Implementing A Virtualization Solution

Avoid common VDI (virtual desktop infrastructure) pitfalls by asking yourself a few questions prior to the implementation.

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In wrapping up this four-part series on desktop virtualization, there are some best practices that you should know about.

As with any successful project, planning plays a vital role. This may seem foreign to IT people, but planning will reduce headaches, keep you on budget, and help things work together smoothly. This works well for storage, servers, networks, and end user connectivity devices. Without planning, it may work, but it likely won't work well.

Ask yourself a few questions before you begin any project:

• How many GB of RAM is in use in the desktop?

• How many MHz are in use in each desktop?

• When is the entire environment busy? The answers should be, respectively, it should be less than 2 GB; determine the use and patterns of CPU utilization; and virus scans or updates may be scheduled at certain times that will affect everyone in the environment.

Scheduled tasks will quickly kill a VDI deployment, so the tasks must be executed, preferably in a spread out version so they don't happen all at the same time. Spread them out throughout the day. This will make it much easier on the environment. It might be possible to schedule in a different manner so the peaks are at different times, for example, when backups are run or antivirus scans are executed. It also might be possible to place them on different physical servers to spread the load and reduce peak demand.

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It also is critical to balance components and keep all of the equipment evenly loaded to minimize cost. You don't want a low-end storage or slow disks that perform slowly on the virtual desktop. While it might be a challenge to balance everything, take into consideration that some resources need to be left alone to handle outages. This is one reason planning is so important.

This is especially true in VDI implementations, especially if there is a failure of a single home where 100 desktops may need a restart. This alone will cause a large load on hardware components.

I believe this is where 2X Software can step in and help.

The 2X ApplicationServer XG combines application delivery and virtual desktop management by allowing administrators to publish applications and virtual desktops from an all-in-one platform. Experience the full benefits of desktop virtuallzation and improve desktop manageability, security, accessibility, and performance by delivering virtual desktops and applications to Windows, Linux, Mac, Android, and iOS from any virtualization platform rather than installing locally, all while enjoying additional features such as complete universal printing and scanning, virtual desktop pooling and templates, full RDP 7 and RemoteFX compatibility, and more.

Planning is the key ingredient. By doing so, the results will come in cost savings, an increase in productivity, and probably a happier workforce that has the flexibility to work when, where, and with whatever device it chooses. ●