HP and Microsoft Introduce Desktop Virtualization Solution

Overview

HP and Microsoft Corp. are offering a reference architecture for desktop virtualization based on a Converged Infrastructure. The architecture is designed to help customers reduce the complexities of IT management and lower costs.

Virtual desktop infrastructure blueprint and offer

Organizations struggle with sprawl created from the rapid expansion of desktops, portables and mobile devices. Data now resides on a large number of devices, which makes it difficult to manage, secure and back-up. Desktop virtualization can simplify management, improve security and reduce back-up traffic on the network.

Traditionally, desktop virtualization requires the complex integration of storage, servers, networking and management. To address this challenge, HP, Microsoft and Citrix are delivering a proven Converged Infrastructure reference architecture.

This comprehensive architecture combines HP's infrastructure products, Microsoft® Hyper-V and Citrix XenDesktop to create a complete virtual desktop infrastructure. It can scale to support thousands of virtual desktops in a simple, modular design that is pre-sized and pre-tested. The reference architecture is used to create a VDI solution that delivers three times more administrator productivity, supports 1,600 users at 50 percent less cost and requires 60 percent less space than traditional client virtualization implementations.[1]

An integral component in the reference architecture is the new HP StorageWorks P4800 BladeSystem SAN, which provides scalable, shared storage for a converged server, storage and networking environment.

To help customers speed implementation of their desktop virtualization solutions, HP, Microsoft and Citrix will provide a VDI Ignite and Activate program enabling customers to kick-start their VDI deployment. This program includes discounted licenses, a one-day transformation strategy workshop and implementation services for up to 250 users. More information on the programs is available at www.citrixandmicrosoft.com.

"We're helping clients, such as a major food manufacturer and a major financial institution, to define their desktop management strategy, set the roadmap and then pilot and deploy solutions," said Mike Strohl, chief executive officer, Entisys Solutions. "We partner with HP, Microsoft and Citrix because they continue to

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innovate around desktop and application delivery, and datacenter virtualization. The VDI blueprint will help my clients optimize their datacenters and successfully deploy Windows 7 and desktop applications to thousands of employees."

About Microsoft
Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT") is the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential.

About HP
HP creates new possibilities for technology to have a meaningful impact on people, businesses, governments and society. The world's largest technology company, HP brings together a portfolio that spans printing, personal computing, software, services and IT infrastructure to solve customer problems. More information about HP (NYSE: HPQ) is available at http://www.hp.com.

(1)   Based on HP internal analysis.