MiTek®

Technical Article

Document ID:

TA015

Title:

Microsoft® Support for Windows®

Affected machinery: *Cyber*® Component Saw*, Cyber A/T* Component Saw, *MatchPoint*® *BLADE™*, *MatchPoint BLADE II™*, *Hornet™* Saw, *Hornet II™* Saw, and *Twin-Axis™* Sheathing Saw

Applies to: All machinery PCs purchased directly from MiTek, excluding Wizard PDS® PCs

CAUTION:
MiTek recommends printing this document in high resolution using color ink. Many of the graphics may be unclear and may create an unsafe condition if this recommendation is not followed.

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Purpose and Scope

This technical article explains and compares the different channels of Windows, and how Microsoft supports each.

How Does the Windows 10 IoT Enterprise LTSC Compare to the General Availability Channel?

Long-Term Servicing Channel (LTSC)

Purpose

Windows 10 IoT Enterprise LTSC is designed for critical systems and devices that require stability, predictability, and minimal change.

Updates

LTSC receives infrequent feature updates (approximately every 2-3 years). Security updates are provided for a longer duration (typically 10 years).

Stability

It provides a stable environment with minimal disruptions.

Use Case

Ideal for machinery equipment where consistency and reliability are paramount. Since it does not receive frequent feature updates, it minimizes the risk of unexpected changes affecting uptime.

Considerations

While LTSC ensures stability, it may lack the latest features found in the general availability channel.

General Availability Channel

Purpose

Geared towards regular users and devices that benefit from new features, improvements, and security enhancements.

Updates

Frequent feature updates (approximately every 6 months). Security updates are provided for a shorter duration (typically 18 months).

Features

Includes the latest capabilities, security patches, and performance enhancements.

Use Case

Suitable for non-critical systems or devices where staying up-to-date with features is essential.

Considerations

Frequent updates may introduce changes that could impact uptime, especially if not managed carefully.

How This Applies to MiTek Customers

What our Machines Use

MiTek machinery PCs do not use the general availability channel of Windows. Instead, they use the Windows IoT Enterprise LTSC. Each machine is shipped with the latest tested version of the IoT Enterprise LTSC. The latest release of this channel is Windows 10 version 21H2. Older frames will have shipped with older versions of the LTSC. If your machine was shipped prior to 2017, it will have used an LTSB (Long-Term Service Branch), which served a similar role to the LTSC. To check which version your machine uses, open the Windows command prompt and type 'winver'.

Version Support

Each channel and release version has its own unique support duration. To find how long your machine's PC will remain supported by Microsoft, refer to the table below.

- Note: This table does not include any version of Windows 11, as MiTek does not support any versions of Windows 11 at this time.

Windows 10 Version	Servicing Option	Support end date
2021 (21H2)	Long-Term Servicing Channel (LTSC)	2032-01-13 (IoT Enterprise only)
2019 (1809)	Long-Term Servicing Channel (LTSC)	2029-01-09
2016 (1607)	Long-Term Servicing Branch (LTSB)	2026-10-13
2015 (1507/RTM)	Long-Term Servicing Branch (LTSB)	2025-10-14

END OF TECHNICAL ARTICLE