

Top 10 Reasons You Should Implement VDI

There are big shifts happening within the workplace, data center, and cloud ecosystem. New delivery methodologies are revolutionizing the modern desktop and how applications are delivered. Organizations are finding new ways to enable a remote and mobile workforce, optimize workloads, and deliver secure, rich content to a broad and geographically diverse user base. Technologies supporting virtual desktop delivery can increase data security, lower TCO for desktops, and create better performance over physical endpoints. Most of all, organizations can become a lot more agile, gaining the ability to address users that work both at home and in the workplace with widely ranging compute requirements. All of this translates to new and better ways to optimize, control, and deliver content.

In the past, technologies like VDI were seen as heavy, forklift projects that required long time frames, resources, dedicated infrastructure and big budgets. Well, there's good news. The landscape has changed with advancements within network, compute and the storage layer. Desktop virtualization helps reduce desktop IT costs, improves security, increases control, and expands connectivity. With robust virtualized desktop infrastructure, you can host desktops in your data center and deliver access from any device, anywhere. This allows you to support new business models and improve both IT operations and user satisfaction. Today, numerous organizations across all verticals are deploying VDI to improve their business agility and data center economics. Here are the Top 10 reasons you should be implementing VDI:

1 Enable Business Agility With a Remote Workforce

VDI directly enables users to be much more mobile and allows the business to be extremely agile. Integrating new users, user devices, businesses, and even applications is made easier with VDI. Your developers can respond faster, your users can utilize a rich desktop environment, and you can truly enable the business by incorporating a completely virtual desktop ecosystem. Remember, VDI scales from your data center and into the cloud as well. This means users can access intelligent systems monitoring their performance, utilization, and even licensing while still pushing out a rich VDI environment.

2 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Delivery with VDI

Application virtualization aside, delivering desktops via BYOD can be a great solution for end-users as well as IT. Whether they're working from home, internally or even internationally, users can access a desktop with all of their settings intact. Increased demands for mobility and IT consumerization have created a true demand for BYOD. This is where VDI can help. The endpoint never retains the data, and both the desktops and applications are always secure and controlled at the data center level.

3 **Virtual Desktops are Great for Labs and Class**

Labs, kiosks and other environments with large numbers of users sharing the same hardware are great use cases for VDI. Once the user logs out or shuts down the virtual desktop with the endpoint, the OS is reset to its pristine state. This is perfect for healthcare laboratories, task workers, libraries and even classrooms. Several large VDI deployments have taken place in the education space with thin or zero clients beginning to replace older fat clients. Furthermore, with the use of non-persistent desktops, these lab environments can be quickly provisioned or de-provisioned as needed. Rather than spending hours or even days installing applications, and maintaining and patching individual lab systems, administrators can instead use all-flash storage to update a single master image and all lab systems.

4 **Testing and Development with VDI**

What better way to test out an application, service or new product than on an efficiently provisioned VDI image. Administrators can deploy and test out new platforms within “live” environments without having to provision hardware resources. Once the testing is complete, they can simply spin down the VDI instance and rollout the new update, application or desktop environment.

5 **Application Compatibility and Delivery**

Recent updates within organizations have forced some applications to adopt 64-bit technologies. Some apps, however, won't run on these platforms, forcing administrators to get creative. This is where VDI can help. For those select, finicky applications, VDI within a private cloud environment can be a lifesaver. Virtual desktops can run within 32-bit or 64-bit instances and allow administrators to continue to support many older apps.

6 **Onboarding and Off-Boarding Contractors and External Employees**

Some organizations have numerous contractors working within an organization. A great way to control contractor access is through a private cloud VDI platform. This gives users access via controlled AD policies and credentials and allows them to connect to a virtual desktop. From there, administrators can quickly provision and de-provision desktop resources as needed for a given contractor. This allows outside consultants to bring in their own laptops, access centralized desktops, and conduct their jobs. Then, once done, administrators can simply power down or reset the VM. This creates a quick, easy way to manage the contractor VDI environment.

7 **VDI Accelerates Heavy Desktop Compute Workloads**

That's right—you read that correctly. New technologies are allowing for powerful resource sharing while still optimizing the user experience. Solutions with 100% NVMe all-flash storage systems accelerate virtual desktops and applications with sub-millisecond latency, allowing the enterprise IT to deliver true performance from the data center to any user on the network. Now you can place more heavy resource users on multi-tenant blades, network, compute, and storage architecture. This opens up new possibilities for those users that historically needed a very expensive endpoint. Examples of who can benefit include power office productivity workers, design engineers, architects, and executive staff.

8 Centralize with VDI and Secure the Data Center

New delivery capabilities allow you to completely centralize management of the virtual desktops. This creates a new security paradigm where nothing is stored at the endpoint. More so, HTML5 allows for complete clientless delivery so that sessions are completely controlled within the data center. This means you can isolate VDI sessions, geo-fence users, and create a proactive VDI security ecosystem. Now you no longer have to worry about lost or stolen devices.

9 Create New Levels of Data Center Economics

VDI and virtualization allow organizations to control their own cloud environment and how they provision resources. The ability to dynamically provision and de-provision resources gives organizations unparalleled flexibility when it comes to virtual desktop delivery. Data reduction technologies such as deduplication and compression enable IT to deliver all-flash solutions with increased performance at the same price or lower than traditional spinning disk or hybrid storage. You no longer need to worry about big endpoints and lost resources. You can create true data center efficiency by controlling all resources connected into your virtual desktop delivery architecture.

10 Optimize Resource Controls

VDI allows you to dynamically shape the entire user experience. Is the application lagging? Is the user requiring more resources due to the workload type? How quickly can you adjust to user and market demands? VDI allows entire workloads to be re-provisioned with resources that allow the user to be productive wherever and whenever they choose to work. By moving from a spinning disk architecture to a Pure Storage FlashArray, IT can enable greater end-user performance (< 1ms latency = better than physical), higher resiliency (99.9999% uptime or greater), and powerful scalability at a lower total cost of ownership.

VDI has proven to be a truly powerful delivery architecture. The expanded use of VDI and recent success where VDI has previously failed is enabled by modern data center advancements and virtualization. New levels of network and compute allow for greater delivery capabilities. Significant optimizations provided by all-flash storage systems help push virtual environments even faster while being delivered at a lower overall cost. There can be great benefits to an organization if there is a direct fit for VDI.

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