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# MICROSOFT INTERNET EXPLORER 8 (IE8)

## UW-W Campus Upgrade Information

### MICROSOFT INTERNET EXPLORER 8 (HENCE, **IE8**) IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR INSTALL ON CAMPUS COMPUTERS

Beginning **December 4, 2009**, you may choose to upgrade to the **IE8 browser** on your campus Windows desktop or laptop. iCIT has tested **IE8** and confirmed that it is compatible with campus enterprise systems, and has made an installer available for campus faculty and staff (instructions below). You may choose to self-install **IE8** now, to begin using the new interface and features. During early spring 2010, **IE8** will be automatically distributed to all campus workstations as the default version.

If you are accustomed to **IE7**, you may choose **not** to upgrade at this time. Although the upgrade offers many time-saving benefits, not upgrading now will **not** prevent you from accessing any currently available University resources or applications.

If you decide to upgrade, **IE8** will replace your current version of Explorer. You **cannot** have multiple versions of Microsoft Internet Explorer installed on your computer at the same time. The upgrade is not reversible - once you upgrade to **IE8**, you can't easily go back to an earlier version. iCIT recommends upgrading.

Microsoft has added many convenient new features and improvement to **IE8** that will make your web browsing easier, faster, and will simplify some frequent, repetitive tasks (for example, searching).

What follows, is a brief overview that will help you upgrade, and a general overview of new features and improvements that make this upgrade worthwhile.

## HOW TO INSTALL

After your Windows computer starts, in the bottom left corner of the main window click the **Start button**, and then from the menu, select **Run**. In the dialog box that appears, type the word **nalwin**, which opens the **ZENworks Application Window**. In the window, browse to **Install** directory (folder), then to **Microsoft**. In the **Microsoft** directory (folder) double click **Internet Explorer 8.a**.

**ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT:**  
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UW-W CAMPUS UPGRADE INFORMATION

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[http://www.uww.edu/icit/training/pdf/IE8\\_Upgrade.pdf](http://www.uww.edu/icit/training/pdf/IE8_Upgrade.pdf)

## MICROSOFT RESOURCES AVAILABLE ONLINE:

To see Microsoft's instructional videos that highlight new features and improvements go to:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/internet-explorer/videos.aspx>

For Microsoft's detailed, illustrated descriptions of new features and improvements go to:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/internet-explorer/features/>

## IE8 NEW FEATURES: HIGHLIGHTS COMPATIBILITY VIEW

Microsoft **IE8** offers many new features that you will find convenient, but some websites have not yet been updated to work with Microsoft **IE8**, and may display or function incorrectly. If you come across a website that doesn't look "right" (for example, the text is garbled or misaligned, and some links, or buttons, do not work correctly), try switching to **Compatibility View**, by clicking the **Compatibility View button**. This view (a new feature in version 8) tells **IE8** to display the site as Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 (**IE7**) would, and should eliminate problems.

Once you've decided to view a website using **Compatibility View**, you do not have to remember to switch every time you visit the site: **IE8** will remember your preferred view for this specific site, and will automatically switch to **Compatibility View** next time you visit the site.

**Compatibility View** button is a toggle - clicking it once will turn the **Compatibility View** on; clicking it again, will turn it off. If you change your mind, you can always revert to seeing a website site as **IE8** would display it - simply click the **Compatibility View** button again.

Some website authors know that their sites, specific web pages, or online applications haven't been designed to work with **IE8**, and present problems. That's why website owners can tell **IE8** to automatically use **Compatibility View** whenever you visit their website. It is easy to know if the owner of the website forces **IE8** into **Compatibility View**, because the **Compatibility View** button isn't visible and **Compatibility View** can't be turned off.

Some UW-Whitewater web pages and applications, including the UW-W **Homepage**, the main Students and Faculty/Staff pages, automatically trigger **Compatibility View**.

## ACCELERATORS

Accelerators, another new feature in **IE8**, make finding and re-using information faster. When you are on a web page, selecting content makes a blue **Accelerator button** appear. Click it, and you will see a menu of available options.

For example, reading a review of a restaurant, select the restaurant's address, click the blue **Accelerator button**, and from available options choose **Google Maps**. This displays the location of the restaurant on a map, eliminating the need for copying the address to the clipboard first, and then going to a map website, pasting the address, and finally clicking the **Search** button. With **IE8**, much of the information you use becomes accessible faster. Choose among many available accelerators: for example, you may prefer to use *Microsoft Bing Maps*, or *Google Maps*, or *Yahoo maps* - you can add or remove specific **Accelerators** from the menu, customizing it to match your preferences. **Accelerators** provide such functionality as defining the highlighted word in a dictionary or encyclopedia, sending the highlighted content to e-mail or blog, or using an automated translator service.

For a gallery of currently available **Accelerators** (in English) check Microsoft website at:

<http://ie.microsoft.com/activities/en-en>

For information in other languages check:

<http://ie.microsoft.com/activities/en-en/globaldirectory.aspx>

## WEB SLICES

**Web Slices**, another new feature in **IE8**, lets you select a changing element of a web page you visit often, and be notified when the information on the page has changed.

Prices, news, weather forecasts, and other types of information change frequently. **Web Slices** feature lets you select and bookmark an element of a page that is of interest to you, and you will be automatically alerted when this information changes. For example, you could use **Web Slices** to monitor weather forecast for the weekend for which you planned a family trip. While a bookmark lets you keep track of a page you'd like to remember, **Web Slices** lets you keep track of specific sections of a page.

## InPrivate Browsing

When you browse the web, and interact with websites, your activity leaves an electronic trail behind. Sometimes this may be a good thing: your browser's history feature lets you revisit many sites you had visited before without

having to re-type their entire web address/URL. Or, you can tell your browser to remember some of the passwords you use frequently. But sometimes such record of your activities is not desirable and may be dangerous: you could use the new **InPrivate browsing** in **IE8** to access your bank account on a computer you share with others, without having to worry that someone may be able to re-trace your steps and gather information. With **InPrivate browsing IE8** does not retain any *History*, *Cookies*, or other *temporary files* it normally stores to speed up your browsing.

## Other New Features and Improvements

There are several other, less prominent, but useful features, and many improvements to previously existing features. **Suggested Sites**, a new feature which you can enable if you choose to, suggests websites you may be interested in, based on your web-browsing history; and **SmartScreen Filter** improves **IE8** ability to detect pages with malicious or fraudulent content, and warn you in advance.

Among notable improvements, links formerly grouped under favorites are now displayed by default on the **Favorites Bar**, making them more accessible. Tabs that are related (for example a tab opened from a web page displayed in another tab) are now **color-coded** in a way that allows quicker identification. **IE8** is also more resistant to crashes: if a site crashes, only one tab will usually be affected, and **IE8** now has improved ability to **recover and restore** just those problem tabs, without having to restart the browser.

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