-Light

M. A. EDWARDS
Accountants Ltd

M A Edwards is a respected accountancy practice based in Birmingham's Kings Norton area. An established family business for over 40 years, we were brought in by owner Ian Edwards in February 2022 to look after their internal IT system and evaluate their current set up.

A key part of our brief was to undertake an extensive systems audit, to identify and address any vulnerabilities in their current system, particularly relating to cyber security and disaster recovery. Due to the age of their server and internal network, an upgrade to a hybrid managed solution was recommended, as they also have some key legacy products that still require an on-site presence.

Minster consolidated multiple servers into one high-performing solution by migrating them to a cloud-based managed platform, whilst still accommodating their on-premise needs. As part of this, we deployed the latest AI technology in EDR (Endpoint Detection & Response) software to replace their traditional anti-virus, along with a fully managed firewall with live security updates, unpinned by a managed off-site data backup and bi-weekly patch management (applying the latest security and service updates from Microsoft to all systems).

Ian Edwards said: "I would not hesitate in recommending Minster Micro. Their history, expertise and specialist knowledge gives you the confidence that you're in the best hands. As an accountancy firm, our systems have to be absolutely perfect and seamless. The team at Minster Micro have delivered that for us, not forgetting providing first-class support."

Find out how your company could be featured in our Spring 2023 Newsletter as part of our Customer Spot-Light series by contacting your Account Manager via email sales@minstermicro.co.uk or by phone **01562 68211**.

Pegasus Opera 3 SQL SE (Server Edition)



What's new for 2023, more features and benefits announced



Pegasus Software's latest update will include a refresh of the User Interface (how it looks), standard and user defined Dashboards to allow you to easily see and drill down on KPI's or other important data, automation within the Purchasing function (Invoice capture and digital procurement), automatic Bank Reconciliation to name but a few.

Opera 3 SQL SE is built on the latest 64bit Microsoft .NET framework technologies, using C# and SQL Server, giving a true client-server experience. Auto-scheduling of many operations such as month-end close-downs, along with enhanced security features and data connectors to allow seamless integration with your 3rd party applications (Power BI, Excel etc.) are all standard with the product.

Existing Pegasus Opera 3 users are able to upgrade their license, and of course that all important data-transfer, at a heavily discounted price until March 2023. New customers can trade-in their existing ERP or Finance package and receive a competitive upgrade discount too.

Speak with your Account Manager to find out more, 01562 68211 or email sales@minstermicro.co.uk