Make the switch from Citrix to Omnissa Horizon

Upgrade to a more flexible, secure, and cost-effective solution

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Is your legacy VDI "solution" actually the problem?

As organizations strive to support a distributed workforce, IT leaders turn to virtualization solutions to provide a secure, highly scalable infrastructure that empowers employees to work from anywhere.

However, IT leaders report that they are fed up with legacy systems that fail to provide effective desktop and app delivery for today's expansive distributed workforce. Customers of these vendors have shared that they experienced:

• Rigid plans and packages that are misaligned to customer needs.

• A decrease in product innovation and support resources — threatening customers' business continuity.

• Renewal price increases year over year.

As a result, customers report that they find themselves paying more for less. This becomes an increasingly larger pain point as business needs increase, and IT leaders are tasked with being financially responsible while also supporting ongoing growth.[1]

1. As shared in direct conversations with former customers (2023-present) and as reported in third-party publications. Sharwood, Simon, "Claims emerge that Citrix has doubled price of month-to-month parter licenses." The Register, March 2024.

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Choose Omnissa Horizon, the better solution for modern and secure desktop and app delivery

As part of the Omnissa Platform, Omnissa Horizon® is designed to help organizations modernize their desktop and app delivery — tailored to customer needs and at lower cost. Horizon delivers flexible and scalable virtual desktops and applications across both on-premises and multiple public clouds, simplifying Day 2 operations for IT. Omnissa App Volumes™ is the only solution enabling IT teams to package applications once and deploy them everywhere with 99% app compatibility.[2]

With flexible plans and pricing and the operational ease of a single purchase from a market-leading vendor, Horizon is the solution chosen by tens of thousands of customers across the globe, providing unmatched IT efficiency, employee productivity, and cost savings as well as a demonstrated commitment to customers' ongoing success through investments in product innovation and support and migration programs.

2. As shown with testing conducted with an Omnissa customer.

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Modernize your virtual desktop and app management

Horizon is a truly modern product purpose-built for hybridity, enabling you to easily manage and deploy virtual apps and desktops from anywhere. It provides a cloud native Omnissa Horizon Control Plane operated as a managed service along with consistent hybrid management services across on-premises and cloud deployments. This helps you rapidly provision full-featured, personalized virtual desktops and apps. It also helps you save time with simplified Day 2 management of images, apps, profiles, and policies.
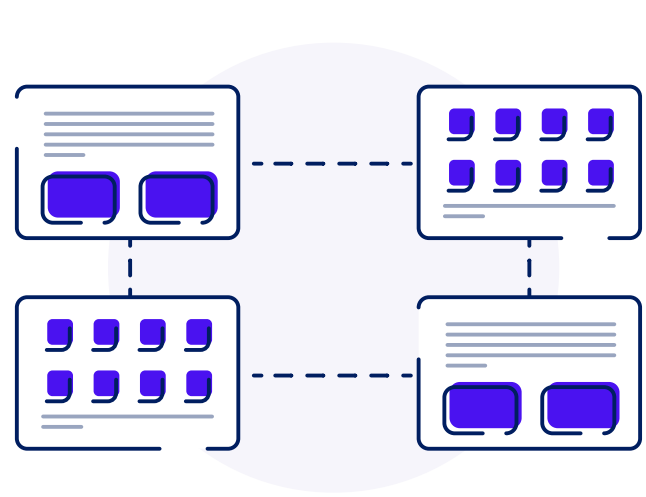
Instant Clone Technology

helps speed up the process of creating and delivering virtual machines, enabling you to easily build and deploy desktop images to quickly scale and meet changing business continuity needs. In addition, Instant Clones require less storage, which reduces costs compared to traditional image management techniques.
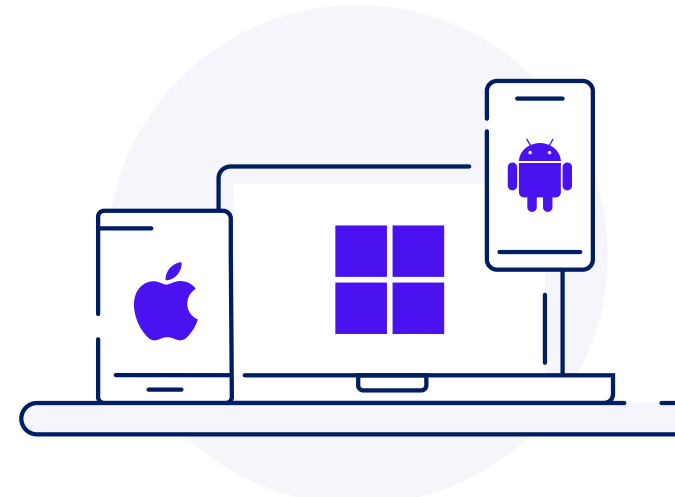
Omnissa Dynamic Environment Manager

enables dynamic policy configuration to provide end users with a personalized desktop experience across any virtual, physical, or cloud-based Windows desktop.

Omnissa Horizon Blast Extreme

is a display protocol that automatically adapts to fluctuating network conditions to consistently deliver a feature-rich experience to end users across devices, locations, media, and network connections.

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Reduce costs with App Volumes and Apps on Demand

Omnissa App Volumes is a real-time app delivery solution that separates apps from the operating system. This enables IT admins to capture the full install of an app once and deliver it to users when they log into their virtual desktops.

Apps on Demand is an innovative feature of App Volumes that allows admins to deliver captured apps to any virtual desktop or published app host as users access their apps. Specifically for published apps, this on-demand "farm-less" model can reduce the number of published app hosts needed to support users, which in turn reduces associated infrastructure costs and management time.

Together, App Volumes and Apps on Demand can greatly reduce the strain on your IT organization.

• Reduce time managing virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) and RDSH images by removing apps installed on the OS.

• Capture once, deliver to all VDI desktops and RDSH servers on-prem or in the cloud.

• Decrease infrastructure costs by reusing a single app copy.

App packaging: the Old Model vs. the Modern Model

Traditional   App Volumes

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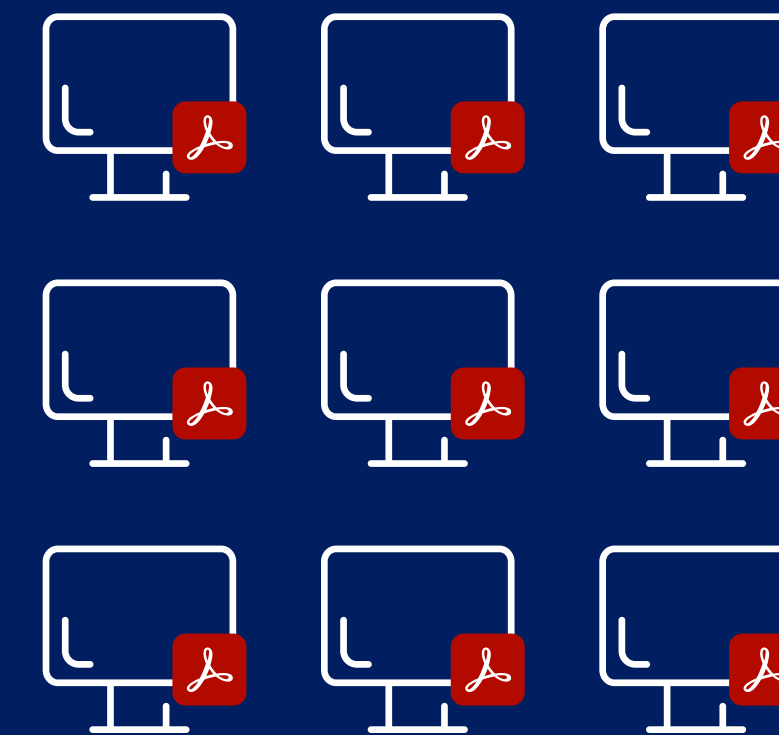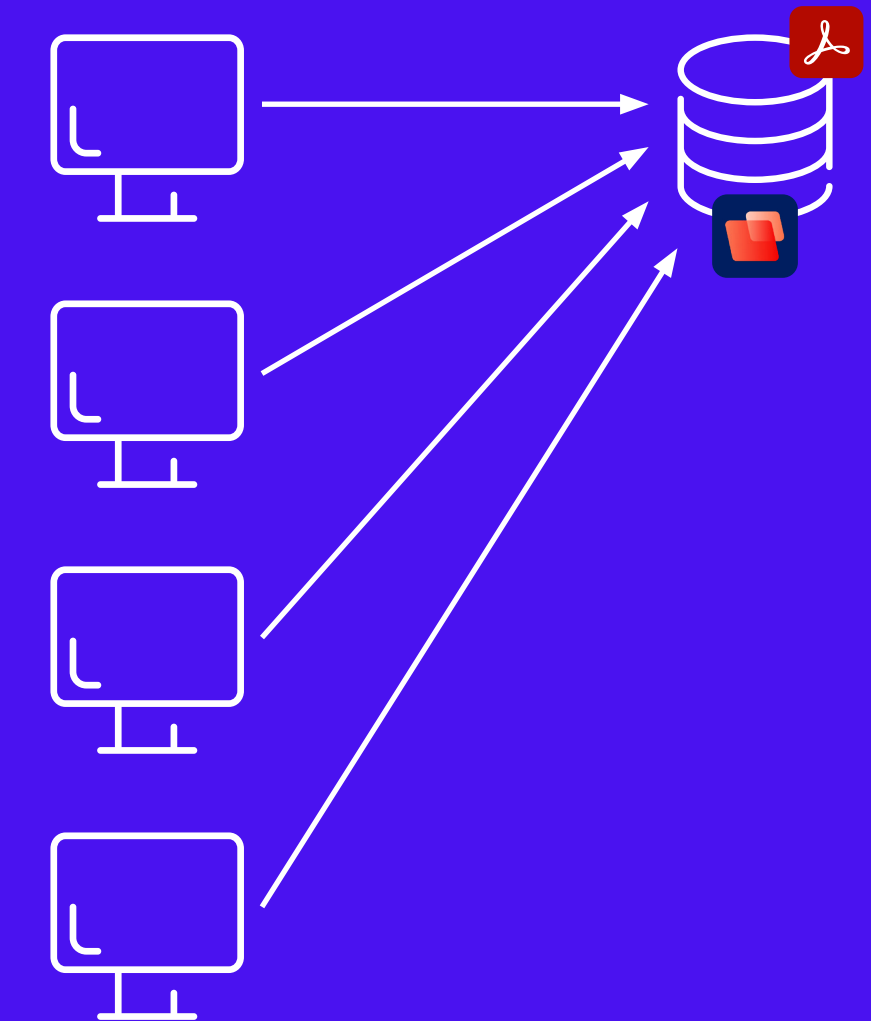
Automate and scale the delivery of virtual desktops and apps

Many digital workspace strategies that drive business continuity, disaster recovery, and remote work rely on virtual desktops and apps. Horizon's cloud native control plane and service-based management tools help you deliver desktops and apps to any user from any environment. Deployment options span traditional VDI and apps delivered on-premises to desktop as a service (DaaS) delivered through Omnissa Horizon® Cloud on Microsoft Azure.
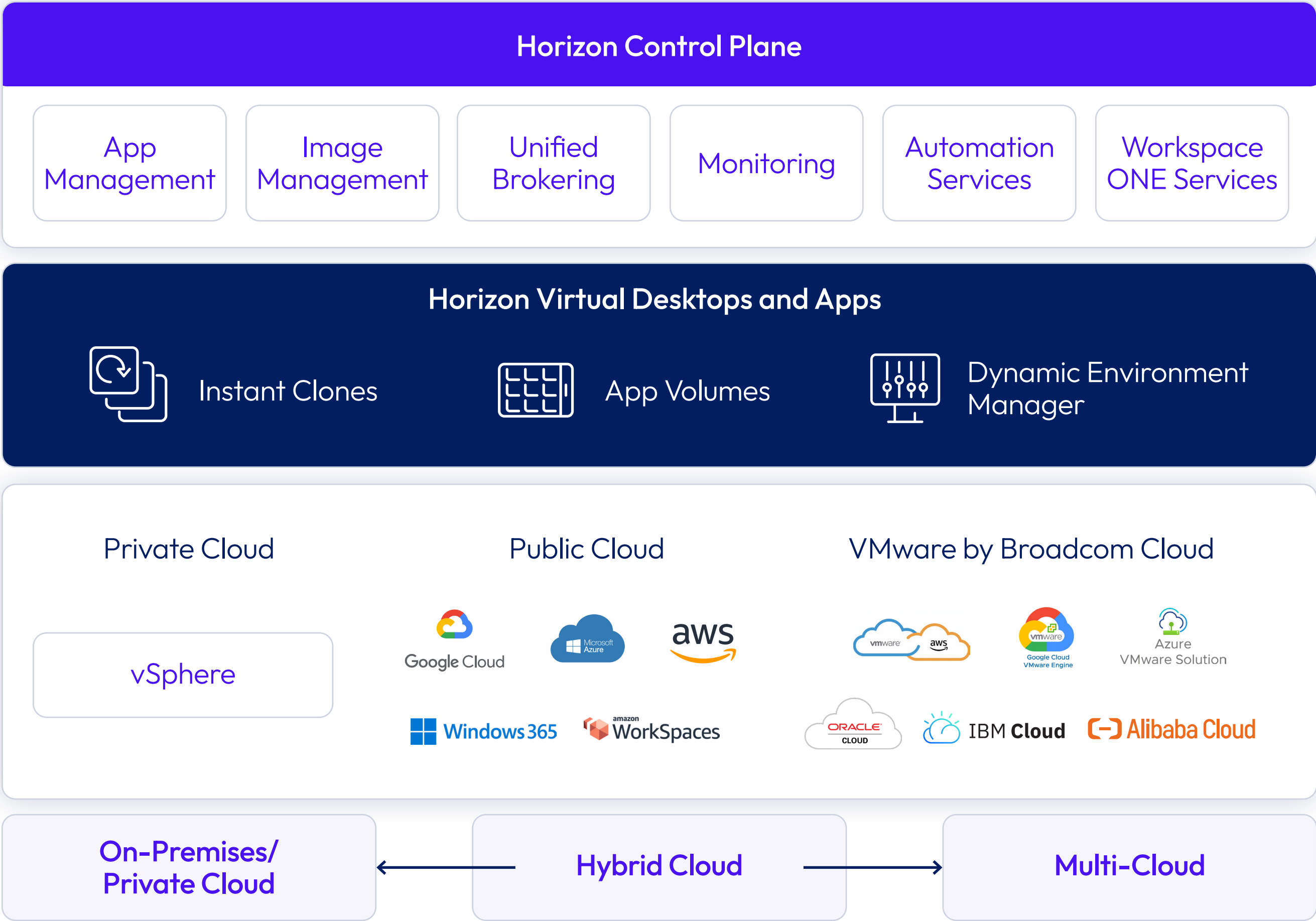

Horizon Control Plane

| App Management | Image Management | Unified Brokering | Monitoring | Automation Services | Workspace ONE Services |

Horizon Virtual Desktops and Apps

Instant Clones　　App Volumes　　Dynamic Environment Manager

Private Cloud　　Public Cloud　　VMware by Broadcom Cloud

vSphere

Google Cloud　Microsoft Azure　aws

vmware aws　Google Cloud VMware Engine　Azure VMware Solution

Windows 365　amazon WorkSpaces

ORACLE CLOUD　IBM Cloud　Alibaba Cloud

| On-Premises/ Private Cloud | ← → | Hybrid Cloud | → | Multi-Cloud |

Figure 1: An integrated technology ecosystem helps you create a digital foundation for the future.

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Employ built-in DEX capabilities to optimize the experience for end users and IT admins alike

In today's dynamic workforce environment, simply delivering apps and tools to support productivity is only half the battle. End users require seamless and efficient access to the systems and tools they need, when they need them. IT admins need to ensure 24/7 security while also providing workflows that effectively address employee requests at scale. Horizon, Dynamic Environment Manager, and Workspace ONE help optimize the DEX for both end users and IT administrators, providing a balance between control, security, and usability.
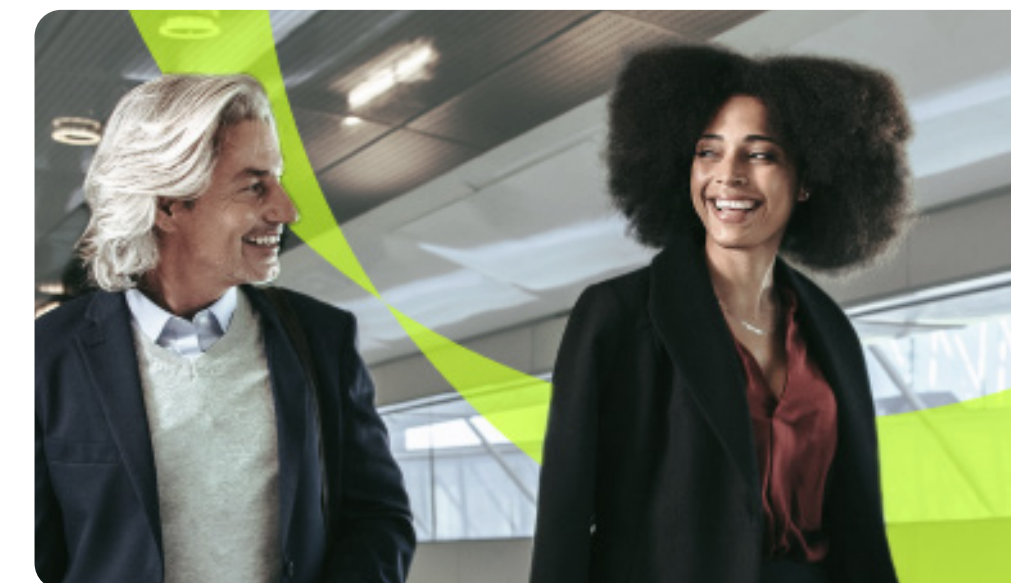
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Advanced capabilities for next-level DEX

Optimized desktop delivery

Omnissa Horizon® Blast Protocol ensures high-quality user experiences under varying network conditions, including high latency, enabling seamless access from any device.

Further enhancing user experiences, Workspace ONE integrates DEX capabilities into Horizon deployments, incorporating tools like Omnissa Workspace ONE® Intelligent Hub, Omnissa Workspace ONE® Hub Services, Omnissa Workspace ONE® UEM, and Omnissa Access. Omnissa Workspace ONE® Experience Management for Horizon, powered by Omnissa Intelligence, allows IT to proactively monitor, analyze, and manage device and app performance and user sentiment. Through data science, this setup aids in incident prediction and resolution. It enables both automated and manual remediation methods like real-time support and self-service options to maintain consistent high-quality experiences.
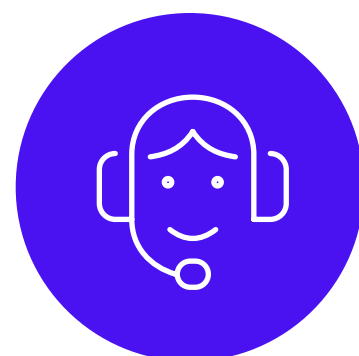
Communication and collaboration support

Horizon offers enhanced support to provide better connectivity with less echoing, fewer dropped calls, and improved video quality. This helps your organization maintain high levels of productivity and engagement among team members, regardless of their physical location.

Multimedia support

Horizon is compatible with various codecs such as JPG/PNG, H.264, and HEVC (H.265), as well as the innovative Blast Codec. This promotes pristine rendering and a rich user experience for high-end graphics, multimedia content, and applications requiring GPU resources. These capabilities are particularly beneficial for medical imaging, graphic design, engineering applications, and other cases where detail and accuracy are critical.

Personalized experience

Horizon's integration with Workspace ONE provides seamless access to all desktops and apps from a unified platform. App Volumes and Dynamic Environment Manager work together to offer a persistent user experience with the economic benefits of non-persistent setups. This combination allows IT admins to manage user settings and applications dynamically, optimizing a personalized workspace that meets each user's needs while optimizing resource use and cost-efficiency.

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Deliver an intrinsically secure desktop experience

With security built in at every level, including the network, endpoint, cloud, identity, and workload, Omnissa significantly reduces the attack surface of your critical systems and applications. Horizon enables virtual desktops and apps to have intuitive security from the client to the workload, while a virtual networking portfolio and cloud native endpoint protection provide additional layers of security. This holistic, end-to-end approach reduces the number of security agents and vendors across devices, simplifying deployments and improving performance.

Zero Trust security controls

Isolating and modernizing traditional apps requires technology that can bridge the gap between a traditional security architecture and one based on Zero Trust. With Workspace ONE UEM, you can build trust in devices that access enterprise data, then drive dynamic conditional access decisions to validate user identity. The Omnissa Unified Access Gateway protects user sessions and devices by using least-privilege capabilities to enable your users to access only what they need to be productive.

Integration with Horizon provides highly secure, controlled, and validated connections to desktops and apps within a single platform. What's more, Unified Access Gateway can layer in additional network and cloud security technologies, such as NSX micro-segmentation and IDS/IPS, to offer a convergent infrastructure with end-to-end Zero Trust security.

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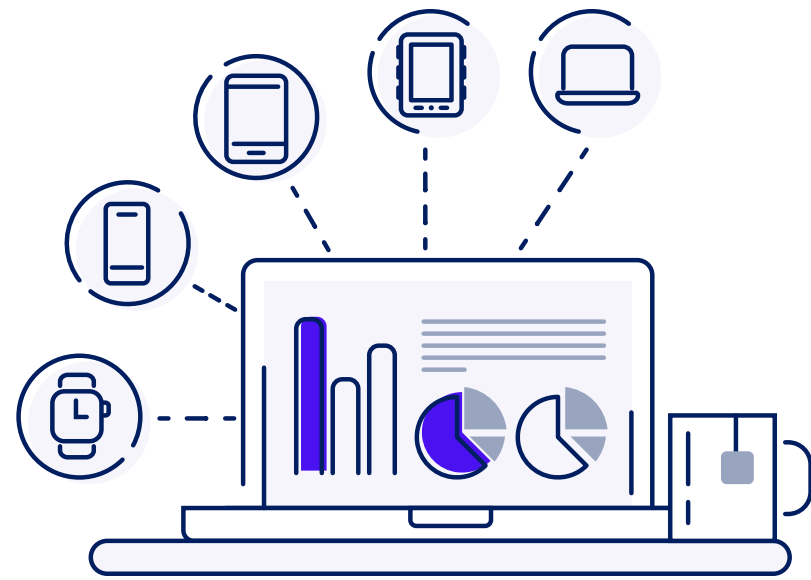
More secure, optimized remote user access

Horizon's comprehensive security spans from the end user's device to the data center or cloud, providing a fortified virtual environment. For device security, Horizon ensures that no sensitive data remains on local endpoints—it is always securely housed in the data center or cloud. This approach mitigates the risk of data loss, even in complex BYO device scenarios, reinforcing the security perimeter beyond the traditional office space.

Within the data center or cloud location, Dynamic Environment Manager enables complete policy and profile management to ensure meticulous control and governance. Centralized patching mechanisms are in place to address vulnerabilities promptly, maintaining the integrity of the infrastructure. Additionally, when spun up through Instant Clone, each virtual image is a pristine, trusted instance, ensuring consistency and reliability.

Intrinsically secure VDI

With the intrinsic security built into Cloud Foundation, Horizon delivers virtual desktops and apps while protecting your network and data center. The integration with Omnissa Access provides secure remote access from any BYO or corporate device. As users access their virtual workspace across the network, NSX Advanced Load Balancer (formerly Avi Networks) and Unified Access Gateway securely proxy their connections. For added protection to centrally hosted desktops and apps, NSX secures east-west traffic with micro-segmentation.

While most other enterprise solutions consist of multiple products from disparate vendors that increase complexity and sprawl, Horizon uses intrinsic security built into the infrastructure to offer a complete, end-to-end security stack.

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Horizon is the enterprise-grade VDI, DaaS, and apps solution trusted by tens of thousands of top organizations in every sector.

To learn more, visit the Omnissa webpage or connect with an Omnissa representative.

LEARN MORE →

Take a deeper dive with these resources:

Introduction to Horizon for Citrix Admins

Horizon Learning Path from TechZone

Reference architectures

How Horizon provides intrinsic security