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Client-Based Virtualization Gains Momentum

• Server-hosted virtualization is the poster-child of cloud computing where thin clients share a single ITmanaged image. However, client-hosted virtualization is gaining momentum by claiming to offer IT cost savings, simpler centralized management, plus an enriched user experience comparable to stand-alone PCs.

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• In the beginning, IT had to spend weeks setting up, provisioning, upgrading and maintaining fleets of PCs on each of their user's desks. Server-hosted virtualization was a major step forward by cutting those times down to days or in some cases just hours, plus the thin-clients were cheaper than putting a PC on every user's desk. Today, however, the cost of PCs has dropped to nearly match that of thin clients, plus the resultant client-hosted virtualization infrastructure cuts IT set-up, provisioning, upgrading and maintenance times down to minutes instead of hours or days.

1000 End Points	Server–Hosted	Client-Hosted
Server Requirement	20	1
Storage Requirement	50 TB Tier 1	2 TB Tier 3
Network Upgrade	Likely	Not Required
VDA license	Required	Not Required
Security Management		
Per-User Device Cost		
Laptop Support	۲	
Complexity	٠	
User's Performance	\bigcirc	

Client-hosted virtualization for 1,000 users requires only a single server (compared with 20 for server-hosted virtualization), as well as laptop support and quicker recovery, provisioning, patching, setup and upgrades.

Client-hosted VDI (virtual desktop infrastructure) executes all application code on a desktop PC, which to the user appears to be a normal local operating system with all the advantages of high-speed execution for bandwidth-intensive applications like HD (high-definition) video, plus it works with all their local USB peripherals. In the background, however, their OS is really a copy of a centralized image managed by IT for up to 1,000 users from a single server, which can be located on-premises or in the cloud.

Server-hosted VDI, on the other hand, executes code on a server which can only handle about 50 users and must maintain not only the image, but must also house the user's data, requiring 20 to 25 times more IT hardware resources and up to 20 times the IT personnel over client-hosted VDI. In addition, local USB peripherals are difficult to install and using high-bandwidth media like HD video is nearly impossible to support for large numbers of users.

Intel, for one, is championing client-hosted virtualization as the wave of the future. Intel calls this **intelligent desktop virtualization** and is promising a new breed of multi-core processor to directly support client-hosted VDI. However, IT does not have to wait for these specialized processors to get in on this emerging trend, because many inexpensive desktop PCs today are already configurable for client-hosted virtualization from companies like Virtual Computer, RES Software, Wanova, MokaFive and Scense.

For example, <u>Virtual Computer</u> has been delivering its NxTop desktop-virtualization platform as an alternative to server-hosted VDI for 18 months. Recently, sales have skyrocketed fivefold, prompting Virtual Computer to announce this month a new Global Partner Program to keep up with demand.

"Client-hosting greatly reduces the cost of virtualization; plus, it eliminates the complexity and many of the limitations inherent in server-hosted VDI," said John Glendenning, senior vice president of worldwide sales and business development for Virtual Computer. "And with the new Global Partner Program, we have created a channel for IT that should greatly simplify implementing client-hosted virtualization for businesses of nearly any size."

AKITDA Pickets Intel Service Center

Members of the All Kerala IT Dealers Association (AKITDA) has launched a campaign against Intel's shoddy post-sales support in the state, and held a symbolic protest today outside the Intel service center in Kochi which is managed by Digicare.

According to AKITDA, the channel in Kerala is upset about the way Intel and Digicare have been dealing with RMA and warranty support on motherboards, and wants Intel to address their woes at the earliest.

This move is to get the attention of Intel, who has not addressed the pending issues despite communicating to them a number of times," informed Toshy Mathew, President, AKITDA (Ernakulam district), "The turnaround on repair and replacement on motherboards in many cases have crossed 45 days, and this has affected consumer confidence in buying assembled Intel PCs and is hurting our business big time."

However it's not only the delay in delivering warranty support that has led AKITDA to protest. "There's a change in policy where the service center officials say that they cannot repair even those motherboards where there are very minor physical damages. We can understand not providing warranty in case of any serious damage, but most cases that have been brought to our attention have been of minor scratches which could in no way be the reason for the motherboard failing. When a service engineer plugs in a motherboard, and removes it before shipping it back to a service center such scratches are bound to happen," added Mathew.

Mathew said that the AKITDA executive committee has taken opinions of several members across the state, and all of them opined that the RMA cases are increasing rapidly on Intel motherboards, and the service center is simply not able to cater to the demand for repair and replacement.

"We want Intel and Digicare to beef up support on an immediate basis. There's a lot of demand for genuine Intel motherboards, and we do not want to disappoint our customers by taking any other aggressive steps such as banning," he said.

He also said that since Kerala desktop market is heavily skewed in favor of assembled machines it is imperative that back-to-back support is streamlined with faster turnaround.

2 new iPhones in September?



According to rumours published by 9 to 5 Mac (Apple Intelligence), consumers may well see two new iPhones in September.

Quoting an 'iPhone source', 9 to 5, state that there will be two distinctly different devices appearing in the Autumn. One will be a low end variety to address the cheaper android market, and the second a higher end device with an all new design.

Presently, Apple sell, the lower end iPhone 3GS and the latest iPhone 4 models, so will September see the iPhone 4S as the lower end and the iPhone 5 as the latest must-have?

It is thought that the iPhone 5 will incorporate a faster processor, and also better camera.

Rumours are also rife that Apple may be introducing a 3G iPod Touch later in the year, a dataonly service which would allow users to make voice and video calls, through the likes of Skype, to connect to social networks or play games online.

Apple hardly ever pre-announce any new products and until they do, rumour and speculation will continue.

Watch this space!

Apple fixes security flaw in iPhone, iPad software

(Reuters) - Apple Inc has plugged a hole in the software that runs iPhones, iPads and iPod Touch music players that could allow hackers to take remote control of those devices.

The security flaw came to light nine days ago as the website www.jailbreakme.com released code that Apple customers can use to modify the iOS operating system that runs those devices through a process known as "jail breaking."

Some Apple customers choose to jail break their devices so they can download and run applications that are not approved by Apple or use iPhone phones on networks of carriers that are not approved by Apple.

The jailbreaking code exploited a vulnerability in iOS that had not previously been disclosed. Its release gave criminal hackers a blueprint they could use to build malicious software that would exploit the vulnerability.

Now that the security patch has been released, Apple customers will be protected against any such malware as long as they install the software updates on their equipment.

Security flaw in iOS software have the potential to affect millions of devices that are at the core of Apple's business.

Apple has sold 25 million iPads since it launched last year. The company sold over 18 million of its popular iPhones in just the first three months of the year.



PUZZLES

Which letter replaces the question mark?

6	4	4	1
4	N	Ľ	7
5	U	?	1
6	10	14	2

Answer: Q

Explanation: Adding the three numbers in each square together gives the numerical value of the letter at the centre of each square.