

# Retailers and Support Services: Analysis and Forecasts

By Kurt Scherf, Vice President and Principal Analyst

2Q 2010

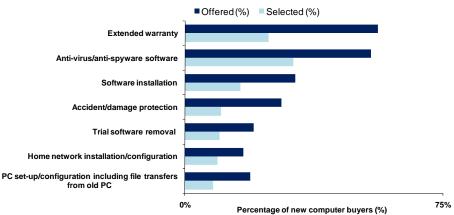
#### **Synopsis**

## This report analyzes how consumer electronics retailers and PC OEMs are building support capabilities. It provides an overview of the key services being offered and discusses the role of support businesses in the context of revenue and new service category creation. It also provides primary consumer data and includes forecasts for different categories of premium technical support services through 2014.

## What Support Features do Consumers Purchase for PCs?

### **Computer Support Features: Offered and Selected**

"Q305. Which of the following additional features did you purchase with your new home computer?" (Among BB HHs who purchased a computer, n=633, ±4%)



Source: Customer Support in the Digital Home Sample: 2,063 U.S. broadband households, ± 2% © 2010 Parks Associates

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"A significant percentage of consumers want to have professional technical support services offered to them at the time of a new PC or CE purchase, so retailers are well positioned to create new revenue streams," said Kurt Scherf, vice president, principal analyst, Parks Associates. "They can also be well positioned to provide after-purchase and break/fix support services via truck rolls, in-store services, or remote support services."

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Home Network Set-up Services: Major Retailers and OEMs

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HDTV Installation Services: Major Retailers

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Home Theater Installation Services: Major Retailers

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Computer Tune-up Services: Major Retailers and OEMs

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Use of and Interest in Professional Home Network Installation



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Interest in Using Professional Home Network Support Service

Value of Support for Network Applications

Home Networking Troubleshooting Services from Major Retailers and OEMs

Preferred Channels for the Delivery of Tech Support Daily Call Volume Breakout: Remote Support Vendors

Remote Support Resolution Success Rate

Remote Tech Support Services from Major Retailers Remote Tech Support Vendors Working with Retailers

Key Assumptions: New Home Computer Set-up

Key Assumptions: In-store and On-site Home Computer Support

Key Assumptions: Remote Home Computer/Home Network Troubleshooting

Key Assumptions: Remote Home Computer Tune-up Key Assumptions: Home Network Set-up and Configuration

Retailer/OEM Support Services Revenues

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Vendors Providing Smartphone-based Retail Information and Promotions

Recycling Programs from Major CE Retailers

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