

Microsoft® Office SharePoint® Server Health Check



Microsoft® Office SharePoint® Server (MOSS) is an integrated suite of server capabilities that can help improve organisational effectiveness by providing comprehensive content management and enterprise search, accelerating shared business processes, and facilitating information-sharing across boundaries for better business insight. MOSS supports all intranet, extranet, and web applications across an enterprise within one integrated platform, instead of relying on separate fragmented systems.

While the business value that can be derived from MOSS is widely accepted, how do you know if you are enjoying maximum return on your investment in this technology?

Are your systems operating at maximum efficiency and in line with Microsoft's best proactive guidelines? Could there be underlying vulnerabilities in your Office SharePoint Server infrastructure and operational processes of which you are unaware? How can you uncover potential risks before they affect users and drive up support costs?

The answers to these questions lie in the Microsoft® Office SharePoint Server Health Check.

The Office SharePoint Server Health Check helps you to maximise your investment in SharePoint by ensuring that your implementation aligns with Microsoft's recommended best practices.

The engagement uses a number of tools to collect data regarding the most critical aspects of your SharePoint environment, including configuration options, hotfix or service pack installation, and Office SharePoint Server-related code.

Investing in an Office SharePoint Server Health Check before embarking on your next SharePoint project makes a great deal of business sense. The Health Check comprises a Windows SharePoint Services implementation or a Microsoft Office SharePoint Server implementation, or a combination of both*.

* Please note that the Office SharePoint Health Check does not address previous versions of SharePoint products and technologies, such as SharePoint Portal Server 2001 or SharePoint Team Services.

About the service

The Office SharePoint Server Health Check is designed to assist the IT team responsible for implementing and maintaining the Office SharePoint Server or Windows SharePoint Services environment, but provides assistance at all levels of your organisation.

Whether you are a CIO, a mid-level IT manager, or an IT administrator, you can look forward to receiving support and guidance to help increase operational efficiency, maximise system uptime, and reduce costs. This in turn leads to more effective use of Office SharePoint Server, as more business critical systems move to the platform.

About Dimension Data:

- Microsoft Gold Partner on five continents
- Over 1,400 Microsoft certifications and more than 300 MCSEs
- Dimension Data has improved collaboration with Microsoft Office SharePoint Server for more than 300 organisations worldwide

Implementation approach

Dimension Data uses a two-phased approach to deliver the service.

Phase 1

In the initial phase we collect all required information using our environmental assessment tools. This includes:

Discussion

We interview your deployment team to discuss the architecture or design, and intended use of Office SharePoint Server.

Configuration and log scraping

We collect event viewer logs, web.configs, and IIS logs. We also identify any current or recurring issues.

Performance

We collect infrastructure data to analyse the current usage of Office SharePoint Server.

Security

We verify the installation of critical Windows security patches using Microsoft Baseline Security Analyser. Thereafter we identify service account setup and usage.

Phase 2

After completing the health check, we analyse the information collected and compile a report of the findings, including the description of risks and recommended mitigation procedures.

The report covers the various aspects of the health of your Office SharePoint Server environment. We present this report to your IT team to discuss the findings and recommendations and answer any specific queries you may have.

How it works

The Office SharePoint Server Health Check provides your business with the tools it needs to help address the following processes in a production environment:

- Installed topology
- Deployment configuration
- Development/customisation best practices
- Feature usage
- Search
- Disaster recovery
- Operations
- Performance
- Security
- Third-party software/components
- Basic Database Server Assessment
- Current Site usage statistics

Office SharePoint Server Health Check outcomes:

- **Maintain maximum efficiency:** The service helps you to apply insights learned from Microsoft's best practices within your own environment. Gaining access to this in-depth expertise can help you achieve your performance goals.
- **Reduce support costs:** The health check diagnostics reveal the causes of problems, not just the symptoms, helping you to take a proactive approach in addressing the problems. This can help optimise productivity and uncover potential risks before they affect users and impact support costs.
- **Use practical recommendations:** The service provides practical solutions for each of the identified risks, to assist you in operating an enterprise deployment of Office SharePoint Server. These recommendations related to operations, configuration, and architectural issues can help you get the most from your organisation's Office SharePoint Server deployment.

Why Dimension Data?

Dimension Data's Microsoft Solutions business helps clients to plan, deploy and manage secure, optimised Microsoft Office SharePoint Server environments that enable effective communication and collaboration to accelerate the achievement of their business goals.

Dimension Data has long partnership with Microsoft that spans more than 10 years. We are a Global Alliance Partner and Gold-certified with specialisations in advanced infrastructure, security, data management, licensing, mobility, information worker, network

infrastructure, custom development, smart client development and web development.

Through our close partnership with Microsoft, Dimension Data has developed advanced skills in Microsoft software – from the basic building blocks of the Windows operating system to the design of high-end management solutions, tools and services.

We would welcome the opportunity to explore how we can assist your business to maximise your investment in Microsoft technologies and fuel the achievement of your longer term goals.