

The architecture can be broken down into six core components:

1. **Virtualization Infrastructure:** The virtualization infrastructure allows for the dividing of a single physical server into multiple virtual servers all sharing resources. The virtualization infrastructure for this pilot architecture is based on XenServer as it is included as part of the XenDesktop overall solution. The virtualization infrastructure could also leverage Microsoft Hyper-V or VMware ESX.
2. **Virtual Desktop Delivery Controller:** The virtual desktop delivery controller is responsible for the registration of new virtual desktops and directing requests for virtual desktops to available systems. Users interact indirectly with the controller via the integrated Web Interface component. Through a web-based site, or through a locally installed receiver, users will be delivered their virtual desktop.
3. **Virtual Desktop Provisioning:** The provisioning server aspect of the XenDesktop solution delivers an operating system image to the virtual desktop instance on the virtualization infrastructure. A base operating system image is created that contains all operating system-level configurations as dictated by the organization's policies. The base image, however, does not contain applications. As each virtual desktop boots, the operating system is streamed over the network to the virtual desktop. The power of this solution is identified when updates are required as only the base image requires updating and all virtual desktops will utilize the latest image upon next reboot. By stripping out the applications, a single

## XenDesktop Pilot Implementation Guide

- Virtual Desktop Delivery
- Application Delivery
- Personalization
- Security
- Redundancy
- Maintaining

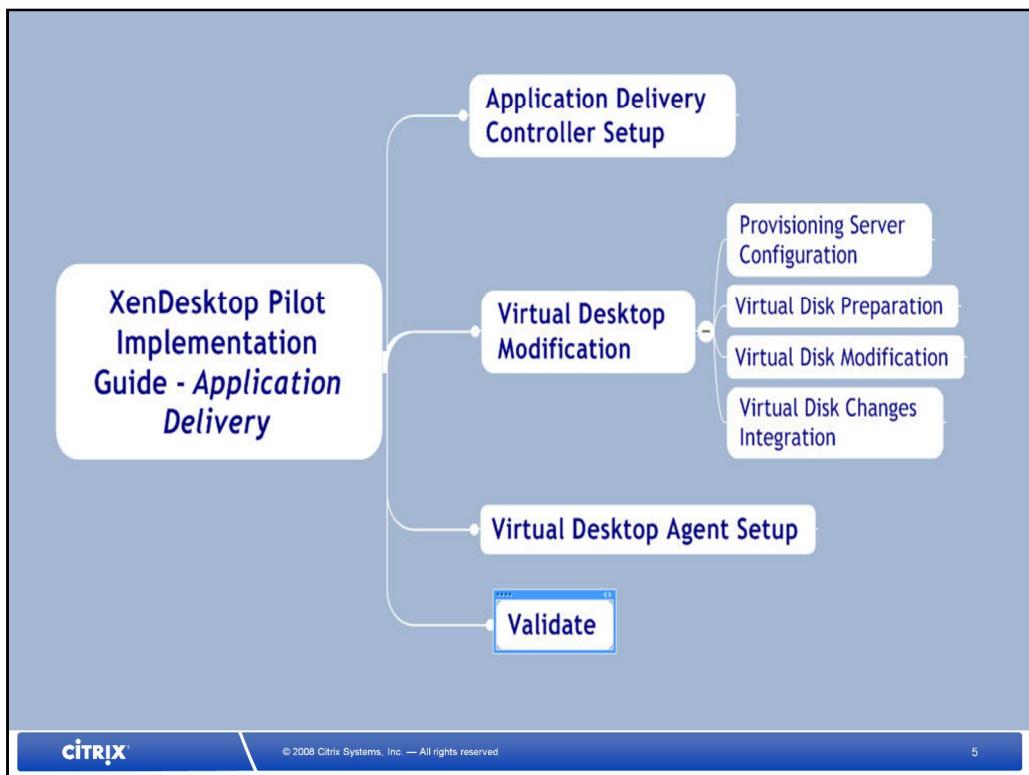
## • Application Delivery

- Virtual Desktop Delivery

- Application Delivery

- Redundancy

- Maintaining





## Application Delivery Controller Setup

### Virtual Desktop Creation

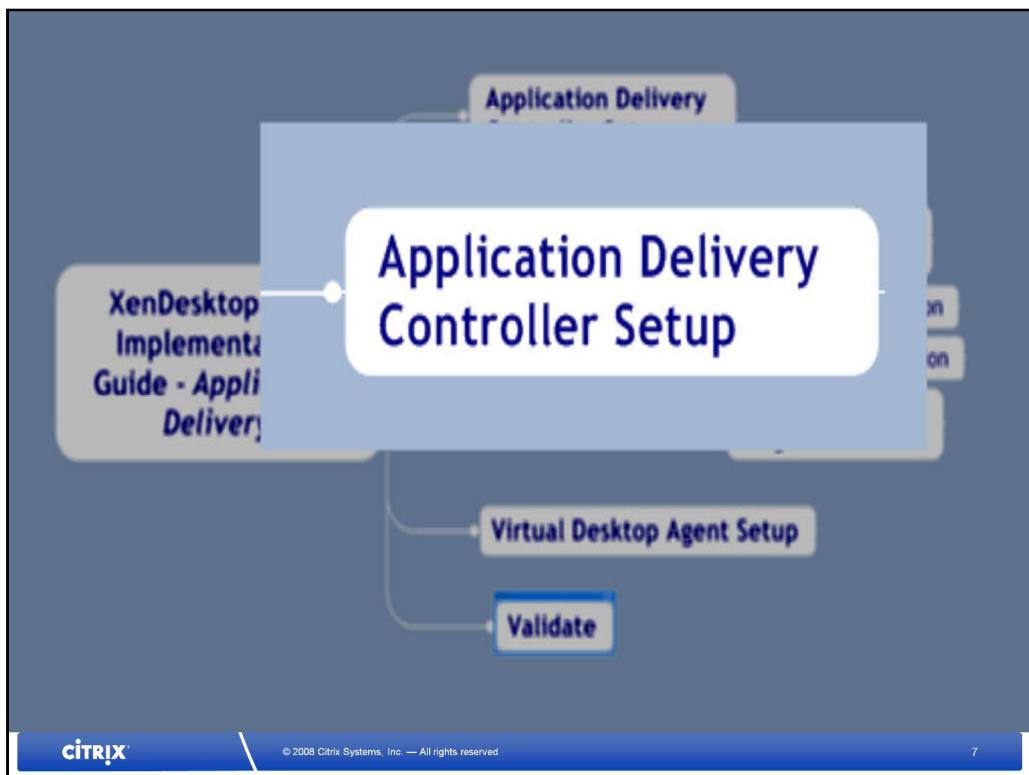
At the core, the XenDesktop solution is based on a core operating system image to be delivered to thousands of endpoints. To simplify and reduce the number unique virtual desktops, the base image should only contain the minimal set of options.

The following sub-sections will show how to build either a Windows XP or Windows Vista base image for a XenDesktop Pilot. This step is broken down into the following components:

- ❑ XenServer Virtual Machine Creation

- ❑ Operating System Installation

- ❑ Citrix Virtual Desktop Agent Setup



## XenApp for Virtual Desktops

Separating the applications from the desktop helps reduce the overall number of virtual desktop images that must be managed. The next step in the building of the Pilot environment is to integrate application delivery into the desktop delivery infrastructure. This is accomplished with the following process:

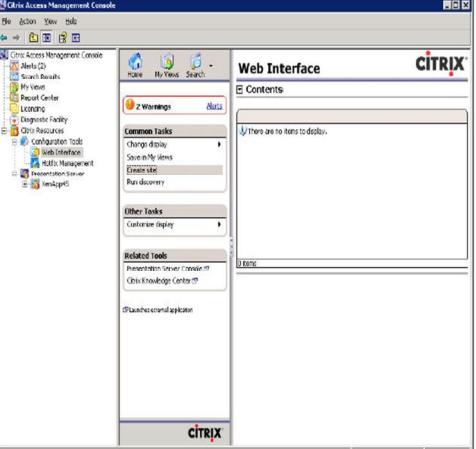
❑ Application Delivery Controller Setup

❑ Virtual Desktop Modification

***Assumption: The XenApp environment has already been setup and configured with hosted and streamed applications to users and groups. This section is only showing how to properly deliver applications to a virtual desktop.***

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showing how to properly  
deliver applications to a  
virtual desktop.***

# Application Delivery Controller Setup

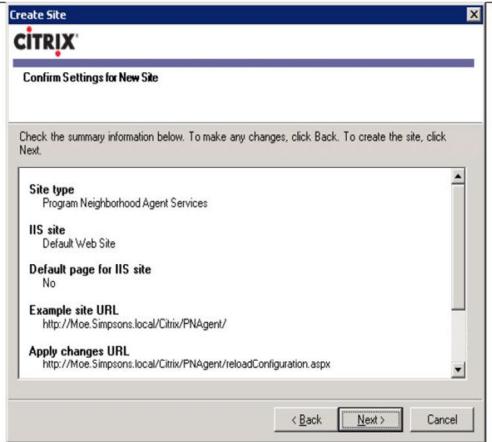
Application Delivery Controller Setup		
	Screenshot	
1	 A screenshot of the Citrix Access Management Console. The left sidebar shows 'Citrix Access Management Console' with 'Web Interface' selected. The main pane is titled 'Web Interface' and shows '2 Warnings'. The 'Common Tasks' section includes 'Change display', 'Save to My items', 'Create site', and 'Run discovery'. The 'Other Tasks' section includes 'Configure display'. The 'Related Tools' section lists 'Presentation Server Console' and 'Citrix Knowledge Center'. The bottom of the window has a 'CITRIX' logo and a copyright notice: '© 2008 Citrix Systems, Inc. — All rights reserved'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On the XenApp server, launch the Access Management Console</li><li>• Select the Web Interface option</li><li>• Select Create site</li></ul>

Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the Create Site screen, select the Program Neighborhood Agent Services site option</li> <li>Select Next</li> </ul>
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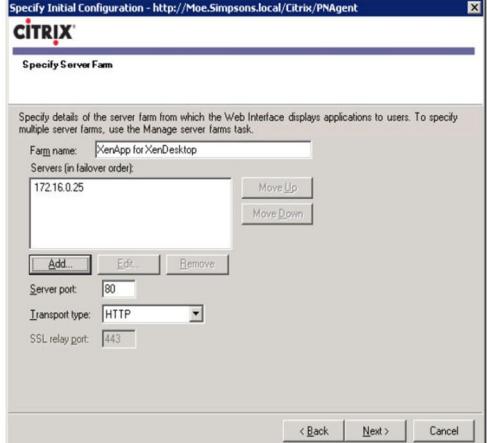
Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leave the IIS Location information as default and select Next</li> </ul>
<p><b>CITRIX</b></p> <p>© 2008 Citrix Systems, Inc. — All rights reserved</p>	

Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leave the Configuration Source options as default and select Next</li> </ul>
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## Application Delivery Controller Setup

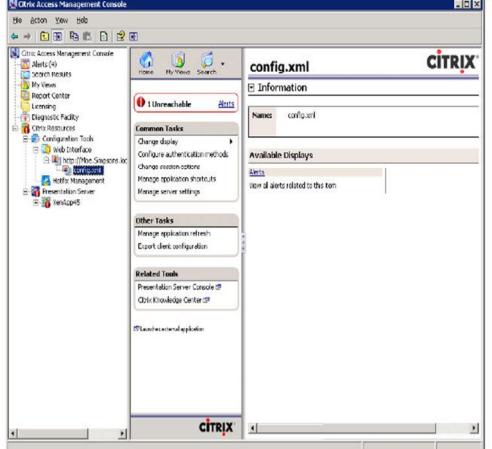
Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the Confirm Settings for New Site screen, select Next</li> <li>A new Web Interface site is being created that will deliver applications to the virtual desktops.</li> <li>When the setup is complete, enter in the Advanced Configuration options screen</li> </ul>
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# Application Delivery Controller Setup

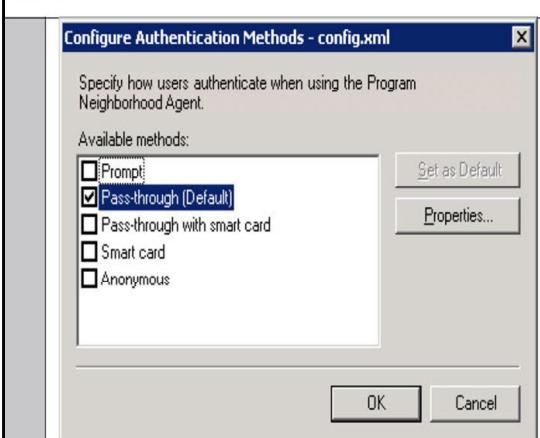
Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enter in the following information for Farm Information screen<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Farm Name:</b> XenApp for XenDesktop (this is customizable)</li><li><b>Servers:</b> IP address of the XenApp server</li></ul></li><li>Select Next</li></ul> <p><b>Note:</b> To provide some redundancy, multiple XenApp servers should be built and located within the same XenApp farm. The Servers entry on this screen should contain multiple XenApp servers for redundancy.</p>

Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Application Delivery Controller Setup	Description
Screenshot	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the Application Type screen, select <b>Dual mode streaming</b></li> <li>Select <b>Next</b></li> <li>Select <b>Finish</b></li> </ul> <p>The Web Interface site is now ready to delivery applications to virtual desktops. If the defaults IIS settings were used, the address is:  <a href="http://IPAddress/Citrix/PNAgent">http://IPAddress/Citrix/PNAgent</a></p>
<p><b>CITRIX</b></p> <p>© 2008 Citrix Systems, Inc. — All rights reserved</p>	

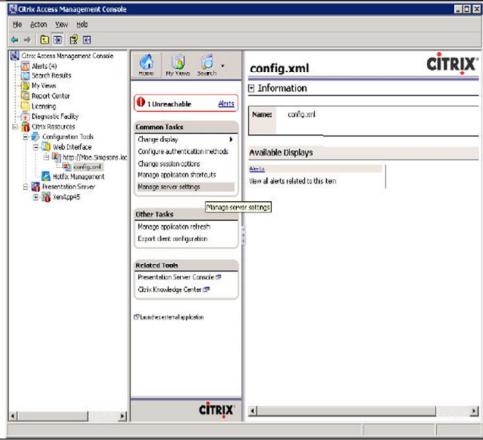
## Application Delivery Controller Setup

Screenshot	Description
 A screenshot of the Citrix Access Management Console. The main window title is 'Application Delivery Controller Setup'. The left sidebar shows 'My Views' and 'My Services'. Under 'My Services', 'Application Delivery Controller' is selected, and 'config.xml' is listed. The main pane shows the 'config.xml' configuration page. The 'Information' tab is selected, showing the name 'config'. The 'Common Tasks' section includes 'Change display', 'Configure authentication methods', 'Change session settings', 'Manage application details', and 'Manage server settings'. The 'Available Displays' section shows 'Alerts' with a note 'View all alerts related to this item'. The 'Other Tasks' section includes 'Manage application refresh', 'Export client configuration', and 'Related Tools' with links to 'Presentation Server Console' and 'Citrix Knowledge Center'. The bottom of the window has a 'CITRIX' logo and a copyright notice: '© 2008 Citrix Systems, Inc. — All rights reserved'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Select the newly created site's config.xml file</li><li>• Select Configure authentication methods</li></ul>

## Application Delivery Controller Setup

Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select the <b>Pass-through</b> option for authentication</li> <li>• Select <b>OK</b></li> </ul> <p>This option will automatically use the user's workstation login credentials to log in with the Application Receiver. When a user logs into the workstation, those credentials will also be used to authenticate to the XenApp farm and the appropriate applications will automatically be delivered down to the virtual desktop.</p>
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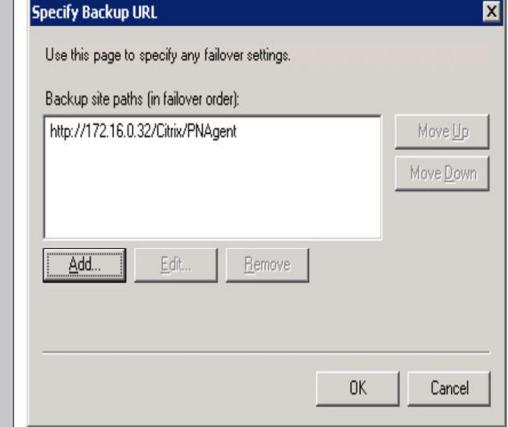
# Application Delivery Controller Setup

Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Select the <b>Manage Server Settings</b> option within the Access Management Console</li></ul>

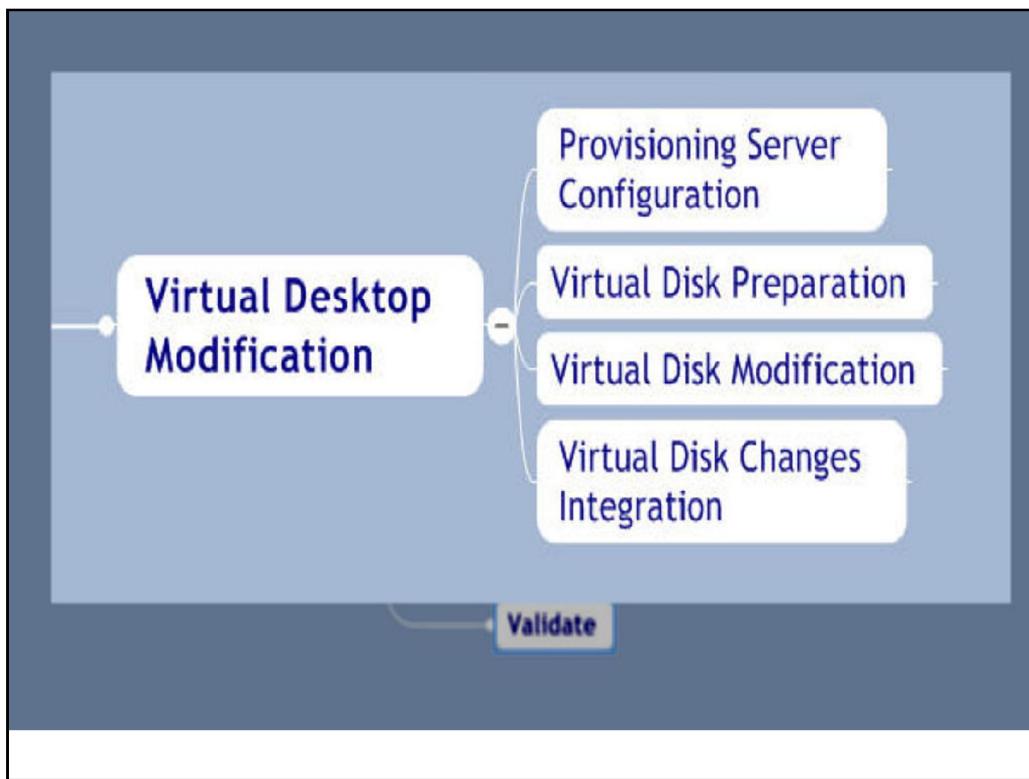
## Application Delivery Controller Setup

Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select the <b>Backup</b> button to provide redundancy</li> </ul>
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## Application Delivery Controller Setup

Application Delivery Controller Setup	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enter in the URL for the secondary XenApp server.</li></ul> <p>If connections to the primary fail, the Application Receiver will contact the backup address.</p>
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## Virtual Desktop Modification



## Virtual Desktop Modification

### Overview

With so many devices utilizing a single image, it is imperative that changes to the virtual disk happen in a structured and protected manner. Updates should be tested in a pilot/staging environment and after approval they should be integrated into the production system. This can be quickly accomplished by using the update virtual disk functionality within Provisioning Server by following:

② Provisioning Server Configuration

② Virtual Disk Preparation

② Virtual Disk Modification

② Virtual Disk Updates

Integrating XenApp application delivery into the virtual desktop image will follow this process.

## Provisioning Server Configuration

### **Provisioning Server Configuration**

This section will show a few items that must be validated before virtual disk modification can begin.

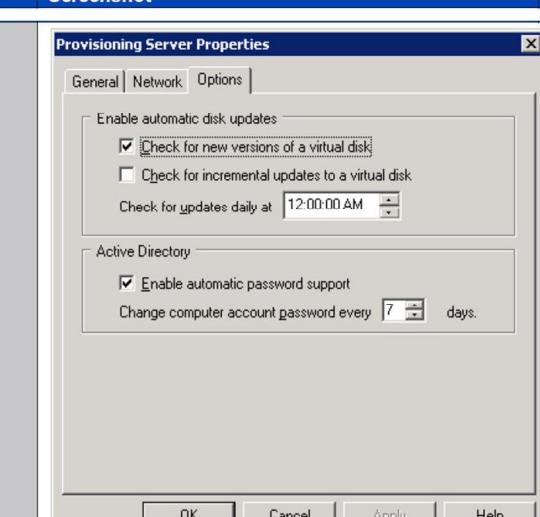
# Provisioning Server Configuration

Provisioning Server Configuration		Description
Screenshot		
	<p>On the Provisioning Server</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Right-click on the server name and select <b>Properties</b></li> </ul>	
		<p><b>CITRIX</b></p> <p>© 2008 Citrix Systems, Inc. — All rights reserved</p>

## Provisioning Server Configuration

This section will show a few items that must be validated before virtual disk modification can begin.

## Provisioning Server Configuration

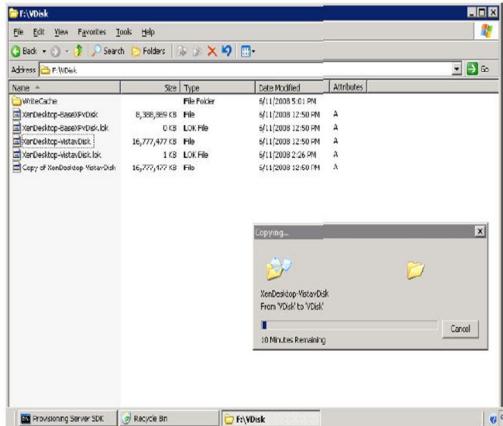
Provisioning Server Configuration		Description
Screenshot		
	<p>• Right-click on the base virtual disk to update and select <b>Properties</b></p> <p>• Select the <b>Options</b> tab</p> <p>• Enable <b>Check for new version of a virtual disk</b></p> <p>• Select <b>OK</b></p> <p>These settings will enable Provisioning Server to make updates to the virtual disks based on the steps that follow.</p>	
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## Provisioning Server Configuration

This section will show a few items that must be validated before virtual disk modification can begin.

## Virtual Disk Preparation

## Virtual Disk Preparation

New Virtual Disk Creation	
Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the Provisioning Server</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launch <b>Explorer</b> and navigate to the location of the base virtual desktop image</li> <li>Make a copy of the <b>XenDesktop-BaseVistaDisk</b> image and rename it to <b>XenDesktop-BaseVistaDisk Update</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> You want to make sure the image is not in use when making a copy.</p>

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## Virtual Disk Preparation

Updating a virtual disk image should follow a process where a secondary disk is modified and then all target devices are updated to use the newest version automatically. This provides a phased change process and allows for a fallback option in case the changes do not function correctly.

## Virtual Disk Preparation

New Virtual Disk Creation	Screenshot	Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within the Provisioning Server console, select the server name and select <b>Scan</b> for virtual disks</li> </ul>

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## Virtual Disk Preparation

Updating a virtual disk image should follow a process where a secondary disk is modified and then all target devices are updated to use the newest version automatically. This provides a phased change process and allows for a fallback option in case the changes do not function correctly.

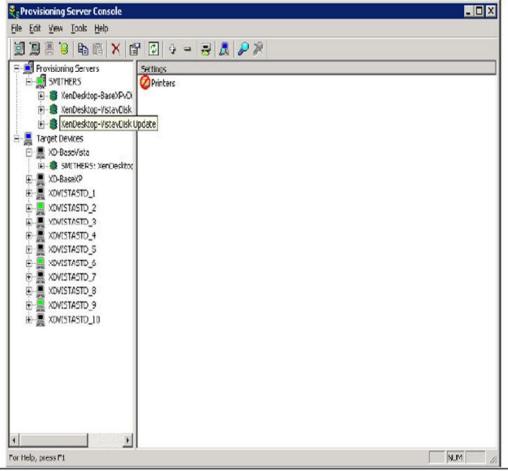
## Virtual Disk Preparation

New Virtual Disk Creation	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter in the path of the virtual disks</li> <li>Select Automatically add disks without prompting</li> <li>Select Scan</li> <li>When the scan is complete, the new virtual disk will appear in the console</li> </ul>
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### Virtual Disk Preparation

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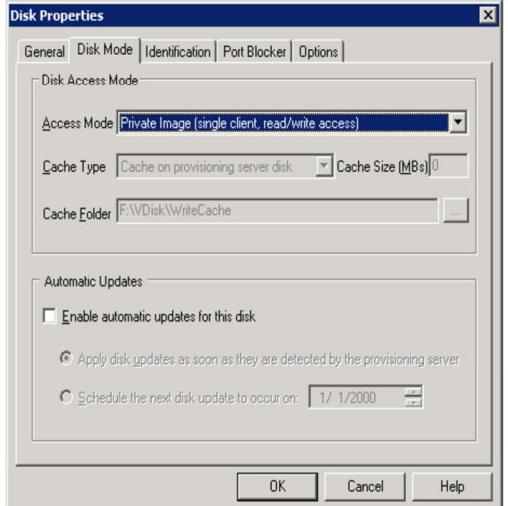
## Virtual Disk Preparation

New Virtual Disk Creation	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select the newly added virtual disk</li> <li>Right-click and select Properties</li> </ul>
 © 2008 Citrix Systems, Inc. — All rights reserved <span style="float: right;">30</span>	

## Virtual Disk Preparation

Updating a virtual disk image should follow a process where a secondary disk is modified and then all target devices are updated to use the newest version automatically. This provides a phased change process and allows for a fallback option in case the changes do not function correctly.

## Virtual Disk Preparation

New Virtual Disk Creation	
Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the Disk Properties screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select the Disk Mode tab</li> <li>• Change the Access Mode to Private Image</li> <li>• Select Ok</li> </ul>
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## Virtual Disk Preparation

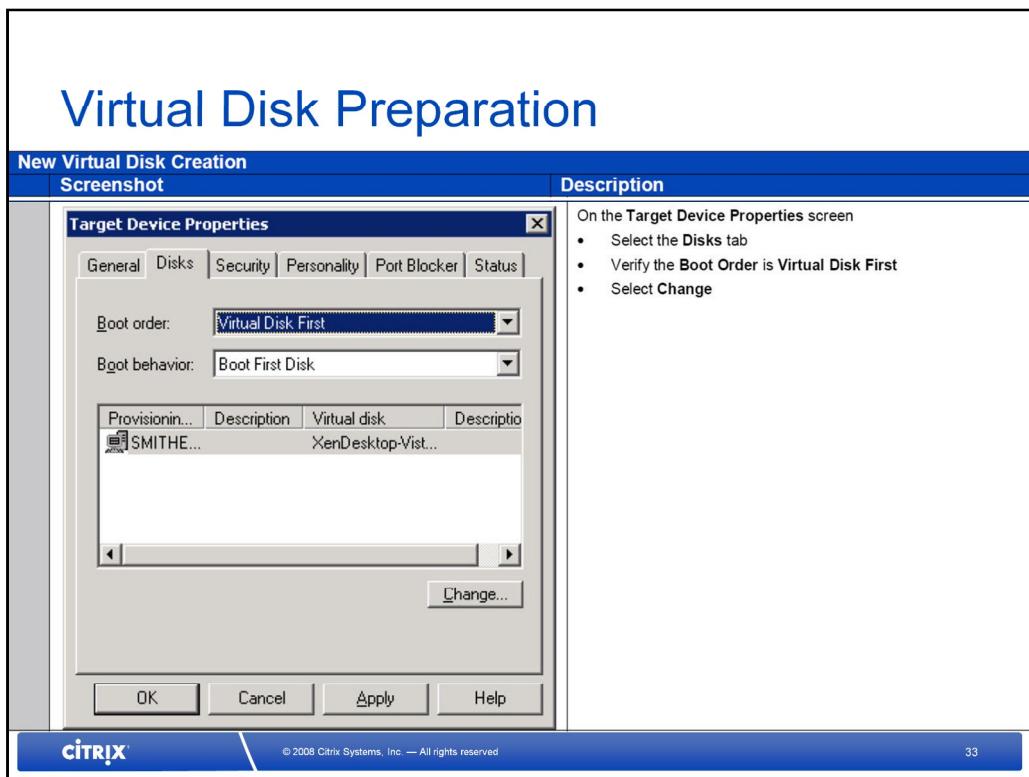
Updating a virtual disk image should follow a process where a secondary disk is modified and then all target devices are updated to use the newest version automatically. This provides a phased change process and allows for a fallback option in case the changes do not function correctly.

## Virtual Disk Preparation

New Virtual Disk Creation	
Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select the base build target device (XW-BaseVista)</li> <li>Right-click and select Properties</li> </ul>

## Virtual Disk Preparation

Updating a virtual disk image should follow a process where a secondary disk is modified and then all target devices are updated to use the newest version automatically. This provides a phased change process and allows for a fallback option in case the changes do not function correctly.



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## Virtual Disk Preparation

New Virtual Disk Creation	
Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the Select Virtual Disk screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove the currently attached disk</li> <li>• Add the XenDesktop-VistaDisk Update copied earlier</li> <li>• Select Ok</li> <li>• Select Ok</li> </ul> <p>The target devices virtual disk has now been re-assigned to the update disk. The update disk will be used to add the Application Receiver and then the changes will be integrated into the base image.</p>
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### Virtual Disk Preparation

Updating a virtual disk image should follow a process where a secondary disk is modified and then all target devices are updated to use the newest version automatically. This provides a phased change process and allows for a fallback option in case the changes do not function correctly.



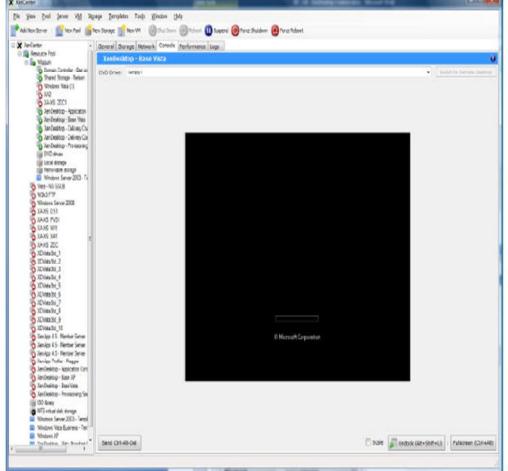
## Virtual Disk Modification

### Virtual Desktop Provisioning

Once the golden base image has been created, it has to be delivered to the potentially thousands of users in an efficient manner, which is with provisioning. The following subsections will demonstrate how to setup the infrastructure to provision the base desktop image:

- ❑ Virtual Disk Allocation
- ❑ Provisioning Server Agent Setup
- ❑ Desktop and Virtual Disk Linking
- ❑ Base Image Build

***Assumption: To provide redundancy, two Provisioning Servers are setup and configured. The storage location (F:\) is a Network Attached Storage share.***

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification Screenshot	Description
	<p>Within the XenCenter Console, start the Base Vista virtual machine. Changes will be made to this virtual machine and its associated virtual disk from Provisioning Server. Changes made will then be integrated into the base virtual disk for the other provisioned desktops to use.</p>

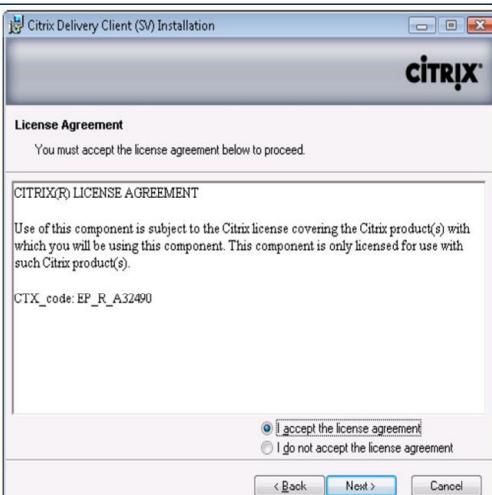
## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification	Description
Screenshot	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Download and install the XenApp Client version 11 and start the installation.</li> <li>On the Welcome screen, select Next</li> </ul>

## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the License Agreement screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select I accept the license agreement</li> <li>• Select Next</li> </ul>

## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the Select Client screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select Web Client and Citrix Applications</li> <li>• Select Next</li> </ul>

## Virtual Disk Modification

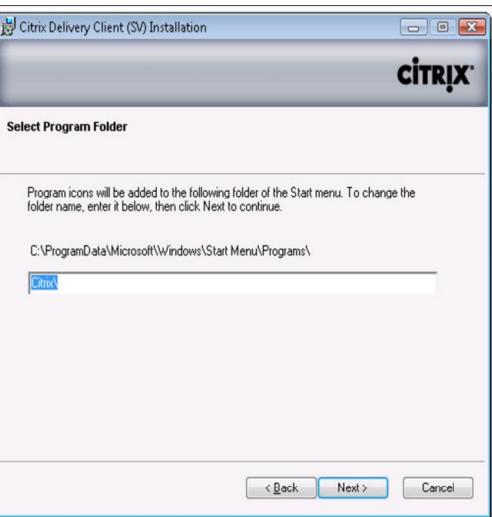
Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

## Virtual Disk Modification

Virtual Disk Modification Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the <b>Server Address</b> screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter in the address to Web Interface for XenApp</li> <li>Select Next</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> To provide redundancy, the address entered should be a load balanced address.</p>

## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the Select Program Folder screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave the default</li> <li>• Select Next</li> </ul>

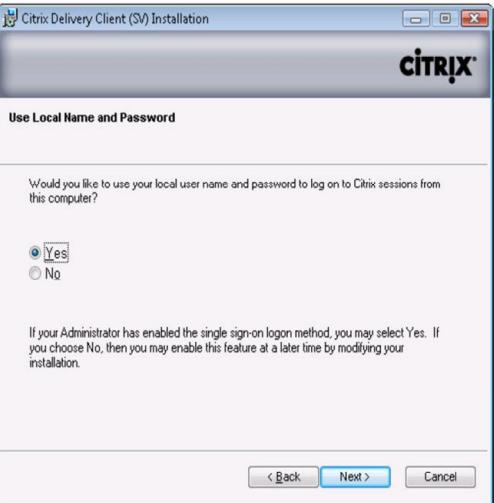
## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the Client Name screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select Use machine name as client name</li> <li>• Select Next</li> </ul>

## Virtual Disk Modification

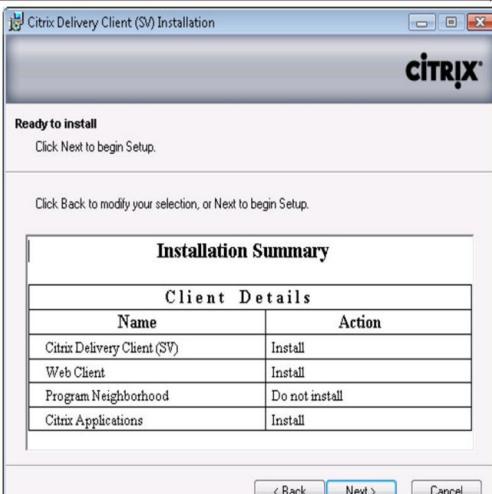
Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification	Description
Screenshot	
	<p>On the Use Local Name and Password screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select Yes</li> <li>• Select Next</li> </ul>
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## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

## Virtual Disk Modification

Virtual Disk Modification	
Screenshot	Description
	<p>On the Ready to Install screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select Next</li> </ul>
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### Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification Screenshot	Description
 <p>The screenshot shows a window titled 'Citrix Delivery Client (SV) Installation'. The main message is 'Citrix Delivery Client (SV) has been successfully installed.' Below it says 'Click Finish to exit Setup.' and 'You must logoff from your system for the configuration changes made to Citrix Delivery Client (SV) to take effect.' At the bottom are buttons for '&lt; Back', 'Finish' (which is highlighted in blue), and 'Cancel'.</p>	<p>On the Success screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select Finish</li> </ul> <p>Because the system is in private mode, all images will be saved within the BaseXenAppUpdate virtual disk.</p>
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## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.

Virtual Disk Modification	
Virtual Disk Modification	Description
Screenshot	
	<p>Install the Citrix Streaming Client onto the virtual desktop image with default settings.</p>
<p><b>Virtual Disk Modification</b></p> <p>Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.</p>	

## Virtual Disk Modification

Using the newly create virtual disk, the appropriate changes will be integrated. Those changes will then be propagated to the target devices in the following process.



## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

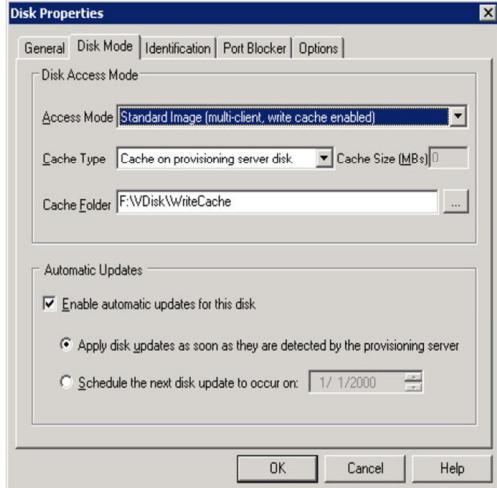
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***Assumption: To provide redundancy, two Provisioning Servers are setup and configured. The storage location (F:\) is a Network Attached Storage share.***

## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

Virtual Disk Changes Integration	
Screenshot	Description
	<p>Once the changes are complete, shut down the virtual desktop and complete the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select the <b>XenDesktop-VistavDisk Update</b>, select <b>File -&gt; Properties</b></li> <li>• Select the <b>Disk Mode</b> tab</li> <li>• Change the Access Mode to <b>Standard Client</b></li> <li>• Repeat this for the <b>XenDesktop-VistavDisk</b> image</li> <li>• Select <b>Enable automatic updates for this disk</b></li> </ul> <p>Note: All items in the Disk Access Mode section must be identical between the two virtual disks being used in the update process.</p>
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## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

With the virtual disk changes complete, the target devices must be set to utilize the latest and greatest image. The following steps outline the process.

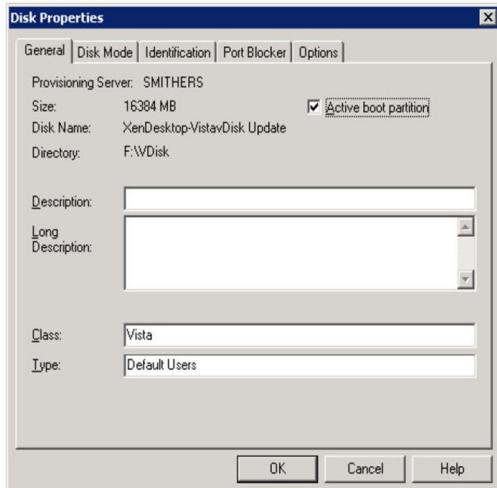
## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

Virtual Disk Changes Integration		Description
Screenshot		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the properties for the XenDesktop-VistavDisk Update, select the Identification tab</li> <li>Update the version number of the updated disk to 1.0.2. The updated virtual disk's version number must be greater than the base disk's version number.</li> </ul>	
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### Virtual Disk Changes Integration

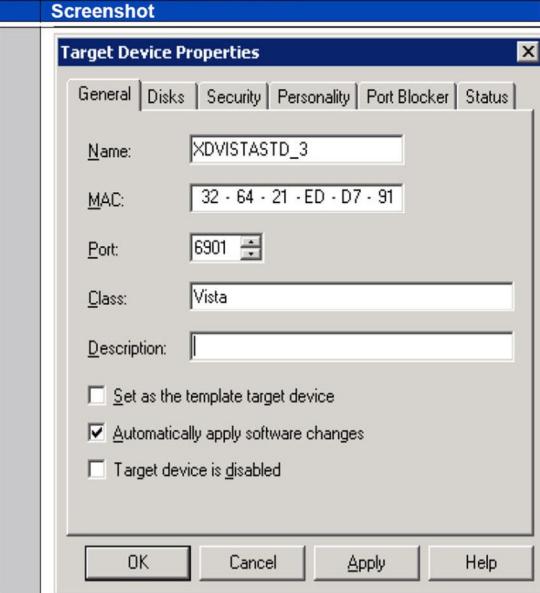
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## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

Virtual Disk Changes Integration		Description
Screenshot		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the properties for the <b>XenDesktop-VistavDisk Update</b>, select the <b>General</b> tab</li> <li>Set the following:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Class:</b> Vista</li> <li><b>Type:</b> Default Users</li> </ul> </li> <li>Select <b>OK</b></li> </ul> <p>Repeat the class and type settings for the <b>XenDesktop-VistavDisk</b> image.</p>	
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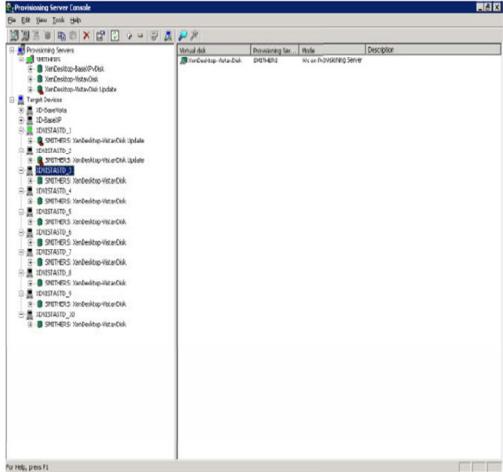
## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

With the virtual disk changes complete, the target devices must be set to utilize the latest and greatest image. The following steps outline the process.

Virtual Disk Changes Integration	
Screenshot	Description
	<p>For each target device to be updated with the latest virtual disk image, do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select the Target Device, right-click, select <b>Properties</b></li> <li>• On the General tab, enter in a value for the <b>Class</b> field. It should be the same value as the virtual disk images.</li> <li>• Select <b>OK</b></li> </ul>

## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

With the virtual disk changes complete, the target devices must be set to utilize the latest and greatest image. The following steps outline the process.

Virtual Disk Changes Integration	
Virtual Disk Changes Integration Screenshot	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Right-click the Provisioning Server and select <b>Check For Disk Updates</b> -&gt; <b>Check for Updated Virtual Disks</b></li> <li>A window will appear informing you that an update check is occurring. Select <b>OK</b>.</li> </ul> <p>Provisioning Server will look at all target devices Class field to see if they match the base and updated disks. In situations where they do, Provisioning Server will change the target device's assigned virtual disk to the virtual disk with the greatest build number (BaseXenApp Update).</p> <p>Upon each target devices next reboot, they will be utilizing the latest virtual disk image. As new changes are added to the base build, the steps outlined in this section should be followed.</p>

## Virtual Disk Changes Integration

With the virtual disk changes complete, the target devices must be set to utilize the latest and greatest image. The following steps outline the process.

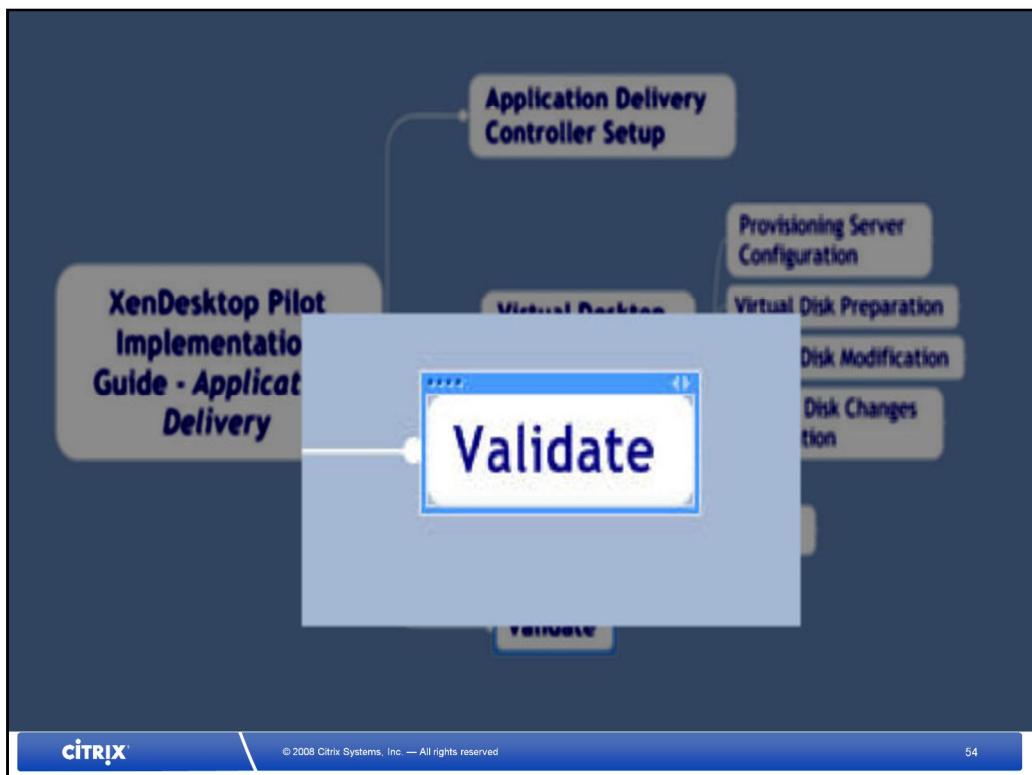


## Virtual Desktop Provisioning

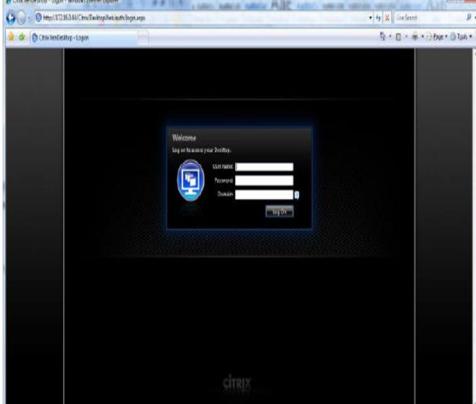
Once the golden base image has been created, it has to be delivered to the potentially thousands of users in an efficient manner, which is with provisioning. The following subsections will demonstrate how to setup the infrastructure to provision the base desktop image:

- ❑ Virtual Disk Allocation
- ❑ Provisioning Server Agent Setup
- ❑ Desktop and Virtual Disk Linking
- ❑ Base Image Build

***Assumption: To provide redundancy, two Provisioning Servers are setup and configured. The storage location (F:\) is a Network Attached Storage share.***



## Validate & Test

Test	Screenshot	Description
1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>From the client, launch the a browser to <a href="http://XenDesktopDeliveryControllerAddress">http://XenDesktopDeliveryControllerAddress</a></li><li>Authenticate with a valid user name, password and domain</li></ul>

### Validate

With the XenApp integration complete, it is time to test to verify users receive their applications appropriately.

## Validate & Test

Test	Screenshot	Description
2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The XenDesktop published virtual desktop should appear and auto-launch</li></ul>

### Validate

With the XenApp integration complete, it is time to test to verify users receive their applications appropriately.

## Validate & Test

Test	Screenshot	Description
3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The new virtual desktop should be launched and the user should be automatically signed in. Upon reaching the virtual desktop, the delivered applications should appear, based on the XenApp configuration.</li></ul>

### Validate

With the XenApp integration complete, it is time to test to verify users receive their applications appropriately.

## XenDesktop Pilot Implementation Guide

- Virtual Desktop Delivery
- Application Delivery
- Personalization
- Security
- Redundancy
- Maintaining

## Next Post Will Cover

### Personalization

Virtual Desktop Delivery

Application Delivery

Redundancy

Maintaining

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