

Editing Documents Offline within Outlook

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I am currently looking at using Outlook 2007 for our mobile users to be able to work when away from the office. If they check out the document and then edit the offline (Outlook) version whilst out of the office, the changes are automatically synced when they send/receive within Outlook. If they then check-in the document, they can add their comments to keep version history.

The problem that I (and the users) are finding is when the document is NOT checked out.

Say they are out of office and realise they forgot to check out the doc they are working on. The document is still within Outlook so they can begin modifying it. When they arrive back in the office and try to sync, it does not do so automatically (because it's not checked out). I open the edited document within Outlook and then use the 'Update' option and the error about the file being read-only is shown (again, because it's not checked out).

The next step is to check out the document, hoping it would work this time. The only problem is I checkout and this server copy overwrites my local copy.

Anyone know of a workaround, because we want both the 'Forced' check out feature and the Outlook offline capability.

Regards,

Dietmar

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