



Windows Server 2003 Migration with Citrix App and Desktop Delivery

As you transition from Windows Server 2003, transform your app and desktop delivery strategy with the industry's leading solutions – Citrix XenApp and Citrix XenDesktop

End of support (EOS) for Windows Server 2003 offers organizations the opportunity to implement a comprehensive app and desktop delivery strategy. Companies faced with this move will find themselves in the position of being able to leapfrog to the most comprehensive, industry-leading app and desktop delivery solution in the marketplace – Citrix XenApp and XenDesktop 7.6.

XenApp® and XenDesktop® provide the greatest flexibility and best experience for end users while offering IT professionals an industry-leading app migration solution via Citrix® AppDNA™, as well as a platform that is ready for the challenges of today's landscape, ranging from cloud and mobility to 3D graphics and universal data access.

The upcoming EOL for Windows Server 2003 is compelling organizations to transition to a more modern Microsoft server operating environment, Windows Server 2012 R2. Since those older Windows servers running XenApp were put into service, the product has progressed to unprecedented levels of user experience, performance, security and user densities, and to new heights in the ability to meet the needs of today's demanding, mobile workforce. As you transition, you will want to select an app and desktop delivery platform that empowers IT while liberating end users to choose the devices that enable them to be the most productive. Those choosing to transition to the modern Citrix solution will reap the rewards of the latest Citrix technologies, which will position them best to enable a mobile workforce today while providing a future-proof platform that facilitates app migration, via the built-in AppDNA tool.

While Microsoft has made great strides over the years to improve the underlying platform, Citrix has continued to extend it in the ways required by customers to be successful in today's complex IT landscape, which demands greater choice for the user and greater scale, security and control for IT.

Following are highlights of this powerful app and desktop delivery solution.

Integrated app migration solution

A crucial component of transitioning from Windows Server 2003 to Windows Server 2012 R2 is migration of applications to the new OS. This can be a painful and time-consuming task that is full of guesswork and a minefield of unknowns. Citrix takes care of this critical piece of the puzzle by including AppDNA as part of the XenApp and XenDesktop Platinum Edition. AppDNA ensures a smooth migration by guiding customers along the process and giving them the tools needed to successfully shift apps from one version of the OS to another; this can cut migration costs by up to 90 percent. AppDNA performs key tasks that would take dozens of hours, including:

- App discovery in the Windows Server 2003 environment.
- Analysis to determine which apps are compatible with the new OS.
- Determination of which apps require further user acceptance testing.
- Identification of apps that require remediation before transitioning.
- Pinpointing where and what type of remediation needs to take place.

Benefits of XenApp and XenDesktop on Windows Server 2012 R2

Citrix and Microsoft have worked together for more than two decades to deliver the most comprehensive app and desktop delivery solution to our mutual customers. In that time we have helped thousands make smooth transitions to the latest server and desktop operating systems. While Microsoft has improved its platform RDS and VDI capabilities since Windows Server 2003, it is important to note that Citrix has not stood still throughout this time either. Citrix has increased the breadth, scope, usability and security of the solution to meet the diverse needs of the 300,000 customers we service throughout the world. Key capabilities that compel customers to choose Citrix for their app and desktop delivery solution include:

- FlexCast® – multiple types of app and desktop delivery models in one unified architecture under a single management scope.
- Proven scale from 100s to 100,000s of users plus greater user densities per server.
- Support for a mix of Windows server and desktop hosts, from Windows Server 2008 and Windows 7 to Windows Server 2012 R2 and Windows 8.
- Integration with Microsoft System Center to maximize investments in Windows Server 2012 R2.
- AppDNA, the built-in app migration solution.
- Consistent, better-than-local user experience on a wide variety of endpoints including Windows, Mac, Linux, tablets, smartphones, and thin and zero clients.
- Best user experience over any network connection.
- Context-aware security with granular controls.
- Simple yet robust management capabilities.
- Built-in universal printing solution.
- High-fidelity virtualization of 3D apps.
- A platform that embraces “any cloud” for desktop and app virtualization.

- A holistic solution that integrates tightly with enterprise mobility management and data sync and sharing solutions, all from a single vendor.

Flexible app and desktop delivery models

XenApp and XenDesktop offer FlexCast delivery options that allow IT to select the right type of virtual app or desktop for each user type and use case in the organization. This eliminates the “one-size-fits-all” approach offered by others and allows for lower overall costs for the deployment. FlexCast models include a range of delivery options that range from tightly secured and low-cost app delivery to personalized and powerful dedicated desktops.

Cloud-ready app and desktop delivery solution

When you are ready to extend to the cloud or build on existing cloud environments, the latest XenApp and XenDesktop platform will be ready to make it simple and intuitive to do so. Citrix has built in the ability to provision app and desktop environments on public clouds, directly from the locally based XenDesktop management console. These cloud solutions can be extensions of the on-premises deployment for flex use during high-demand periods, or their own standalone deployments that live in the public cloud. Today, Citrix is working closely with Microsoft in the Azure cloud and the companies have jointly developed a [Design Guide for XenApp on Azure](#). With this powerful combination customers can choose to:

- Extend their on-premises deployments into the Azure cloud to meet demand during peak periods.
- Validate changes to applications without having to buy a single new server.
- Leverage the Azure environment to set up a business continuity solution for their most critical applications.

Best-in-class user experience

Whether users are working over the LAN or under the most demanding cellular or satellite network scenarios, Citrix HDX™ capabilities provide a better-than-local experience. For enhanced performance, large data files remain in the data center rather than being constantly downloaded to and uploaded from endpoint devices. All USB devices, peripherals and printers simply work as if the apps were running locally. Universal printing capabilities replace expensive standalone printing solutions and allow users to select any printer, whether it's at the corporate office, home office, branch office or on the road.

Further, the Citrix Receiver™ client, which gives users access to virtualized apps and desktops, now runs on millions of devices including Windows, Macs, smartphones, tablets, thin clients and many embedded environments. With Citrix Receiver, users can access their apps and desktops from their favorite consumer and company-provided devices. This provides a solid foundation for your bring-your-own-device (BYOD) strategy.

Unified App Store for access to business-critical services

Citrix Receiver presents users with a consolidated view of all apps and services that are hosted by their IT organization. This [App Store concept](#) allows people to subscribe to the apps they need and puts all services at their fingertips, including Windows apps, desktops, SaaS apps, native mobile apps and data – all available for every device at their disposal. This frees the user to reach new levels of productivity and fully empowers the mobile workforce.

Rich graphics and 3D app delivery

The latest XenApp and XenDesktop solutions enable IT to host and deliver an entirely new class of rich graphics and 3D applications. Through partnerships with NVIDIA and our server

OEM partners, Citrix can now offer a graphics workstation-like user experience that is accessible from any Citrix Receiver-ready device.

Touch-enabled apps

Citrix Receiver makes it intuitive for people to use touch and gestures when interacting with Windows apps and desktops that were not designed with touch functionality in mind. Citrix Receiver and HDX automatically translate touch and gestures for a smooth experience when interacting with Windows apps on non-Windows, touch-capable endpoints. Key features such as multiple mouse implementations, inertial scrolling and auto-keyboard popup deliver a user experience that matches that of native mobile apps.

Secure by design

Citrix technology is secure by design: user and app data remain protected in the data center and nothing resides on the endpoint device. In addition, integrations with Citrix NetScaler® SmartAccess controls allow IT to remotely scan endpoint devices and limit or block access depending on key security parameters. Fine-grained, context-based policy controls impose limits on users' ability to download or upload files, print or use USB drives, depending on device characteristics, location and other factors. The XenApp and XenDesktop platform supports compliance with stringent security standards, including FIPS 140-2 and Common Criteria.

Integration with Microsoft management platforms

XenApp and XenDesktop management capabilities integrate smoothly with Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager for those customers looking for a single management infrastructure based on System Center. Our latest integration is Connector 7, which includes the most robust set of XenApp and XenDesktop management capabilities to date.

Integration with enterprise mobility management solution

XenApp and XenDesktop integrate with Citrix XenMobile® to deliver a comprehensive EMM solution for managing mobile devices and apps. XenMobile enables BYOD projects by allowing IT to control portions of user-owned devices that are dedicated to business use. Devices can be managed and remotely wiped of corporate apps and data if necessary. The EMM solution includes business versions of key apps users need to get their work done, including mail, calendar, contacts, browser, notes and others. People can use these Worx apps for work activities and switch to consumer apps for personal activities on the same personal mobile device.

Integration with secure file sync and sharing solution

XenApp and XenDesktop integrate with Citrix ShareFile® to provide the convenience of data sync and sharing across multiple devices without the risk of using a consumer-grade, public cloud solution. Users can share links to files and sync business-critical data across devices, while IT retains the ability to remotely wipe the data if a device is lost or stolen or if the individual leaves the company. IT also has the choice of hosting the data in its own data center on premises (via ShareFile with StorageZones™) or in the secure Citrix cloud.

To learn more about Windows Server 2003 migration with Citrix XenApp and XenDesktop Platinum Edition, visit citrix.com/xenapp/upgrade or see your Citrix Solutions Advisor today.

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About Citrix

Citrix (NASDAQ:CTXS) is a leader in mobile workspaces, providing virtualization, mobility management, networking and cloud services to enable new ways to work better. Citrix solutions power business mobility through secure, personal workspaces that provide people with instant access to apps, desktops, data and communications on any device, over any network and cloud. This year Citrix is celebrating 25 years of innovation, making IT simpler and people more productive. With annual revenue in 2013 of \$2.9 billion, Citrix solutions are in use at more than 330,000 organizations and by over 100 million users globally. Learn more at www.citrix.com.

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