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Newsletter/Post

Clarification on What the Microsoft Office 2007 Suites Contain

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TechnoLawyer wrote:

>"If you contribute anything else, your Post will appear in
>our Fat Friday newsletter. Can't think of anything? How
>about reviewing a product you recently bought, sharing tips
>and techniques for widely-used products, responding to
>something you read in a TechnoLawyer newsletter or
>elsewhere, etc."

Edward J. Schoenecker responded:

>"I just learned that Microsoft Office Suite 2007 has 'less'
>programs than earlier versions. PowerPoint 2007 and Excel
>2007 are not included and need to be purchased
>individually. Also, if you are trying to download templates
>from the Microsoft Web site, you occasionally are told that
>particular download is only available for use with Word
>2007 and would you like to download a trial version of Word
>2007, or a trial version of Vista 2007, etc... Now in
>PowerPoint 2003, if you ask a question, they will only
>provide you will instructions for use with PowerPoint 2007.
> Bill must have lost a bundle in the stock market!"

In response to Ed Schoenecker's post regarding "What you Should Know About Microsoft Office Suite 2007," his assertion that PowerPoint and Excel are not included in the "Microsoft Office Suite 2007" and need to be purchased separately is not entirely accurate.

While I'm not a fan of the way that Microsoft brands the different suites of their products, their Web site is clear on what is and is not included <<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/products/FX101635841033.aspx>> in each suite. The "Microsoft Office Basic 2007" suite does not include PowerPoint but does include Excel. If you want PowerPoint, then the appropriate suite to purchase is "Microsoft Office Standard 2007."

The Office 2007 "suite scheme" is not that different from the way Microsoft branded the Office 2003 suites. For instance, "Office 2003 Basic" did not include PowerPoint. The main complaint I have with the new Office products is there are too many suites to choose from (8 total): Basic, Home & Student, Standard, Small Business, Professional, Ultimate, Professional Plus, and finally, Enterprise. At least, with Office 2003, there were only 6 suites to choose from (yes, "only" 6; still too many, in my opinion): Basic, Student and Teacher, Standard, Small Business, Professional, and Professional Enterprise.

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