Improve security and optimization of your XenApp infrastructure with NetScaler

XenApp - Secure delivery of Windows apps for the mobile workforce
XenApp delivers Windows and Linux apps as secure mobile services. With XenApp, IT can mobilize the business, while reducing costs by centralizing control and security of sensitive data and intellectual property. Users can self-select apps from an easy-to-use app store that is accessible from tablets, smartphones, PCs, Macs and thin clients. Advanced user experience technology enables XenApp to deliver a brilliant user experience on a wide variety of devices and network connections. XenApp is built on the same architecture as XenDesktop offering simple, powerful management and cloud-style automation scalability.

**NetScaler - The key to optimizing your XenApp implementation**

NetScaler is the world’s most advanced application delivery controller for mobile and web applications and the ideal solution for optimizing your XenApp implementation. When deployed as a front-end to a XenApp environment, NetScaler provides greater security, visibility and availability for your users; in addition to a superior user experience.

Straightforward, cost-effective support for any sized XenApp implementation is available via a choice of platform: purpose-built NetScaler MPX hardware, NetScaler SDX multi-tenant hardware solution, and full-featured NetScaler VPX virtual appliances.

**Secure access from any location and device**

With an increasing number of users accessing your XenApp environment over untrusted public networks and from devices that are neither owned nor managed by corporate IT, ensuring adequate protection from threats is a paramount consideration. NetScaler with Unified Gateway helps address this requirement by enabling granular control over which users and devices are able to access specific virtual applications under different operating conditions. All sessions are encrypted using SSL/TLS based standards and require verification of the user’s identity before access is permitted.

SmartControl is a policy enforcement capability that centrally manages the degree of access each user gets based on various conditions such as strength of authentication, real-time endpoint analysis and resource sensitivity. This becomes particularly useful when restrictions need to be enforced such as prevention of local drive mapping, copy/paste or printing.
Monitoring and visibility of application and network traffic

Monitoring and visibility of the network and application traffic is very important when it comes to security and compliance, troubleshooting and meeting support SLAs. The ability to observe, diagnose, and subsequently improve the performance of business-critical applications is essential in ensuring a positive user experience and maintaining high levels of employee productivity and customer satisfaction.

NetScaler Insight Center provides visibility and analytics for all traffic that traverses NetScaler, while HDX Insight provides analytics and visibility specific to XenApp sessions being supported on the network. It provides real-time data analysis to troubleshoot network and users’ application issues, in addition to historical data that can be used for future capacity planning and enhancements to the network.

NetScaler is the only solution on the market that can decrypt XenApp ICA traffic, and affords NetScaler a unique competitive advantage over any other vendor solutions.

An excellent user experience every time

Delivering a delightful user experience is crucial to having your users work more efficiently with XenApp. Many native XenApp features already support this objective, including a universal Citrix Receiver client, a self-service Windows app store and a brilliant user experience. Adding NetScaler makes a good user experience even better.
• Granular traffic prioritization, along with TCP/HTTP optimizations reduce application response times and bandwidth utilization; consequently reducing XenApp server farm loads.
• Support for Framehawk technology, which ensures a smooth, highly responsive browsing, and application navigation experience – even for graphics-rich content over wireless and high latency networks.
• Faster time to resolution when issues arise using HDX Insight, the only tool that collects, correlates and displays extensive usage and performance data for each XenApp user’s session.
• Single sign-on (SSO) facilitated by NetScaler including two-factor authentication support; where a user can log in once and be logged in automatically to all published resources.

**XenApp high availability**

While XenApp is built to be inherently fault-tolerant, NetScaler provides intelligent health monitoring of critical XenApp services and can intelligently redirect users away from issues before they can become disruptive to their session. Combining these monitoring capabilities with NetScaler’s ability to provide server load balancing enables a higher level of resiliency for your XenApp infrastructure.

**Disaster recovery for XenApp**

Ensuring XenApp high availability requires more than general server load balancing. Ideally, protection should also be provided against complete site-level outages, for example loss of Internet connectivity or power failures stemming from natural disasters or equipment malfunction. NetScaler can offer global server load balancing (GSLB) addressing requirements for disaster recovery and business continuity (DR/BC) by providing seamless, fully automated fail-over across XenApp environments deployed in geographically dispersed data centers. Network administrators are not required to make any DNS changes and a single, consistent URL is all users need to remain connected during these types of events. In addition, GSLB can also be configured in an active/active option where users are directed to the XenApp environment that is geographically closer to them – minimizing latency, and ensuring optimal performance across all data centers in production.

**Optimizing XenApp with NetScaler**

Maximizing the value of your XenApp investment depends on ensuring the accessibility, security, usability and availability of your applications and data. NetScaler, the world’s most advanced application delivery controller for mobile and web applications, is the ideal solution to address these requirements.
Always available, secure and a superior user experience
By front-ending your XenApp environment with NetScaler, your organization benefits from:

• Users being able to securely access their applications to get their jobs done, from any location using any device
• Robust security that safeguards applications and data accessed over public networks and from non-managed devices.
• Happy and productive employees that enjoy a seamless user experience on all devices and platforms.
• Increased compliance and availability of critical application resources for disaster recovery and business continuity.
• Reduced capital and operating expenses by consolidating multiple point solutions.

To find out more about how NetScaler can help your organization realize the full potential of its investment in XenApp, please visit www.citrix.com/netscaler.