Governance Studio
by Adapted Media Pty Ltd

OPENAI CODEX CAN NOW OPERATE WINDOWS DESKTOP APPS

OPERATIONAL SIGNAL

DOMAIN: CAP — Capability **I CONFIDENCE LEVEL:** Preliminary
INSTITUTIONAL DIMENSIONS: Authority I Attribution I Visibility I Escalation I Continuity

Signal ID	Platform	Source	Audience	Status	Date
SIG-CAP-007	OpenAI	Link	PMO I Risk I Ops I IT	Pilot	2026-05-29

CAPABILITY SHIFT

OpenAI's Codex computer use is now available on Windows as well as macOS, excluding the EEA, UK and Switzerland at launch. Codex can see, click and type in desktop apps and browser windows. On Windows, it runs on the active desktop and takes over the foreground while the task runs. Tasks can also be checked or steered from a phone.

ORGANISATIONAL CONSEQUENCE

Codex computer use now extends to Windows, the dominant business desktop environment. A staff member may direct an agent operating apps, files or browser pages visible on a work PC's active desktop. Mobile steering may sit outside normal desktop supervision or device-management assumptions.

WHAT TO WATCH

- Codex computer use enabled on Windows machines with internal app access
- Staff steering work PC tasks from mobile devices
- Sensitive app content visible on the active desktop during agent operation
- App approvals set to "always allow" without review
- Browser sessions where approved clicks may be treated as user actions

WHY THIS MATTERS NOW

Windows is the standard desktop environment for many organisations. This shifts computer use from a narrower developer or Mac context to ordinary business desktops. The issue is not only what Codex can do, but what it can see while doing it.

WHAT TO REVIEW

- Acceptable use rules for AI desktop operation
- Whether mobile steering fits device-management expectations
- App approval settings
- Whether sensitive apps should be closed during computer use
- Screenshot and visible-content exposure

GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

This is an authority and visibility issue. Codex may act through the user's existing desktop session, using approved apps and visible browser contexts. Organisations may need to treat Codex computer use as a new operating mode for business desktops, not only as a coding feature.

Scope Boundary: This artefact translates observed platform capability changes into operational considerations. It does not constitute policy, legal advice, or enforcement guidance.