

Microsoft unveils operating system update

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Microsoft Corporation's Corporate Vice President Nick Parker describes new products during the Computex Taipei 2013, one of the world's largest IT exhibitions, in Taipei, Taiwan, Wednesday, June 5, 2013. During Wednesday's event, Microsoft unveiled its operating system upgrade 8.1. (AP Photo/Wally Santana)

Software giant Microsoft has unveiled the updated version of its touch-enabled Windows 8 operating system at the world's second largest computer show in Taipei.

Tami Reller, chief financial and marketing officer of the company's Windows Division, said that Windows 8.1 would be available on both PCs and tablets later this year.

Speaking at the Computex show Wednesday, Reller said the 8.1 update took into account input from consumers on the Windows 8 system, which has received only lukewarm reviews.

"Windows 8.1 furthers the bold vision of Windows 8 by responding to customer feedback and adding new features and functionality that advance the touch experience and mobile computing's potential," she said.

Antoine Leblond, corporate vice president of Windows Program Management, demonstrated the upgraded system, which included enhancements in areas including platform personalization and search. The 8.1 system restores the start button function that was removed from Windows 8.



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Once the most substantial presence in the computer industry, Microsoft Corp. has been working hard over the past two years to cope with the rise of tablet computing, and the resulting erosion in PC sales.

Microsoft's own tablets have a 4 percent market share, far behind that of industry leader Apple. They have been available for seven months.

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