

XP instead of Vista

The new windows operation system “Vista” is extremely disputed. However, there is an alternative for companies needing new software: the “Vista”-predecessor Windows XP is still available on the software second-hand market – even for half of the price!

Too much power-demanding, too many mistakes, not enough innovation: Sharp criticism concerning Windows “Vista” is uttered amongst experts. “The whole industry is disappointed of Windows Vista”, Acer-president Gianfranco Lanci is complaining towards Financial Times Germany. No other new Windows version has ever generated such a bad sale of computers before. “I really doubt that there would be any person buying a new PC because of Vista.” In particular, business customers would often ask to get the old operation system Windows XP installed. However, this system is not offered by Microsoft any longer. Companies which need a new software are now in a dilemma.

One solution may be found on the software second-hand market. There, a great number of pieces of Window’s XP is still available. A price benefit of up to 50 percent compared with the new price is even offered! In this context, usedSoft, a leading European supplier of used software, has permanently ten thousands of “XP professional licences” in stock – which it uses to sell to companies such as Neckermann, KarstadtQuelle or Rewe for years. Windows XP technology is fully developed in contrast to Vista. The operating system has been on the market for many years, has been well-tried in practice by millions, and will perfectly cope with the requirements of a modern operating system for the next few years.

However, when buying used software, companies should make sure not to buy any pirated copies. Therefore, usedSoft plays it safe by supplying a notarial certification in connection with each order which is completely evidencing the chain of licence assignments up to the producer. In doing so, it will be supported by documentary evidence that the buyer is the only user of such licence – which is an unabandonable factor with regard to copyright.

Under legal aspects, the software second-hand market is now generally recognized. Seven years ago, the German Federal Supreme Court had already decided that the so-called principle of depletion under copyright law must not be eliminated by licence conditions imposed by the software producer. This means that the producer’s right of distribution will be depleted at the time, when the software will be sold for the first time. Therefore, the trade with software which has already been used is generally admissible.

Meanwhile, Microsoft has admitted that Vista is not yet optimally running. “There are still a few things which are not yet developed to such an extent as we had wished them to be”, Microsoft spokesman Frank Mihm-Gebauer admits. “We have to rework on it.” For the moment, the Microsoft developing crew is working on patches and service packs which are meant to cure the teething troubles of the program. Third-party suppliers of software applications and hardware components also want to gradually adjust to the new system. However, this process may last for months or even for years. Until then, Windows XP will continue to represent a reasonable and cost-saving alternative.

About usedSoft www.usedsoft.com

usedSoft was set up in 2003, and it is a leading European supplier of used software originating from all application fields. Buyers of usedSoft licences are companies as well as software dealers. Customers of usedSoft are, among others, companies such as Edeka, KarstadtQuelle, Neckermann, Rewe, the Law Office Holme Roberts & Owen, as well as a leading soccer club belonging to the German Soccer League and a number of different Savings Banks. German authorities are more and more using used software as well: Next to the Bavarian State Capital of Munich, the German Federal Social Court in Kassel, the Municipal Administration of Bad Salzufflen and the Data Central Office of Baden-Württemberg, there were more than 100 additional local authorities benefiting from usedSoft licences. The cost-saving benefit when buying used licenses ranges between 20 and 50 percent.