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By: Marius Oiaga, Technology News Editor

Windows XP
Microsoft

Microsoft: 5573 Does Not Imply a Specific XP SP3 Build

5573 is not the RTM build of XP SP3

Microsoft is not saying much at all about the third and final service pack for Windows XP, and whatever information does manage to get through the translucent filters implemented by Steven Sinofsky, Senior Vice President, Windows and Windows Live Engineering Group, presents little relevance. A recent reference related to XP SP3 is Build 5573 from KB951126. Judging by the fact that XP SP 3 Release Candidate 2 Refresh 2 was Build 5508, speculation began circulating of a **new version number 5573**, that could even be the RTM build for the service pack. I contacted Microsoft on the matter, and this is not the case. "The reference comes from 'A multiprocessor computer that is running Windows Vista or Windows XP stops responding on a black screen after you resume the computer from hibernation' KB article 951126 available here: <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/951126/>. The file versions discussed on the Microsoft Help and Support page, referring to a hotfix for Windows XP SP3, are accurate," a Microsoft spokesman revealed in an email to Softpedia. Yes, 5573 is mentioned alongside the hotfix for XP SP3, but this does not mean that it is also the gold build of the service pack. "The high numbering is common practice for hotfixes that are intended to be able to be applied to multiple versions of the operating system. The file version discussed does not imply a specific Windows XP SP3 version number," the spokesman added. As for the availability date of Windows XP SP3, the Microsoft spokesman in question delivered the standard answer that has become nothing short of a leitmotif for the Redmond company in discussing the next service pack for Vista's successor: "The final version of Windows XP SP3 is still on target to be released the first half of calendar year 2008."