

Q. How does the IBM Workplace Client Technology (IWCT) relate to Citrix?

A. IBM is committed to providing customers the solutions they need to address their unique requirements for managing applications and clients. As such, we have a broad set of technologies, services and partnerships to help us bring the right solutions to market for our customers. The recently announced IWCT provides a framework for centrally provisioning and managing client applications. The IWCT provides local, secure data store and run-time with synchronization for offline use. Policy-based management allows administrators to control which capabilities are provisioned to which users and when they are to be updated. The IWCT will provide customers the best of both worlds – rich client experience (desktop integration, UI enhancements, offline support, etc.) with the cost of ownership benefits and management control of web-based applications. The IWCT employs WebSphere Portal as its integration and presentation framework.

Initial products that work with the IBM Workplace Client Technology, rich edition, include Lotus Workplace Messaging and Lotus Workplace Documents (GA end of Q2 2004). Later this year, we will expand the products that can leverage IWCT and provide the tools and API's needed for partners, ISV's and customers to create their own rich client applications using IWCT, rich edition.
<http://www-306.ibm.com/software/info/workplace/index.jsp>

IBM partners with Citrix to help customers solve their issues around rapidly, securely and cost effectively accessing and managing applications for their users. Citrix allows customers to access all applications (web-based, client server, legacy) from a wide variety of clients over any network connection without modifying the applications. Citrix has a portlet for WebSphere Portal that is among the top 5 most downloaded in our catalogue. The portlet enables users to deploy non-web applications (windows, unix, etc.) using Citrix through WebSphere Portal. It can also be used to deploy web based applications to low bandwidth connections such as dial up and wireless. **(Web apps perform well on low bandwidth lines because only keystrokes, mouse clicks and a screen image travel the net. For example, IBM uses Citrix to deploy the Siebel web client to IBM sales people on dial up lines).** Citrix provides customers with an alternative approach to having their windows/Unix operating system and applications on the desktop, by centralizing them on a Citrix server and thereby reducing TCO and enhancing management control.

For more information about the Citrix Websphere portlet please visit this website.
https://www-306.ibm.com/services/cwi/portal/_pagr/105

Customers may have a need for either or both of these technologies as they plan for their long-term client and application access strategy.

Customer Considerations	Role of Citrix	Role of IBM WCT
Are concerned about the manageability, security and cost of ownership of desktop solutions.	Server provisioning of legacy appls, of rich client and web-based appls over low bandwidth.	Server provisioning of rich client applications to install, manage, update applications that will run locally on the client. (client runs on laptop/desktop so local execution but is managed via server) This is ideal situation for users that need to sometimes work in disconnected mode.
Are looking at portal technologies.	Citrix integrates with WS Portal through the portlet for presentation and access layer. Delivers non-web applications through WS Portal. No application changes required.	IBM WCT supports Lotus Workplace which leverages WebSphere Portal for presentation and access layer. In a future releases, the IBM WCT will be able to support WebSphere Portal-based applications , enabling companies to easily extend their existing portal applications so they can execute locally for improved performance and/or disconnected use.
Have need to support a distributed and/or mobile workforce.	Citrix provides access to remote and mobile users on any device, over any network connection to any application	IBM WCT offers strong support for distributed and mobile workforce. IBM WCT, rich edition, supports disconnected use. And, IBM WCT, micro edition, provides server-based management of wide variety of devices across wireless networks.
Are interested in finding new methods of enhancing Web applications to provide rich capabilities traditionally found only in fat-client software.	Citrix is for applications customers do not wish to enhance (i.e. legacy apps), or do not have time or budget to enhance	Web applications can be extended to a rich client experience that will support, secure, disconnected use.
Have applications that lend themselves to branch topologies or require support for disconnected use.	Centrally provisioned and managed from server. Requires a connection but with 'Smoothroaming' allows end users to move about within the facility.	Centrally provisioned and managed from server. Allows users to work disconnected and synchronize -- freeing up bandwidth as well as reducing cost of ownership to keep their applications updated.
Have users with messaging and calendaring and scheduling needs who would benefit from the deployment and access features of Workplace Client Technology, such as support for disconnected use, central provisioning of new capabilities, and integration with desktop and other business and collaborative applications.	Allows you to deploy full Notes client on a Citrix server and WS portal access via portlet.	Lotus workplace messaging 2.0 and Lotus workplace documents 2.0 are the first solutions supported by IBM WCT, rich edition
Have need for applications that support collaboration.	Provides portal access to any application that runs on Windows or AIX.	While Lotus Workplace Messaging and Documents are the first solutions supported, IBM has plans to support the rest of the Lotus Workplace portfolio with IBM WCT.
Have need for document services the technology will provide to address concerns about compliance and security of data and intellectual property created by users.	Data resides on the server.	IBM WCT, rich edition , through Lotus workplace Documents 2.0, provides a secure encrypted store – allowing users to work with data, securely save and automatically synchronize back with the server
Are taking advantage of the Eclipse programming model and have applications in development.	Deploy legacy applications without any modifications	IBM WCT is based on Eclipse 3.0

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Are interested in extending their development environments to encompass open standards.	Supports a heterogeneous environment, by deploying applications to any platform or device	IBM WCT is based on open standards, including Eclipse 3.0 framework, SyncML, etc.
Are interested in deploying Linux client environments or taking advantage of standards based client software components.	Yes. Provides a migration path for existing applications, allowing organizations to continue delivering some applications via the Citrix portlet for WebSphere Portal (i.e. applications that customer does not want to update) while delivering other applications via the IBM WCT (i.e. those applications that need to be taken offline).	IBM WCT supports Linux and Windows clients (and will support MacOS clients in future). Lotus Workplace and WebSphere Portal both support Linux on the server
Use Java and Java 2 Platform, Enterprise Edition (J2EE) programming models	Citrix can be accessed through Java client.	Yes—in next release, IBM WCT will offer the tooling and API's to allow 3 rd parties to create their own applications