

VDI FAQ's

1. What are the typical licensing models for the various solutions?

- OS virtualization: Windows 2003 Datacenter Edition per socket, terminal server access license per user, product license of the vendor.
- Citrix XENapp (Terminal Server, Presentation Server) product license of the vendor, terminal server access license per user, Windows 2003 Standard Server per hardware
- Classic VDI (VMware, XENdesktop): Licensing comparable to full desktops, Windows XP or Vista license for each desktop, product license of the vendor

2. Can you implement XP desktops on a server based OS virtualisation?

Yes. Most organisations are already using Terminal Server or Presentation Server technology, which means they are familiar with working with server technology in this area. When using container technology, no software is being installed directly on the server. Windows XP and Windows 2003 Server are almost identical with respect to the kernel. Windows Vista and Windows 2008 Server are identical. As an example, the skin can be easily converted to XP by using a readily available template.

3. What are the cost drivers and why is hypervisor based VDI expensive?

- Additional costs for client based software
- Costs for server hardware. The server needs to be certified for the hypervisor and requires significant computing power as well as RAM.
- Costs for storage. Each desktop requires 10 to 20 GB of storage for the OS and applications alone. Additional storage is required for backup and replication.
- Costs for Management: Each desktop needs to be provisioned with its own OS and applications.

4. Why do I need a connection broker?

A connection broker is used as a broker between the workstation and the virtual desktop. It establishes the connection between the user and their specific desktop or desktop pool. It ensures that only one user is working on a desktop at a time and provides the facility by which the virtual desktop can be controlled remotely.. The broker also enables activities such as start/stop, suspend and provisioning. Current connection broker offerings include Quest (Provision Networks Virtual Access Suite), Citrix (XENdesktop), VMware (VDM, Propero), and Leostream.

5. Why choose thin clients?

- Centralized management
- Reduced power consumption
- Unified client hardware landscape
 - Longer depreciation period
- Additional software support for specific tasks (USB redirect, multimedia streaming) •

6. How much storage per desktop do I need to take into account for the various solutions?

- OS virtualization: typically 1 GB per desktop (incl. application templates)
- Hardware VDI (VMware, XENdesktop): typically 20 GB – 40 GB per desktop.
- Citrix XENapp (Terminal Server, Presentation Server): none

7. How can I integrate local devices like printers and USB sticks?

Each connection broker or thin client vendor offers a separate proprietary solution. Connection brokers extend the RDP protocol which enables the user to remotely connect devices. Thin clients usually provide software deployed on the virtual desktop, enabling connectivity to certified devices.

General Enquiries	Technical Support	Accounts	Sales	Feedback
info@mbits.com.au 02 6163 2400	techsupport@mbits.com.au 1300 887 565	accounts@mbits.com.au 02 6163 2400	sales@mbits.com.au 02 6163 2400	feedback@mbits.com.au