



Microsoft Office Live Meeting to Lync



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V2, LLC

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Microsoft introduced Lync 18 months ago as their new flagship collaboration tool. Essentially a combination of Live Meeting and Office Communicator, Lync is designed to be a single source for enterprise level communication – online chat, VoIP, and collaboration all thru a single client. Reducing the number of communication channels will be a welcome addition for companies struggling to manage and integrate numerous tools. Teams will find this to be a more effective communication tool -- view status, chat, share documents and instantly meet and collaborate online. All necessary tools in running a successful business in today's world.

However to achieve this single solution for all methods of collaboration, Microsoft has made a decision to restrict the functionality of Lync, due to the high support costs associated with Live Meeting functionality. Starting spring of 2012, Microsoft will begin the process of converting all current licenses of Live Meeting to Lync, with the goal of sun setting Live Meeting in June of 2014. Microsoft knows for businesses that currently use Live Meeting for things such as E-Learning, training, registration, and shared video, Lync will not work. In these situations Microsoft has made a strategic decision to partner with companies like V2.

Listed below are several key differences between Live Meeting and Lync as a webinar platform. If your company is in a situation where Lync does not meet your more enhanced web conferencing needs, give V2 a call at 503-286-3581 x107.

| Function | Live Meeting | Lync | Impact |
|---|--|-----------|--|
| Back-end Reporting – attendance reporting for lead generation. | Yes | No | No ability to pull attendance reporting directly from Lync. |
| Content upload – ability to support and upload multiple file formats. | Yes Supports 46 different file formats, including movie files. | No | Converted files render incorrectly/ application sharing display at low viewing quality. Not recommended for sharing movies or animation. |
| Large Attendance Capacity | Yes Up to 1,250 per event | No | Maximum attendance for a Lync session is 250 users. |
| Public facing archives – Allows open access to recorded events. Hosts recording files instantly per license. Can track viewers. | Yes | No | Users save a WMV file locally on their desktop, and upload it to an external server for public viewing. |
| Integrated access for scheduling, editing and administrative tasks. | Yes | No | Lync meetings booked thru Outlook, no allowance for configuration of settings, meetings, and recordings. Limited edit ability. |
| Traffic / Bandwidth control | Yes | No | Lync does not throttle bandwidth to voice or video traffic. |