

Dear ICE User,



You may be aware that our next major update to ICE will be available in September 2008. This update includes a variety of new features, as well as continued efforts to improve the efficiency and user experience of the ICE Desktop in existing areas of the system.

To this end, Anglia have made use of new web technologies now available in order to improve the way that the system operates. The use of **Asynchronous Javascript and XML** technologies (**AJAX**) speeds up the ICE Desktop in certain key areas, and results in a more responsive user experience with less screen refreshes. We have particularly made use of this in ICE Requesting, and will be looking to roll it out to further areas of the system in future releases.

This has meant that we have had to review our minimum requirements that client machines can run on. This notice is to advise you of such changes, so that you can prepare for them if needs be.

- As of the September 2008 release, ICE will now **require** a minimum web browser of **Internet Explorer v6.0**. This will be a minimum requirement of the system.
- In addition, we **strongly recommend** that the minimum operating system upon which it runs is **Windows XP SP2**. If you have client machines running any previous version of Windows, Anglia will be able to provide some online test pages that you can use to assess your compatibility with the new release of ICE.

We have tested the upcoming release of ICE on Windows 98, also using IE6, and our own tests have indicated that this configuration will work, so you may well find that an older operating system than Windows XP will run ICE correctly, however we do urge you to check this for yourselves to ensure that you will have no post-upgrade compatibility issues. We cannot guarantee that ICE will continue to remain compatible with Windows 98 in future release.

We recommend that you review your client machines, both within your trust and with any third parties (e.g. GP practices) that connect through to your system, before upgrading to September 2008, to ensure that you will not have any compatibility issues with the new release of ICE. Please be aware – once an upgrade is complete and data is flowing into a system again, it is not possible to roll back to a previous version of the software without data loss. Therefore you must be satisfied that your client machines will be compatible with the new client machine requirements before upgrading.

This applies to the ICE Desktop only – ThinICE (on the PDA) is not affected by these changes.

For more information on AJAX in general, please visit this web resource:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AJAX>

Please don't hesitate to contact Anglia Healthcare if you have any queries.

Regards,

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