

Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

An overview of VMware Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI)

What is Virtual Desktop Infrastructure?

VDI decouples the software from the hardware. So instead of having PCs with their own storage, CPUs and Applications stored locally, VDI allows these resources to be stored centrally.

With VDI, users have all of the flexibility and versatility that they would enjoy if they were using their own PC.

You can add your own programs, change your desktop, install your own fonts and drivers etc. It also means that people in departments which need to use specialist applications can be accommodated and more resource given over to their user accounts – just as if they had a higher specification PC.

So if it's the same as running local PCs, why don't we just do that?

The challenges created by local PCs are that management of them is time consuming and inefficient, with valuable IT staff having to go from desk to desk to make changes.

Desktop operating costs are high. They consume 10x the power of a thin client device, they cost much more and because they are required to process all of the software they run locally, they become obsolete much more quickly too.

The users get a raw deal from running PCs in terms of Service Level Agreement (SLA) metrics for support. Much of the support and maintenance of a PC or laptop has to take place locally, which takes time and costs money.

It's just too tempting to store sensitive and important data locally on laptops and PCs; too easy to download applications from the internet and they can be prone to hard disk failures. VDI overcomes all of these and other security and compliance risks by

storing all essential data centrally and managing what can and can't be installed. That's not to say that VDI takes all the fun out of having a company laptop. If your staff are used to being able to make personal use of their laptop, there is nothing to stop you from setting up a home virtual machine on the same laptop device.

Powerful Mature & Proven

You may think that VDI is new, but if that's the case, you'll be surprised to learn that it is deployed in 100% of Fortune 100 companies and there are over 20,000 companies using VDI worldwide.

With VDI from VMware, companies can apply powerful tools traditionally reserved for mission critical server based applications in the data center to desktop infrastructures. An example of this is Disaster Recovery, previously not a possibility for desktops, but is now available using VDI because the desktops are centralised and can make use of shared storage. It also provides automatic failover to ensure High Availability via VMware HA.

So, in summary, what are the main benefits?

In a nutshell, VDI is a centrally managed solution with the flexibility to provide every user with the resources they need, delivering four key advantages:

- - **Cost Savings**
- - **Security**
- - **Flexibility**
- - **Control**

Thin client consumes only 10% of a PC's power

Lower cost and long life means less depreciation

Streamlined & simplified desktop management

Improved end user SLAs & business continuity

Improved security & compliance

Contact us

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