

Microsoft shutting down Soapbox video service

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Microsoft has begun informing Soapbox users that the service will stop accepting [video](#) uploads on July 29 and that people have until August 31 to download videos they want to keep.

"On August 31, 2009, MSN will no longer offer MSN Soapbox," a [Microsoft](#) spokesperson said in an email response to an AFP inquiry.

Microsoft is continuing its MSN Video online streaming service, which

reports having 88 million users worldwide.

"Online video will remain a key part of the MSN offering," the Microsoft spokesperson said.

"We remain committed to delivering amazing experiences for consumers while keeping a keen eye on our business objectives during this tough economic climate."

Microsoft launched Soapbox publicly in early 2007.

[Google](#) executives said during an earnings conference call last week that they expect YouTube to soon be profitable. Google bought [YouTube](#) in 2006 in a 1.65-billion-dollar stock deal.

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