



MICROSOFT WINDOWS

OPERATING SYSTEMS

Watch Out: SPOT Devices Due This Fall

Microsoft's hardware partners will unleash the first generation of smart watches based on the software giant's SPOT (Smart Personal Object Technology) initiative this fall, devices that will be tied to the subscription-oriented MSN Direct service. SPOT

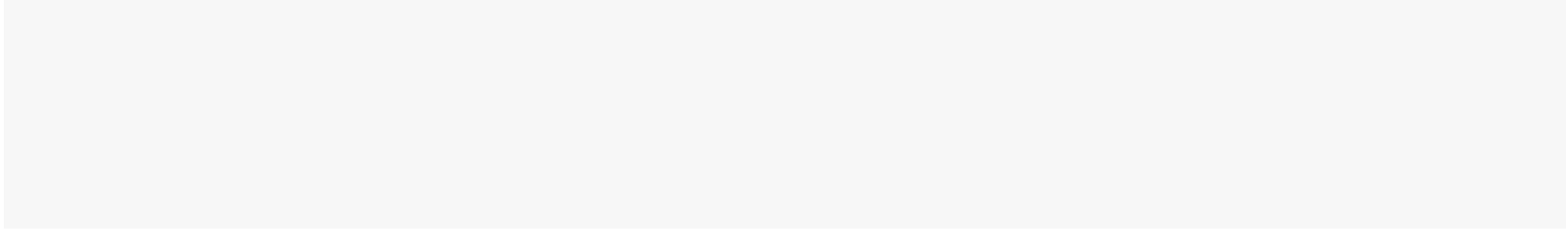
Paul Thurrott

June 4, 2003

1 Min Read



This fall, Microsoft's hardware partners will unleash the first generation of smart watches based on the software giant's Smart Personal Objects Technology (SPOT) initiative. The devices will be tied to the subscription-oriented MSN Direct service and will use a new Microsoft .NET-based OS called TinyCLR, which uses under-utilized portions of the FM radio signal. A fully customizable Web interface will give SPOT users always-on wireless access to weather, sports scores, stock quotes, movies, dining, games, and other information, and let them determine which alerts they receive. Initially, watch makers such as Fossil and Suunto will offer SPOT watches but Microsoft says other companies will be on board soon.



"[SPOT] watches with MSN Direct service offer an entirely new way for people to stay up to date and informed about the information they care about," said Roger Gulrajani, director for Microsoft's SPOT Group. "With Fossil and Suunto, we have created watches that deliver information with fashion and flair--an important attribute for an accessory people wear every day."

The first batch of SPOT watches will retail for \$100 to \$300; the MSN Direct service will cost \$59 for a yearly subscription or \$9.95 a month. MSN Direct will first be available in all major US metropolitan areas and in the largest Canadian cities, Microsoft says. For more information about SPOT, see my preview on the [SuperSite for Windows](#).



About the Author

Paul Thurrott

Paul Thurrott is senior technical analyst for *Windows IT Pro*. He writes the [SuperSite for Windows](#), a weekly editorial for [Windows IT Pro UPDATE](#), and a daily Windows news an...

Sign up for the ITPro Today newsletter

Stay on top of the IT universe with commentary, news analysis, how-to's, and tips delivered to your inbox daily.

NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

You May Also Like

Microsoft Windows

Angle Symbol (∟)

Microsoft Windows

Beta Symbol (β)

Microsoft Windows

Registered Trademark Symbol (®)

Microsoft Windows

Inch Symbol (")

ITProToday

Get the latest news, expert advice, and insights from ITPro Today.

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

Editor's Choice

POWERSHELL

How I Built My Own PowerShell Multi-File Search Tool

OCT 22, 2024

CAREER TIPS

Am I Burned Out? How To Identify and Address Burnout in IT

OCT 24, 2024

OPS AND MORE

Choosing Between Cloud and On-Prem MLOps: What's Best for Your...

OCT 23, 2024

Exclusive ITPro Resources

BCDR Basics: A Quick Reference Guide for Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery

OCT 10, 2024 | 1 MIN READ

ITPro Today's 2024 IT Priorities Report

SEP 25, 2024 | 1 MIN READ

Tech Careers: Quick Reference Guide to IT Job Titles

SEP 13, 2024 | 1 MIN READ

Migrating From VMware: Guide to a Successful Transition

SEP 3, 2024 | 1 MIN READ

See all ITPro Resources

Featured Technical Explainers

DEVOPS

DevOps: Key to Faster, More Efficient Government...

MICROSOFT...

Exploring eBPF for Windows: Opportunities and Limitations

OPS AND MORE

Choosing Between Cloud and On-Prem MLOps: What's Best for Your...

Sign up for the ITPro Today newsletter

Stay on top of the IT universe with commentary, news analysis, how-to's, and tips delivered to your inbox daily.

NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

Recent What Is

BCDR Basics: A Quick Reference Guide for Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery

POWERSHELL

Types of PowerShell Environment Variables

Introduction To PowerShell Environment Variables