Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

Emilio Valente, Tim Proffitt
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Benefits of VDI

1. Centralize the Desktop Environment
2. Improve User Productivity
3. Control Costs
4. Increase Security
Architectural Components

- Traditional PC / Thin Clients
- Host Server
- Connection Brokers
- Hypervisor
- Network Infrastructure
- Shared Storage
Deployment Strategies

- Individual Desktop
- Non-persistent
- Persistent Pool
IT Challenges

- Political and Corporate Culture
- Delivery of VDI to Remote Office
- Degrading Service during Growth Cycles
- Dealing with Outages
- Securing the Conversation
Costs and ROI

- Hardware
- Maintenance
- Help desk support
- Change management issues
- Software distribution
- Patching
- Security policy compliance
Disaster Recovery

- Critical data inaccessible > 48 hours; that company out of business < 1 year
- VD replacement virtual “terminal” minimal service disruption
- Recovery times are based upon the VDI technology adopted
Security and Control

- Centralization as a “return to the past”
- High level of desktop security
- Contractors need access to corporate resources from home or on travel
- Securely protect virtual images from internal and external threats
Security and Control (2)

- Traditionally each desktop and server potentially compromised
- With VDI, the desktop becomes less of a point of failure and security vulnerability
- Sysadmins constantly fighting users installing software not licensed or not aligned with business mission
- VDI option to lock down the virtual desktop images and control approved applications
VDI Pitfalls

• Gardner Inc. near future (2013) virtual desktop market will reach 65 billion dollars

• Drawbacks arise during the transition period where old hardware must coexist with VDI equipment
Summary

While there are plenty of choices for desktop deployment, the physical, full applications, data locally stored desktop PC, is the one technology that met most needs. Alternatively VDI is definitely developing into a viable technology that can satisfy a majority of users needs with only slight compromise. However, the advantages to VDI as pointed out in this document are significant.