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# Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

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# Benefits of VDI

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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

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- Individual Desktop
- Non-persistent
- Persistent Pool

# IT Challenges

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

# Costs and ROI

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- 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

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- 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

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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.