Windows 10 Turns Five

Hard to believe that it was on a sunny day in late July 2015 that Microsoft released its latest version of Windows. Five years ago!

Ed Bott writes for ZDNet that Microsoft’s original intent was to make Windows 10 run on hundreds of millions of mobile devices. Windows 10 is alive and well on desktops and notebooks but not so much on the mobile side.

“Windows 10 Mobile is ofﬁcially defunct, and small Windows 10 tablets have completely disappeared from the market,” writes Bott.

Many tech companies, including Microsoft, have discovered that slower and more cautious is better when it comes to software releases.

“When Windows 10 debuted in mid–2015, Microsoft’s marketing and promotion were aggressive and insistent. The free upgrade offer was only good for one year, they said, so hurry before it’s too late. The ﬁrst major feature update appeared a mere four months later, and three more feature updates in the next two years brought some major changes,” adds Bott.

But he says that “pedal–to–the–metal pace turned out to be too fast,” when serious issues arose with the 1809 update. The up date was quite buggy, forcing Microsoft to pull it and begin a six–month investigation to track down the problem before restarting the rollout.

Bott says Windows 10 accomplished two major goals: It erased the memory of Windows 8 (which forced many Windows users to stay with version 7). Windows 10 also provided an upgrade path for businesses who were still using Windows 7.

