

Exchange Summit 2025

Würzburg

We need to talk about (onprem) Exchange Server

Dave Stork

Vielen Dank unseren Eventpartnern!

Platin-Partner

INGRAM MICRO

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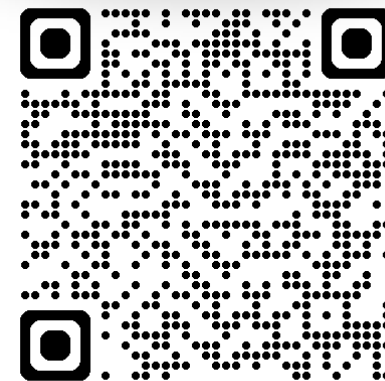
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MCT

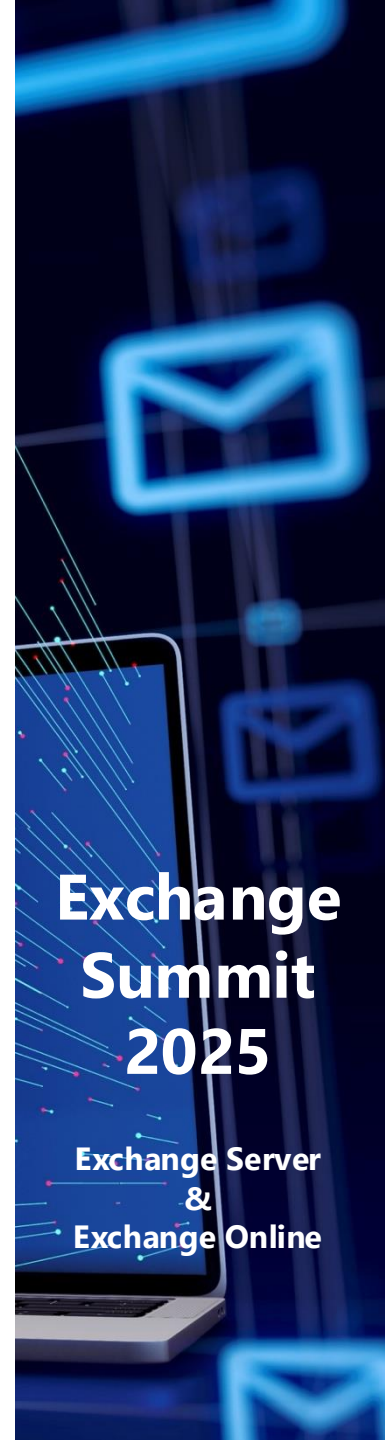


<https://about.me/dmstork>

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Why This Session?

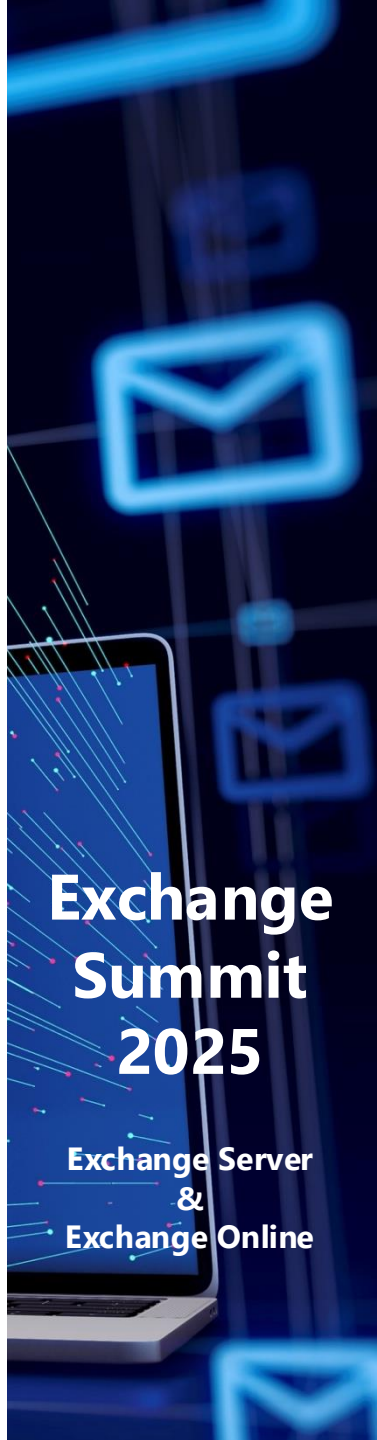


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Some important changes are coming

- Exchange has a major impact on your environment. You need a strategy
- End of support in October 2025 for Exchange Server 2016 & 2019
- Exchange Server Subscription Edition released in early second half 2025
- Mail transport is what will get you
- Exchange Online will throttle and block unsupported Exchange
- High Volume Email & External Recipient limit



The three big scenarios

Fully
Cloud

Fully On-
premises

Hybrid
Exchange

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Fully Cloud

- No action required regarding Exchange Server (On-Prem)
 - Duh
- However: Note changes in Exchange limits regarding high volume mails

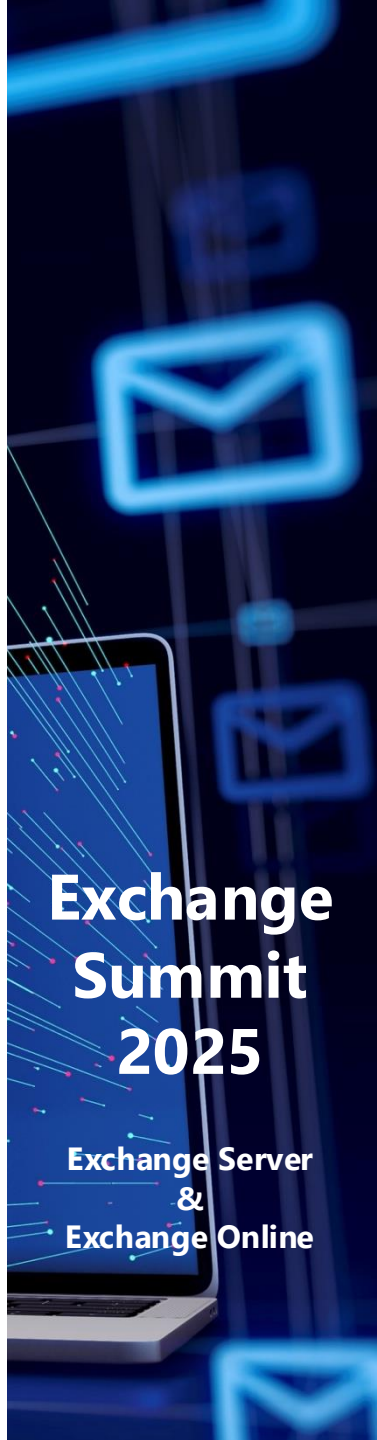
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Fully On-premises

- Work your way to Exchange Server 2019 NOW!
 - CU15 is just out!
- Remove all legacy Exchange Servers
- Then in-place upgrade 2019 to Exchange Server SE

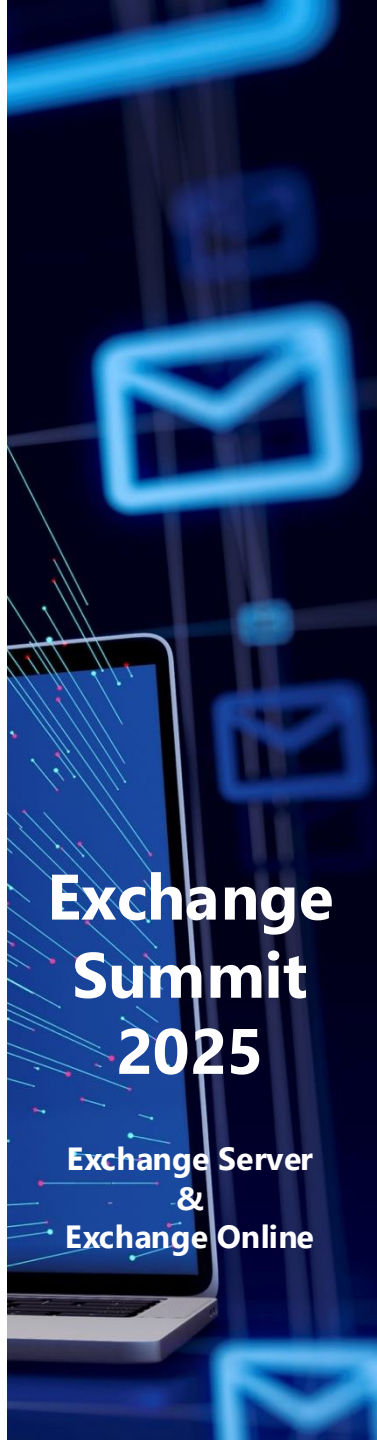


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Hybrid Exchange

- Do you have/need on-premises mailboxes?
- Yes:
 - Upgrade to 2019 now with the option of In-place upgrade
- No:
 - Do I need Exchange Server?
 - Object Management
 - Mail Relay



Challenge: Object Management



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What to do with Object Management

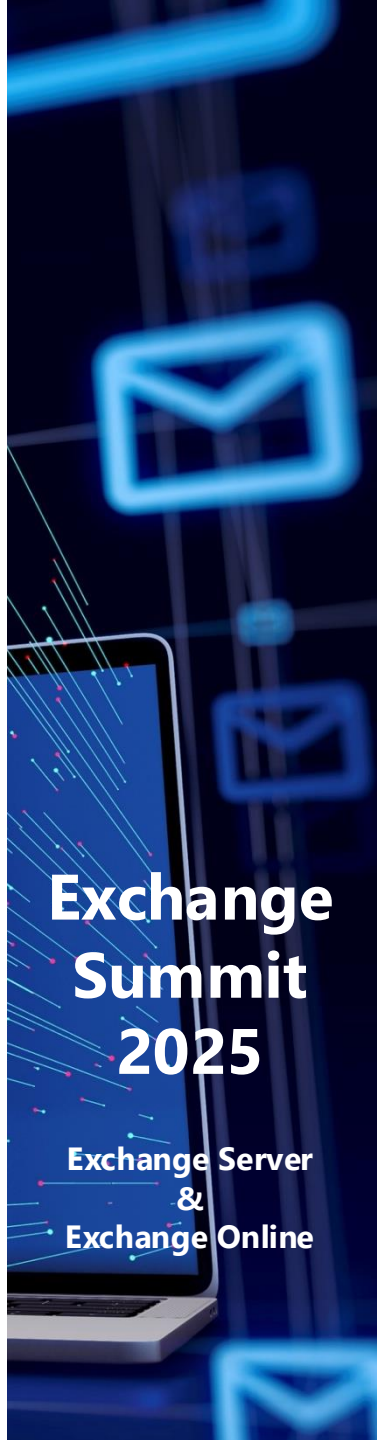
- When Directory Sync is active, on-prem AD is leading
- Choice: Exchange Server or Management tools only (since E2019 CU)
- Tools only: Depends on organization maturity.
 - Can you work with PowerShell?
 - Do you use automation pipelines?
 - Or is the Exchange Admin Center very comforting?
 - Where is the MX Record pointing to?

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Challenge: Mail Flow



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What to do with mail flow?

- Do you require mail relaying from on-premises to online? Exchange Server is an option, but consider...
 - Cost of operations
 - Tight integration in AD & dependency
 - Edge Transport role or other third-party solutions

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What to do with mail flow?

Sending via EXO has benefit of all your security investments (SPF,DKIM, DMARC, DANE/MTA-STS etc..). If not via on-prem Exchange:

- Client submission to Online:
 - Target: smtp.office365.com
 - Basic Auth will be removed in September 2025
 - OAuth support?
 - TLS1.2+?
- Direct Send (no auth):
 - Target: MX record
 - Spam filtered (add IP to SPF)
 - No relaying

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What to do with mail flow?

- SMTP Relay
 - Connector required
 - MX record
 - STARTTLS required
 - Certificate requires domain name
- App registration in Entra ID
 - OAuth & Service Principal
 - MS Graph, EWS or legacy SMTP AUTH
 - Deprecated ApplicationAccess Policy -> Exchange RBAC for apps
 - Set minimal scope!



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What to do with mailflow?

- EXO is not intended for high bulk mailings. There are Recipient Rate limits:
 - 10.000 recipients per 24 hours
 - Of that 2.000 External Recipients per 24 hours
- Do you need more?
 - Internal: High Email Volume
 - External: Azure Communication Services
 - Still requires configuration of domains

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Final Thoughts

- Should you still use mail for data transfer?
 - API's are faster, safe, more granular than SMTP
 - No mailboxes with retention
- Begin thinking of cutting directory synchronization
 - Does an EXO object need an on-prem AD object?
- Why do we still allow Opportunistic TLS?

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Q&A



Resources

Links

- [Exchange Server Roadmap Update - Microsoft Community Hub](#)
- [End of Support for Exchange Server 2016 and Exchange Server 2019: T-12 Months - Microsoft Community Hub](#)
- [Upgrading your organization from current versions to Exchange Server SE - Microsoft Community Hub](#)
- [Decommissioning Exchange Server 2016 - Microsoft Community Hub](#)
- [Removing Your Last Exchange Server FAQ - Microsoft Community Hub](#)
- [How to set up a multifunction device or application to send emails using Microsoft 365 or Office 365 | Microsoft Learn](#)
- [Exchange Online to introduce External Recipient Rate Limit - Microsoft Community Hub](#)
- [Exchange Online limits - Service Descriptions | Microsoft Learn](#)
- [Exchange Online to introduce External Recipient Rate Limit - Microsoft Community Hub](#)
- [Manage high volume emails for Microsoft 365 in Exchange Online Public preview | Microsoft Learn](#)
- [Azure Communication Services – Communication APIs | Microsoft Azure](#)

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