Great New Moves
The Time has Come for GroupWise 8 and ZENworks 10 Configuration Management

by Ken Baker

An old proverb states that all good things must come to an end. That might be true, but sometimes when one good thing ends, something great takes its place. Such is the case for general support for older versions of Novell ZENworks and Novell GroupWise. General support for GroupWise 7 has ended and moved into the extended support phase, and general support for ZENworks 7 will end in June of next year. (See Lifecycle Support Terms.) However, these endings signal even greater features, functionality and integration in the forms of GroupWise 8 and ZENworks 10 Configuration Management.

> Collaboration Moves
Now that general support for GroupWise 7 has ended, and it’s moved into extended support, the time has come to move to the latest version of GroupWise if you haven’t already. But beyond support lifecycle considerations, there are a number of compelling reasons to upgrade to GroupWise 8. From the personal productivity dashboard to enhancements in time, task and contact management, the array of new features that GroupWise 8 delivers over its predecessors has been widely chronicled over the past two years. (See GroupWise Resource Library [http://www.novell.com/products/groupwise/resource-library.html] Untapped Power, and Personal Overdrive) And upcoming product releases—including Novell Data Synchronizer, new BlackBerry Enterprise Server support, and a GroupWise update that brings additional integrations with Novell Conferencing and Novell Teaming—offer additional reasons to make the move.

Opening the door to the GroupWise and third-party application integration you’ve been waiting for, Novell will soon release Novell Data Synchronizer and the Novell Data Synchronizer Mobility Pack (See Higher Levels of Collaboration.)[http://www.novell.com/connectionmagazine/2010/06/higher_levels_of_collaboration.html]. Novell Data Synchronizer provides bi-directional synchronization of e-mail, calendar data, tasks and contacts between Novell GroupWise and other connected applications, such as SharePoint, SugarCRM and salesforce.com.

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LIFECYCLE SUPPORT TERMS

For a minimum of five years, Novell provides General Support for its platform and operating system products. General Support consists of installation and configuration support, enhancements requests, patches and fixes, security updates, Novell Support Advisor, and access to the Novell knowledgebase, support forums, technical subscriptions, the existing patch database and documentation.

When General Support ends, Novell may offer Extended Support for an additional two years. Extended Support includes installation and configuration support, critical security updates, Novell Support Advisor, and access to the Novell knowledgebase, support forums, technical subscriptions, the existing patch database and documentation.

For more information on support programs and options, visit support.novell.com/lifecycle/index.html
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And the Novell Data Synchronizer Mobility Pack gives you bi-directional synchronization of e-mail, calendar data and contacts between connected applications and a wide variety of mobile devices that use the iPhone, Android, Symbian, Palm and Windows Mobile operating systems. For your mobile users in the BlackBerry world, Research In Motion is soon set to release BlackBerry Enterprise Server 5.0.1, which will include support for GroupWise 8.

And with GroupWise 8.0.2 right around the corner, you can take advantage of a number of powerful new integrations between Novell collaboration products. One of these is integration with Novell Conferencing, the new, inexpensive and easy-to-use Web conferencing service from Novell. (See It’s Hot.) This integration enables you to instantly transform a GroupWise appointment that you’re scheduling into a Novell Conferencing Web event. You’ll have a tab option where you can set Novell Conferencing event details, such as the meeting room URL, audio/video settings, chat options and more. (See Figure 1.) Those whom you invite to the Web event will be able to jump directly to the Novell Conferencing meeting room URL right from their GroupWise appointment.

Figure 1: Integration between Novell GroupWise 8 and Novell Conferencing lets you create Novell Conferencing Web events within GroupWise appointments.
GroupWise 8.0.2 also includes new drag-and-drop capabilities with Novell Teaming. For example, it lets you drop an e-mail into a Teaming blog folder, automatically posting the contents of that e-mail, including its attachments. (See Figure 2.) If you drag a GroupWise contact to a Teaming folder, the contact is saved as a vCard in Teaming. If you drag a GroupWise item into your Teaming calendar folder, it gets posted as a Teaming appointment. These GroupWise and Teaming integrations make it even easier for you to keep all the project information you need in the right Novell Teaming workspaces. In addition to drag and drop, you can simultaneously search GroupWise and Teaming content from a GroupWise search dialog.

The good news is that if you’re current on your GroupWise maintenance or you moved to GroupWise 8 in May or June, you can take advantage of all the powerful new features and integrations of GroupWise 8.0.2 at no additional cost. Even if that’s not the case for you, what GroupWise 8 delivers in terms of enhanced productivity and collaboration more than justifies moving up.
Also, if you’re not already running on Linux, your upgrade to GroupWise 8 is the perfect time to make the move to GroupWise on Linux. This will make it easier for you to transition to the next major release of GroupWise (See Novell GroupWise Futures.), which will only run on Linux 64-bit and Windows 64-bit platforms. To help you make the move to GroupWise on Linux, Novell provides a variety of helps and resources. (See Get Comfortable) [http://www.novell.com/connectionmagazine/2009/04/migrating_groupwise_from_windows_or_netware_to_linux.html]. For more information on moving to Linux, or simply moving to the newest version of GroupWise, visit www.novell.com/products/groupwise/.

NOVELL GROUPWISE FUTURES

Novell GroupWise 8.0.2 delivers personal productivity at its best. And when the next major release of GroupWise comes out this summer, it will deliver even more value to end users. One added value is dynamic contacts, which allows users to edit their own contact details, including adding photos to their address book. These updated contact details sync to all of the other domains and post offices, so that the most recent information for a user is always available. Calendaring will also receive a major facelift with improved recurring appointment creation, immediate busy searching of appointment attendees, and enhancements to multi-user calendars. Web access and information sharing will see significant improvements, as well.

> IT Management Moves

The policy-driven automation in Novell ZENworks Configuration Management helps you automate and enforce business and IT management processes across the lifecycle of your endpoints, including desktops, notebooks, servers, handhelds and removable storage devices. While support for ZENworks 7 Desktop Management and ZENworks 7 Suite has been extended until June 2011, now is the perfect time to start planning your move to ZENworks 10 Configuration Management (See ZENworks Product Editions) [http://www.novell.com/products/zenworks/configurationmanagement/compare.html]. When you make the move to ZENworks 10 Configuration Management, you’ll be able to take advantage of its Web-based architecture, tighter suite component integration, Windows 7 support and much more.

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In terms of its Web-based architecture, the console in ZENworks 10 Configuration Management is served up by an https server. This allows you to manage, secure and track all your endpoints from any standard Web browser whether you’re in the office, on the road or at home. It also makes it easier to distribute management responsibilities to other IT administrators in geographically diverse locations. Whether they’re located across campus, town, the country or the ocean, they can easily log into the Web-based ZENworks Control Center and access its system dashboards and hot lists to get an immediate view of task status, errors, warnings, statistics and policy compliance. (See Figure 3.) Inside the Web console, you can also drill down to event details for faster and more effective problem resolution than ever before.

ZENworks 10 Configuration Management also provides tighter integration between other ZENworks products. Whether you’re managing your endpoints with ZENworks Configuration Management, your patches with ZENworks Patch Management, or your assets with ZENworks Asset Management, you’ll be able to use the same integrated console, the same integrated database and the same integrated agent. (See Figure 4.) You’ll no longer have to switch between management consoles, and you’ll only have one ZENworks database to deploy and one agent to deploy.
A natural benefit of this integration is that it also makes it easier to try and take advantage of new ZENworks products. For example, if you have ZENworks 10 Configuration Management Standard Edition, but you want to evaluate ZENworks Patch Management, there’s nothing new to install. You just turn on the free trial and give it a try. If you want to deploy it, you simply buy a license and activate the license keys, and the new features automatically become available.

When ZENworks 11 (See Novell ZENworks Futures) comes out later this year, console and agent integration will be extended further to include ZENworks Endpoint Security Management. (See Figure 5.) Management console integration will also be extended to ZENworks Linux Management. All of this current and future integration goes a long way to simplifying overall deployment and streamlining your day-to-day management experience.

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NOVELL ZENWORKS FUTURES

Upgrading to Novell ZENworks 10 Configuration Management now will make it even easier to move to ZENworks 11 when it comes out near the end of this year. ZENworks 11 will boast integration with ZENworks Endpoint Security Management and ZENworks Linux management. This means you’ll be able to manage both your Windows and Linux endpoints from the same console, including managing your Linux patches. ZENworks 11 will also offer new power management capabilities for your endpoints.
Another compelling reason to move to ZENworks 10 Configuration Management is its support for Windows 7—something you don’t get with ZENworks 7. In fact, if you have plans to migrate to Windows 7, ZENworks 10 Configuration Management can dramatically simplify that migration by helping you 1) plan your migration with readiness reports for your current applications and hardware and 2) implement the actual migration to Windows 7 with as little disruption as possible.

![Figure 5: When ZENworks 11 Configuration Management comes out later this year it will extend console integration to ZENworks 11 Endpoint Security Management and ZENworks 11 Linux Management.](image)

Taking advantage of the Web-based infrastructure, tighter component integration and Windows 7 support in ZENworks 10 Configuration Management is easy if you’re current on your maintenance. ZENworks 7 Suite customers current on maintenance are entitled to the ZENworks 10 Configuration Management Advanced Edition, and ZENworks 7 Desktop Management customers current on maintenance are entitled to the ZENworks 10 Configuration Management Standard Edition. If you’re not current on maintenance, you can still upgrade to ZENworks 10 Configuration Management according to standard upgrade licensing provisions. Contact your sales representative for information or visit www.novell.com/products/zenworks/configurationmanagement/howtobuy.html for more information on upgrading.
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