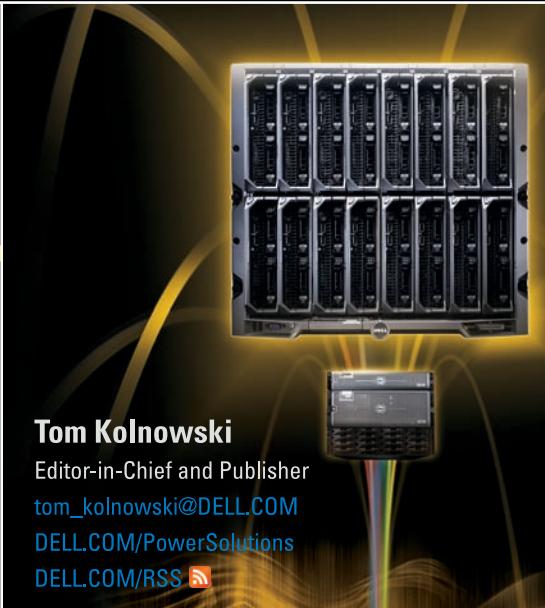# GET THIN WITH MICROSOFT WINDOWS SERVER 2008

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While many of the headlines around the launch of the Microsoft® Windows Server® 2008 OS focused on the new Hyper-V features—Microsoft's hypervisor-based server virtualization technology—many IT organizations are double-clicking on two of the less glamorous technologies coming out of Redmond at the same time: Server Core and the recast Terminal Services.

The Server Core installation option enables deployment of what amounts to a thinner Windows Server 2008 installation, which will be music to the ears of administrators because it enables them to build a minimal server with only the roles and features needed to accomplish a specific task—for example, purpose-built Microsoft Active Directory® or Domain Name System (DNS) infrastructure servers. The resulting thin servers can be expected to require less patching and provide higher levels of security than general-purpose servers.

Terminal Services has been a workhorse in the Microsoft Windows® server product line since the Windows NT® 4.0 OS, and has been thoroughly reengineered in Windows Server 2008. Positioned as a key component in presentation virtualization, Terminal Services RemoteApp and Terminal Services Web Access enable thin, single-click access to individual remote applications, while Terminal Services Gateway enables secure access to remote applications through firewalls without the need for virtual private network infrastructure.

Among Dell customers participating in the Dell Windows Server 2008 Early Adopter Program, the first three published case studies emerging from the program had a unifying thread: big success and high excitement around the thinner components in Windows Server 2008 Terminal Services. These customers included a major university (Terminal Services Gateway for the student body), a large bank (Terminal Services Web Access and Gateway for the IT support team), and a governmental organization (Terminal Services RemoteApp for server management). You can read more about these successes and others at DELL.COM/CaseStudies.

Not quite ready to take the Windows Server 2008 plunge in your IT shop? Read on to our feature section. Our cover story, "Getting Ready for Microsoft Windows Server 2008" (page 10), is a great place to start learning more about this versatile new server platform. On the following pages you can find another nine drill-down articles that cover the emerging Windows Server 2008 landscape. Also, you won't want to miss our special tear-out migration guide (page 48a). Looking for still more planning guidance? Join the growing contingent of Windows Server 2008 early adopters in direct dialogue with Dell engineers and developers on the Dell TechCenter wiki community site at www.DellTechCenter.com.

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