

Virtual Workspaces with Citrix Cloud



Whether it be the desire to maintain a competitive edge through the delivery of modern applications, or a need to provide secure and dynamically provisioned desktop services to an increasingly mobile workforce, the prospect of doing this at scale and in real-time can be daunting. As the complexity of end user computing environments grows in line with demand, management overheads increase, putting pressure on IT staff and budgets.

Going forward, organisations need to consider how to securely provide applications and services to an almost unlimited range of corporate and BYO assets, in any location, with varied connectivity, without being hindered by traditional infrastructure constraints.

When dealing with an autonomous and often geographically disparate user base, productivity can be affected when systems are too constrained or cumbersome. Delays in delivering new functionality can significantly impact business operations, resulting in missed opportunities and lost revenue.

With the growing prominence of Cloud-based technologies as a means to broker desktop and application delivery, organisations are finding that they need to consider the benefits of hybrid VDI and server based computing solutions, alongside traditional models in order to meet the current and future demands.



Burden on IT

Between the weight of technical debt, regulatory compliance, budget constraints and competing demands for limited resources, providing a modern workspace which is suitable for all use cases is difficult. Under such pressures, IT runs the risk of becoming out of step, addressing such considerations on a reactive basis, rather than proactively investing in an evergreen solution that reduces management overheads.



Business Agility

IT functions must be able to adapt to changes in the organisational landscape, delivering cost-effective, secure, scalable and highly dynamic services. Organisations often suffer from not being able to rapidly provision applications and desktops to an increasingly mobile and global workforce, across both managed and unmanaged devices. Time to react should be measured in hours rather than weeks and months.



Legacy Applications

Despite best endeavours, the relentless pace of modern OS development can result in critical applications becoming unsupported. This constraint can significantly impact end user computing projects, delaying the realisation of key benefits. Organisations need a way of delivering legacy applications whilst reaping the security and functional benefits of more modern operating systems such as Windows 10.

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Accelerate your Virtual Workspace with Citrix Cloud

The XenApp and XenDesktop service available as part Citrix Cloud provides a platform to enable virtualised apps and desktops to be delivered. Leveraging a hosted cloud platform to provide the underlying control plane, you retain jurisdiction over your applications and policies, leaving the setup, configuration, maintenance and monitoring of the core infrastructure to Citrix.

XenApp and XenDesktop workloads can be delivered from any of the major public cloud vendors including Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services and Google Cloud. In addition, private

cloud or more traditional on-premises infrastructure, or a combination of both could be selected, permitting secure remote access from devices to corporate resources on your internal network.

Citrix Cloud increases time-to-production value by speeding up desktop and application deployment across the enterprise. Not only does the platform offer freedom in the types and locations of workloads it supports, it reduces the strain on IT who can be comfortable knowing that the solution is resilient and continually updated to ensure it remains secure and feature-rich.



Citrix Cloud - Control Plane



Citrix Cloud - Service Platform



Dynamic Deployment

Through the use of a simple and secure connector service, integration between the cloud platform and existing internal services can be made. Organisations are able to integrate multiple Citrix services quickly and easily via a single management console. Infrastructure which previously took days to manually provision can be deployed automatically in hours, allowing you to realise the benefits of these services sooner.

Flexibility and Scalability

Whether you are pursuing a private, public, hybrid or multi-cloud strategy, you can realise the benefits of virtual workspaces via Citrix XenApp and XenDesktop. Simplify consolidation efforts and comply with local data sovereignty needs, while managing your entire Citrix infrastructure and the workloads contained within it from multiple locations within the same intuitive interface.

Lower CapEx and Support Costs

Reduce your infrastructure footprint and associated support costs by leveraging a fully resilient and evergreen software as a service (SaaS) cloud service managed by Citrix and Ultima. Define any location (even public clouds) as primary and backup, further reducing the drain on CapEx budgets. Take advantage of a per-user per-year subscription allowing you to calculate total cost of ownership and map return on investment (ROI).

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How to Get Started

For organisations who have adopted XenApp and XenDesktop, you may be missing out on the benefits that Citrix Cloud can bring. With greater flexibility and simplified management, a move to Virtual Workspaces will ensure that your business remains agile and dynamic. Existing XenApp servers and XenDesktop builds can be easily assimilated into the Citrix Cloud service simplifying the transition; and with hybrid rights licensing available, the transition can be done gradually at a time that suits you.

Regardless of your exposure to Citrix technologies, Ultima can help you exploit cloud benefits, from demonstrating the technology and providing business value justification, to getting you set up on the right subscription model and extending the functionality across your whole organisation. While Ultima is able to provide flexible engagements, we have highlighted three key steps aimed at introducing, adopting and managing Citrix Cloud across your business.



Proof of Concept

Ultima will deliver a Citrix Cloud XenApp and XenDesktop Service Proof of Concept (with Smart Tools) via a 60-day trial, demonstrating the benefits that a vendor-managed cloud platform can offer. This four day engagement will provide you with an opportunity to experience the service in your own environment.



Adoption Services

Specialists from Ultima's Modern Workspace practice will lead the delivery of both XenApp and XenDesktop services within Citrix Cloud, including planning and design activities, ensuring any infrastructure is provisioned effectively, in addition to the creation of new, and integration of existing workloads.



Managed Services

For as much as Citrix Cloud delivers, it still needs to be administered. Our UK-based ITIL-aligned 24x7 service desk can take care of your support requirements, including proactive monitoring and management of any hybrid infrastructure, eliminating uncontrolled change through standardisation and configuration management.

Additional Citrix Cloud Services

Citrix offer additional bolt-on services as part of Citrix Cloud, which Ultima are able to deliver alongside Virtual Workspaces. By including these additional services, our specialists are able to offer a broader set of managed technologies, designed to increase productivity, regain control over data and mobile devices and simplify management and administration activities.



ShareFile

ShareFile is a secure data sync and sharing service that allows IT to mobilise enterprise data across network shares, including Microsoft SharePoint and OneDrive. It empowers user productivity across any device, while continuing to help organisations meet complex corporate data policies and compliance requirements.



XenMobile

XenMobile provides mobile device and application freedom for employees, while maintaining policy-based controls and authentication. Users benefit from single-click access to Mobile, Web, SaaS and Windows apps from a unified store, including securely integrated productivity apps that offer an improved experience.



Smart Tools

Aimed at improving the efficiency and reliability of your Citrix estate, Smart Tools are designed to deliver additional value to an existing investment. Use them to accelerate migrations by removing bottlenecks, ensure consistent deployments via best practice blueprints, enhance IT operations and provide automatic application scaling and DR.

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Who Are We?

As a Citrix Platinum Solution Advisor Ultima provides innovative solutions based on Citrix technology to our customers, leading them through the sales cycle, educating them on emerging technologies, and helping to implement a wide range of fully managed solutions.

Ultima was the first UK partner to be awarded specialisations in Mobile Security, Virtualisation and Networking, and we deliver solutions based around mobility, BYOD, security and compliance, work shifting, desktop virtualisation, cloud, networking and app delivery.



Strength In Depth

We maintain the highest accreditations, including being the only Spearhead Citrix Cloud Partner in the UK

Certified Experts

Delivered by a Modern Workspace practice, specialising Citrix XenApp, XenDesktop and NetScaler

Releasing Potential

We deliver the benefits of cloud into your business, based on optimised and service-orientated workspace solutions

