

Windows Enterprise Announcement

June 27, 2012 – Microsoft Badly Handles WSUS Skype Distribution

Microsoft began distributing Skype 5.9 (now a Microsoft product) via WSUS in June. It appeared on our WSUS server on June 26, 2012. It was classified by Microsoft as a WSUS "update rollup". It appears the intention by Microsoft was that it only update systems with Skype previously installed. Unfortunately for Microsoft it did not work that way.

Most systems pointed to our WSUS server (sus.iastate.edu) began offering Skype 5.9 for installation (including systems that never had Skype installed). Iowa State University is not unique. Refer to this TechNet blog for experiences at other sites:

http://social.technet.microsoft.com/Forums/en-US/winserverwsus/thread/74a93b2b-e820-40ef-a45d-2815b57d164e

A post in the above blog by Doug Neal (Microsoft) indicates:

"[...] we've identified the issue and have expired the update. For those admins who still have this update, you may want to decline (not approve) this update [on your WSUS server]."

On the afternoon of June 27 ITS changed the "Skype 5.9 for Windows" update approval status from "Install" to "Not approved" on the central WSUS server. You may want to check your systems pointing to the central WSUS server to see if you need to remove Skype 5.9.