

The New World of Working from Anywhere

Working remotely is here to stay, and Acer and Microsoft have teamed up to support this new remote workforce with Windows Autopilot enabled devices



The remote work model offers many advantages, including cost savings, flexible schedules, reduced commuting, and increased employee satisfaction and productivity.

REMOTE WORK WAS ONCE a convenience reserved for higher-level, higher-value employees; often working for top-tier technology companies. Now, the current global circumstances have revealed remote work is effective and productive for most all employees at all levels across a variety of industries.

In fact, the IWG Global Workspace Survey conducted in 2019 found 75% of workers consider remote or flexible working “the new normal.” And that survey was completed even before the global pandemic began in early 2020. The remote work model offers many obvious advantages, including cost savings for both employees and employers, flexible schedules, reduced commuting, and increased employee satisfaction and productivity.



Remote workers naturally depend heavily on their laptops to remain connected and productive. They need a business grade laptop like the Acer TravelMate Spin P4 that provides those capabilities.

Naturally, there are also perceived disadvantages such as feeling isolated or distracted, plus possible collaboration, communication, or productivity challenges. Statistics gathered from a variety of sources by technology review site Review42, paint an interesting picture of the collective attitudes around remote work:

18%
work
remotely
full-time

77%
report
being more
productive

30%
save
upward of
\$5,000
a year

99%
desire to
continue
working
remotely

55%
of businesses
across the globe
offer at least
some capacity to
work remotely

\$11,000
annual
employer savings
for each half-
time remote
worker

\$4,000
annual
average salary
increase for
remote
workers

And it's not just the pandemic driving the move to remote work. According to data issued by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 4.7 million people—or approximately 3.4% of the U.S. workforce—were working remotely before the global pandemic began. But the pandemic has clearly had a colossal impact. Industry researcher Gartner Inc. conducted a global survey that found 88% of businesses have mandated or at least encouraged all employees to work from home since the pandemic began.

Some of the enduring concerns around remote work are connectivity, communication, and security in remote environments. And remote workers naturally depend heavily on their laptops to remain connected and productive. Remote workers need a business-grade laptop that provides those capabilities.

Supporting this new and vastly expanded remote workforce is now more streamlined for IT staff charged with configuring and deploying Acer business laptops running Windows 10. Acer laptops support Microsoft Windows Autopilot—a group of cloud-based deployment technologies that automate the processes of creating, configuring, and deploying master images. By supporting Autopilot, Acer laptops are significantly easier for IT to deploy and manage to support the newly expanded remote workforce.



Windows Autopilot uses Windows 10 as optimized for Acer devices. This version is preinstalled on Acer business devices, so custom images and drivers are unnecessary.

What Is Windows Autopilot?

Windows Autopilot first came out with the release of Windows 10 version 1703 more than a year ago. It has naturally been updated with new features and improvements since its initial release. Windows Autopilot was originally envisioned as a way to facilitate self-service remote deployment. Clearly, its importance has significantly increased in recent months.

Windows Autopilot helps IT set up and pre-configure new devices. IT can also use Windows Autopilot to reset, repurpose, and recover lost devices—or even reassign current devices. Windows Autopilot technologies work in concert to help IT automate and manage these processes.

Running Windows Autopilot requires access to certain features in Windows 10, Azure Active Directory, and Mobile Device Management (MDM) services. Devices must meet certain requirements to be Windows Autopilot-enabled and therefore have access to these features. Autopilot supports the following editions of Windows 10:

- Windows 10 Pro
- Windows 10 Pro Education
- Windows 10 Pro for Workstations
- Windows 10 Enterprise
- Windows 10 Education
- Windows 10 Enterprise 2019 LTSC (long-term servicing channel)

Windows Autopilot uses Windows 10 as optimized for Acer devices. This version is preinstalled on Acer business devices, so custom images and drivers are unnecessary. Instead of re-imaging every device, IT can transform Windows 10 into a ready state, and can remotely:

- Apply settings and policies
- Install apps
- Change the edition of Windows 10
- Automatically join devices to Active Directory or Azure Active Directory
- Auto-enroll devices into MDM services, such as Microsoft Intune
- Restrict administrator account creation
- Auto-assign devices to configuration groups

How Autopilot and Acer Support Remote Work

The newly distributed workforce needs access to technology rapidly and seamlessly. IT staff typically has to spend a lot of time building

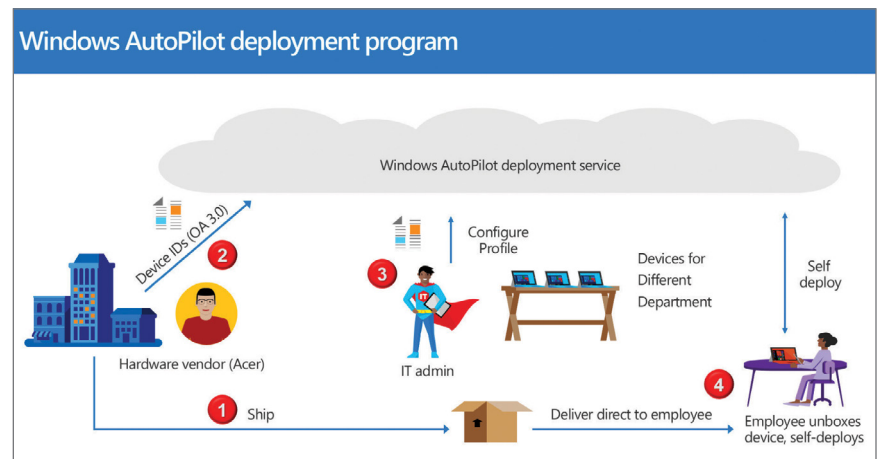


The Acer TravelMate Spin P4, which is optimized to support Windows Autopilot, provides a laundry list of features that support deployment to remote workers and remote work itself.

and customizing master images to configure and deploy laptops. With Windows Autopilot, IT only has to ensure the user can connect to a network and verify his or her credentials. All other deployment steps are automated.

Using cloud-based services, Windows Autopilot vastly reduces the amount of time IT has to spend on deploying, managing, and retiring devices. This alone makes it well-suited to supporting remote work. It also reduces the infrastructure required to maintain the devices, which again is well-positioned for remote work support since workers are more often at their homes than in the office.

In the event of a device being reassigned, IT can quickly prepare the device for a new user with Windows Autopilot Reset. IT can also use Autopilot Reset in numerous repair scenarios to quickly restore device operations.



According to Microsoft, even device users themselves can use Autopilot to easily and remotely accomplish the following functions using the corresponding aspects of Windows Autopilot:

- Deploy and configure devices for user self-setup with Windows Autopilot user-driven mode
- Deploy devices to be automatically configured for shared use, such as a kiosk or digital signage device with Windows Autopilot self-deploying mode
- Redeploy a device in a business-ready state with Windows Autopilot Reset
- Pre-provision a device with up-to-date applications, policies, and settings with Windows Autopilot pre-provisioning
- Deploy Windows 10 on an existing Windows 7 or 8.1 device with Windows Autopilot for existing devices



The TravelMate Spin P4 can remain connected at high connection speeds, meets stringent security requirements, and is Windows Autopilot-enabled out of the box.

Acer TravelMate Spin P4: Optimized for Windows Autopilot

The Acer TravelMate Spin P4, which is optimized to support Windows Autopilot, provides a laundry list of features that support deployment to remote workers and remote work itself—just in how the device is constructed and the business features it provides. It comes with a spill-resistant keyboard and a 14-hour battery life that can be rapidly charged to up to 80% within just an hour. This rugged laptop is engineered to withstand drops, falls, and water spills, possibly introduced by others coming into the remote workspace. The shock absorbent corners of the TravelMate Spin P4 case have been independently certified to meet MIL-STD 810G military-grade impact resistance.

Connectivity is also critical for remote work. The TravelMate Spin P4 can remain connected at high connection speeds. With optional LTE support (eSIM & DSSA), Bluetooth 5.0, and a 2x2 Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax) wireless connection, it also hosts a variety of additional ports including RJ45, a smart card reader, multiple USB Type-C, and the latest Thunderbolt™ 4 to increase flexibility and connectivity to additional peripherals.



The TravelMate Spin P4 has flexible functionality at your fingertips with a scratch-resistant touch screen that can be rotated 360 degrees.

And, finally, security remains a critical factor for remote work support. The Acer TravelMate Spin P4 meets stringent security requirements. The hardware-level Trusted Platform Module (TPM) 2.0 is a powerful anti-tampering chip that checks for any sign of outside intrusion as the system is booting up. It is also equipped with fingerprint log-in, Windows Hello (which uses facial or fingerprint recognition and a PIN to ensure secure access), and a webcam cover to further protect user privacy and provide additional levels of security.



Acer's robust and secure Windows 10 Professional notebooks like the Spin P4 provide proven performance that is optimized for cloud operations and integrate with Windows Autopilot to support remote work efforts.

From initial device deployment to end of life, Windows Autopilot leverages cloud-based services to simplify the entire lifecycle of Windows 10 devices like the Acer TravelMate Spin P4. This greatly reduces the time and resources IT must spend maintaining the remote work infrastructure. Using Windows Autopilot, IT can quickly transform devices into business-class machines without having to perform repetitive imaging; and with flexible configuration options to suit any business requirement.

Acer and Autopilot

All of this fits in well with Acer's built-for-business philosophy, especially when it comes to providing optimal levels of support for remote work. The Acer TravelMate Spin P4/P4 series is Windows Autopilot-enabled out of the box. It also runs up-to-minute versions of Windows Pro, and is powered by the 11th Gen Intel® Core™ i7 processor. With its compact, business-grade design, the TravelMate Spin P4 provides the rugged durability, security, and connectivity the remote workforce needs.

And in remote work settings, the TravelMate Spin P4/P4 series is built to last and built to perform. It features a scratch-resistant 14-inch FHD Corning® Gorilla® Glass touch screen device users can rotate 360 degrees into laptop, stand, tent, or tablet mode. It also features a dedicated NVIDIA MX350 graphics card, MIL-STD 810G military durability standard, extended battery life, and rapid recharge. The TravelMate Spin P4/P4 series is truly built for business, and provides enterprise-class durability, security, connectivity, and a highly refined user experience.

Remaining Remote

Working in this remote world, it's critical to have reliable, capable, and rugged technology. Acer's robust and secure Windows 10 Professional notebooks like the TravelMate Spin P4 provide proven performance that is optimized for cloud operations and integrate with Windows Autopilot to support remote work efforts. Acer devices help remote workers stay productive and connected from wherever they're working.

To learn more about how Acer devices work with Windows Autopilot, please visit [\[link TKTKTK\]](#)