

## Email Client / Server OS Bricks Retirement V1.0

### Status of this Memo

This document proposes the **retirement of two standards** for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

### Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	1
2	Justification.....	1
2.1	Email Client Operating Systems (OSs) Brick .....	2
2.2	Email Server Operating Systems (OSs) Brick .....	3
3	References.....	3
4	Contact .....	4
5	Security Considerations .....	4
6	Changes.....	4
7	Author's Address .....	4

# 1 Introduction

This document initiates the retirement of the NIH Technical Architecture Standard for:

- Email Client Operating Systems (OSs) Brick
- Email Server Operating Systems (OSs) Brick

## 2 Justification

**Electronic mail (email)** is the most common method of communication via the World Wide Web. National Institute of Health (NIH) heavily depends on email to collaborate both within and outside the NIH. The current **Email Client / Server Operating Systems (OSs) Bricks** list the operating systems for either workstations or servers that can support email software applications for asynchronous communication. However, the information provided in these standards is too broad to be useful and is out of date given the current market trends (new email software applications have emerged since the creation of these standards). In addition, email client and server software applications are more useful than the list of operating systems supporting them.

Client Operating System is determined by much more than just the email client software. It's no longer practical to have a separate standard of operating system for each technology that NIH utilizes.

**Superseding;** these standards are the following bricks: -

- Email Client Software Brick
- Email Server Software Brick

As such, these standards can be retired without any impact to the NIH infrastructure.

## 2.1 Email Client Operating Systems (OSs) Brick

Email client operating systems (OSs) allocate system resources at individual workstations in support of NIH's enterprise email applications.

**Table 1 – Email Client Operating Systems (OSs) Brick**

Tactical Deployment (0-2 years)	Strategic Deployment (2-5 years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mac OS X</li> <li>■ WinXP</li> <li>■ UNIX</li> </ul>	
Retirement (Technology to eliminate)	Containment (No new deployments)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mac OS 8 or earlier</li> <li>■ Win9X</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mac OS 9</li> </ul>
Baseline Environment (As of last review)	Emerging (Technology to track)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Linux</li> <li>■ Mac OS 8,9,X</li> <li>■ Win9X</li> <li>■ WinXP</li> <li>■ UNIX</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Linux</li> </ul>
Comments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Increasing support costs are directly related to the amount of software diversity supported.</li> <li>■ Tactical and strategic products were selected to leverage NIH's investment in products that are a proven fit for NIH's known future needs. Leveraging baseline products in the future will minimize the operations, maintenance, support and training costs of new products.</li> <li>■ Some baseline products have been designated retirement and containment. These products are either not as widely or successfully deployed at NIH, or they do not provide as much functionality, value, or Total Cost of Ownership as the selected tactical and strategic products.</li> </ul>	

## 2.2 Email Server Operating Systems (OSs) Brick

Email server operating systems (OSs) allocate system resources for the computers (servers) that run NIH's enterprise electronic mail applications.

**Table 2 – Email Server Operating Systems (OSs) Brick**

<b>Tactical Deployment (0-2 years)</b>	<b>Strategic Deployment (2-5 years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ UNIX</li> <li>■ Win2000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Win2003</li> </ul>
<b>Retirement (Technology to eliminate)</b>	<b>Containment (No new deployments)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ NT 4.0 (monitoring system)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Solaris (NCI, only mail)</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline Environment (As of last review)</b>	<b>Emerging (Technology to track)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ NT 4.0</li> <li>■ Solaris</li> <li>■ UNIX</li> <li>■ Win2000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Linux</li> </ul>
<b>Comments</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ NIH will be standardizing the back office servers during the consolidation process.</li> <li>■ Tactical and strategic products were selected to leverage NIH's investment in products that are a proven fit for NIH's known future needs. Leveraging baseline products in the future will minimize the operations, maintenance, support and training costs of new products.</li> <li>■ Some baseline products have been designated retirement and containment. These products are either not as widely or successfully deployed at NIH, or they do not provide as much functionality, value, or Total Cost of Ownership as the selected tactical and strategic products.</li> </ul>	

## 3 References

- [Email Client Software Brick](#)
- [Email Servers Software Brick](#)

## 4 Contact

To contact the NIHRFC Editor, send an email message to [EnterpriseArchitecture@mail.nih.gov](mailto:EnterpriseArchitecture@mail.nih.gov).  
To comment on this or other NIHRFCs, visit the NIHRFC Discussion Area at <http://enterprisearchitecture.nih.gov/YourPart/Collaborate/NRFCDiscussionArea.htm>.

## 5 Security Considerations

This NIHRFC raises no security issues

## 6 Changes

Version	Date	Change	Authority	Author of Change
0.1	-	Original Template	NRFC0001/BCP0001	Steve Thornton
0.2	1/3/2011	Modified template into document for retirement of standards.		Pankaj Sharma
1.0	3/22/2011	Approved by the ARB	ARB	Zahra Ashraf

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