Licensing Microsoft System Center 2016

Volume Licensing

LICENSING MODEL

With Microsoft System Center 2016, only the endpoints to be managed need licenses, with no differentiation between server workloads. Rights to SQL Server and the Management Server software are included



SYSTEM CENTER 2016 SERVER MANAGEMENT LICENSES (MLs)

Core-based licensing

- System Center 2016 Standard and Datacenter Server MLs are Corebased licenses
- A Server ML Core license must be assigned to each physical core in the server, with a minimum of 8 Core licenses per processor, and a minimum of 16 Core licenses per server. For example, a single processor server with 4 cores requires 16 Server ML Core licenses, and a 4-processor server with 8 cores on each processor requires 32 Server ML Core licenses
- Server ML Core licenses are purchased in 2-packs or 16-packs from resellers and always include Software Assurance

License Mobility

- License Mobility across Server Farms: Not available for either System Center 2016 Standard or Datacenter Server MLs
- License Mobility through Software Assurance:
 - Standard: rights to manage 2 VMs per licensed server
 - Datacenter: rights to manage 10 VMs per licensed server

SERVICING CHANNELS

Two servicing channels are available for System Center 2016:

- Semi-Annual Channel: new feature releases twice a year, with each release supported for 18 months
- Long-Term Servicing Channel: new major version released every 2-3 years, with 5 years of mainstream support and 5 years of extended support

Both servicing channels receive regular security updates.

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE SERVER SUITES

These suites provide a cost-effective way for organizations to purchase licenses for Windows Server and System Center. There are two suites:

- **Standard** contains System Center 2016 Standard and Windows Server 2019 Standard Licensing all the physical cores gives rights to and run/manage 2 VMs
- Datacenter contains System Center 2016 Datacenter and Windows Server 2019 Datacenter Licensing all the physical cores gives rights to run/manage unlimited VMs

ADDITIONAL SOFTWARE ASSURANCE BENEFITS AVAILABLE

The following SA benefits are also available for System Center 2016 Server Management licenses:

- 24x7 Problem Resolution Support
- **Disaster Recovery Rights**
- E-Learning
- **Planning Services**
- Self-Hosting Use Rights
- Rights to use System Center Global Service Monitor

SYSTEM CENTER 2016 CLIENT MANAGEMENT LICENSES

Availability

- System Center Configuration Manager 1606 CML
- System Center Endpoint Protection 1606 SL
- System Center 2016 Data Protection Manager CML
- System Center 2016 Orchestrator CML
- System Center 2016 Operations Manager CML
- System Center 2016 Service Manager CML

Licensing Rules

- Software Assurance is included with all Client MLs
- Client MLs can be licensed per OSE or per User
- Endpoint Protection SLs can be licensed per Device or per User
- Client MLs include the right to run the Management Server software and SQL Server

Licensing Virtual Machines/Containers System Center 2016 Datacenter

- The server must be fully licensed with Server ML Core licenses (as described in the Core-based Licensing section)
- An unlimited number of virtual machines may be managed on the server

System Center 2016 Standard

- The server must be fully licensed with Server ML Core licenses (as described in the Core-based Licensing section)
- 2 virtual machines may be managed on the server
- The server must be licensed again to manage a further 2 virtual machines. For example, a single processor server with 8 cores requires 16 Server ML Core licenses to manage 2 VMs. A further 16 Server ML Core licenses must be assigned to the server to manage another 2 VMs

Windows Server Containers

- Any number of Windows Server Containers without Hyper-V isolation may be managed on licensed servers
- The rules for licensing Windows Server Containers with Hyper-V isolation are exactly the same as for virtual machines detailed above

STEP UP LICENSES

Customers who have existing System Center 2016 Standard Server ML Core licenses with Software Assurance may purchase Step-Up licenses to move to System Center 2016 Datacenter Server ML Core licenses The Step-Up license is Datacenter

priced at the difference in price of the two Standard licenses and SA

Further Microsoft Licensing handouts and exams: GetLicensingReady.com

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