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## Information about planning for the End-of-Support Date for Vantage for Windows Server 2008 and Microsoft SQL Server 2008 (updated June 28, 2017)

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**December 31, 2017** is the date which Telestream will cease testing new versions of Vantage on Windows Server 2008 and SQL Server 2008.

Now is the time to begin planning for updating current Vantage systems that are running on Windows Server 2008 R2 to either Windows Server 2016 or Windows Server 2012.

### **Q – Who should migrate from Windows Server 2008?**

**A –** All Vantage users, who will want to install new Vantage versions released after January 1st, 2018, will need to migrate from Windows Server 2008 to a supported Windows Server version, either Server 2016 or Server 2012. Additionally, customers who are still running Microsoft SQL Server 2008 should migrate to SQL Server 2012 or SQL Server 2014. Telestream will cease to test new versions of Vantage on Windows Server 2008 R2 that are released after December 31, 2017.

### **Q – Why is Telestream taking this action?**

**A –** Windows Server and SQL Server are Microsoft products, and Microsoft follows a schedule for end of life for these products, which typically corresponds to the release of new operating systems. Microsoft ended mainstream support for Windows Server 2008 Service Pack 2 on January 13, 2015. Microsoft ended mainstream support for Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2 on July 10, 2012 (although some service pack versions are supported for a longer period of time, depending on the version). The Telestream philosophy is to support previous OS and SQL versions as long as possible, while striking a balance between continued reliability and support for new features. We do not take this action lightly and we will work to support customers through this transition.

### **Q – Will Vantage “stop working” on Server 2008 or SQL Server 2008 after December 31, 2017?**

**A –** Absolutely Not! What this means is that after December 31, 2017, new releases of Vantage will no longer be tested on Windows Server 2008 (all releases) or SQL Server 2008 (all releases). Vantage release dates are not fixed dates, but it is likely that within 90 days of January 1, 2018, an update pack or dot/full version release of Vantage will be released. These releases will be tested on Windows Server 2012 and 2016 and SQL Server 2012 and/or SQL Server 2014/2016. We will recommend that customers who upgrade to a Vantage release that occurs after December 31, 2017, to make sure they are using Windows Server 2012 or 2016 and SQL Server version 2012, 2014 or 2016 to run that Vantage version. Please note that until January 1st, 2018, Telestream is not officially supporting SQL Server 2016, because Microsoft does not support that version on Windows Server 2008 at all.

### **Q – I am currently running Vantage on a Telestream Lightspeed Server. How do I handle the upgrades for these servers?**

**A –** Lightspeed servers require a special image which includes the operating system and several sets of drivers that enable Vantage to be GPU-accelerated on the Lightspeed platform. Telestream is now offering SSD's (Solid State Drives) for sale that includes the special drivers and an unlicensed copy of either Windows Server 2012 OEM or Windows Server 2016 OEM. Please note that the OS is not licensed on these drives, and Telestream does not sell Windows Server upgrade licenses. You will need to contact Microsoft or your Microsoft reseller to purchase these upgrade licenses. The SKU's for ordering the SSD's are listed below. Please note that two different SKU's are offered for Gen1 and K20 Lightspeed models, and two different SKU's are offered for K40 and K80 Lightspeed models:

V-K20-SSD-2012OS-DRV

Lightspeed (Models Generation 1 and K20 only) Windows 2008 to Windows 2012 R2 OS Migration Drive. This does NOT include the Windows Server 2008 R2 OEM license to activate the OS.

V-K20-SSD-2016OS-DRV

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Lightspeed (Models Generation 1 and K20 only) Windows 2008 to Windows 2016 OS Migration Drive. This does NOT include the Windows Server 2016 OEM license to activate the OS.

V-K80-SSD-2012OS-DRV

Lightspeed (Models K80, K80SSD, and K40SSD only) Windows 2008 to Windows 2012 R2 OS Migration Drive. This does NOT include the Windows Server 2012 R2 OEM license to activate the OS.

V-K80-SSD-2016OS-DRV

Lightspeed (Models K80, K80SSD, and K40SSD only) Windows 2008 to Windows 2016 OS Migration Drive. This does NOT include the Windows Server 2016 OEM license to activate the OS.

**Q – Which Windows Server OS version license key do I purchase for the Telestream Lightspeed images listed above?**

**A –** The unlicensed image that is on the above drives and on the available software image includes Windows Server OEM version, so when ordering Windows Server license keys from Microsoft, or from a Microsoft reseller, be sure to request an “OEM License Key” for that particular OS version.

**Q – Which versions of Vantage will run on Windows Server 2016?**

**A –** Vantage version 7.0 UP2 and later will run on Windows Server 2016. If you are running any Vantage version older than 7.0 UP2, then you will need to migrate your Windows Server 2008 Vantage nodes to Windows Server 2012, which does support the earlier supported versions of Vantage.

Note that some third-party products, like the Quantum StorNext environments, may not run on Windows Server 2016. If you are running third-party connectors or applications on your Vantage systems, check with those manufacturers to be sure that they support Windows Server 2016 with the version of their software that you are currently running.

**Q – I am running multiple Lightspeed Vantage servers. Do I need to purchase an SSD for each server?**

**A –** Purchasing an SSD for each server is the easiest way to perform the upgrade, and will provide you with backup drives that could be re-installed if necessary. However, some customers may choose to purchase one or two SSD's from Telestream, and then install those drives, along with workflows and other data onto selected “test” nodes, and then replicate those drives to install them onto the additional server nodes. As always, Telestream recommends testing upgrades on non-production nodes prior to deploying to production.

**Q – Can I purchase Telestream Professional Services to provide assistance with performing system upgrades to Windows Server 2012 or 2016?**

**A –** Yes, please contact Telestream Sales by phone or email to purchase remote or on-site assistance for performing the upgrade on either Lightspeed Servers or on non-Lightspeed hardware.

**Telestream Enterprise Sales Contact Information:**

Email: [insidesales@telestream.net](mailto:insidesales@telestream.net)

US Toll-free: 877-681-2088

International: +1 530-470-1300

Hours: 8am–5pm Pacific Time, Monday-Friday