

Tablets and Enterprise: The Growing Figures

Written by Marco Attard
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More than 25% of tablets sold (a number reaching 10m devices) will go to W.W. enterprises this year, Deloitte predicts-- a figure to rise in 2012 and beyond.



While tablets appear to be little more than underpowered consumer toys, many employees find them useful for work. Some employees even end up using their devices predominantly for work-- and asking employers to cover their data plan (if not device) costs.

The analyst predicts 70-80% of Fortune500 companies will support at least 1 tablet variant for a portion of their workforce. This figure sits alongside the prediction of employers subsidising (at least partially) tablet data plans for millions of prosumers and companies buying millions of tablets as PC alternatives.

Another prediction says up to 5m tablets will be used in retail and healthcare by 2011's end.

Large ERP, ECM, CRM and enterprise application developers are developing tablet-specific software-- teaming up with desktop virtualisation providers creating enterprise-grade apps that seamlessly deploy into existing IT environments.

These combined factor will bring about more tablet diversity, with different form factors and operating systems as required-- including ruggedised (yet lighter and cheaper) models.

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Security is an issue, though-- tablets are to be treated as insecure until proven otherwise.

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