

Stratodesk
VMware Horizon
Endpoint OS & Management

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VMware and Stratodesk Work Together to Deliver an All-In-One End User Computing Solution

Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) provides productivity, manageability, and security benefits to large enterprises, SMBs, and other organizations across multiple industries. However, making the leap to VDI is not without its share of challenges. Businesses and organizations must make significant investments and overcome many obstacles before they can get the full benefit of virtual desktops. For large enterprises in particular, overhauling an entire network of existing devices is a financial difficulty. Beyond hardware costs, there are the inevitable costs involved with Windows licensing, malware protection, IT maintenance, and more.

The Windows Issue

In order to allow for VDI, organizations often run Windows on each of their endpoint devices. Once Windows is deployed, it then requires significant IT overhead to maintain. Not to mention IT must also provide antivirus and malware protection for each and every device. To make things worse, different devices house different versions of Windows, so standardizing these endpoints can be difficult. The cost associated with all of the above is high and poses a significant difficulty to be overcome by IT staff.

Security and Accessibility Concerns

Another struggle facing IT administrators is that of security. Always a key concern, system admins must not only increase security but must also ensure end users can quickly and conveniently access important apps and data whenever and wherever they need them. For this reason, IT administrators have an equally high demand put not only on budget and security, but also on convenience. Convenience is the third point, and cannot be stressed enough. Without an endpoint solution in place that is convenient and one that offers a seamless user experience, organizations can quickly lose the many benefits of VDI.

The Bottom Line

Thus, without the right solution in place, IT will eventually be saddled with increased support costs, antivirus licenses, and the high costs associated with a complete overhaul of their devices. Moreover, running a network where there is a mixture of various Windows OS versions on the desktop means more work for IT and adds a layer of complexity to your supposedly easier-to-operate VDI network. A largely Windows-based desktop infrastructure coupled with the susceptibility of Windows to malware attacks and viruses make the move to VDI at times seem more of a threat to an organization's sanity rather than a beneficial solution to its problems.

Stratodesk and VMware Solve Common Challenges Facing VDI Deployments

VMware is one of the top VDI vendors in the world today and is regarded for having provided the ideal solution to help companies make the initial jump to VDI. And Stratodesk NoTouch Desktop is its ideal complement, offering an all-in-one solution for endpoint management and computing. By centralizing IT management, reducing costs, securing endpoints and simplifying desktop deployment, NoTouch Desktop ensures your ability to harness the full effect of your VMware Horizon deployment.

Customers who use NoTouch Desktop can expect various benefits ranging from cost to security. For example, in higher education, Stratodesk has saved an average of \$30,000 per year by repurposing hardware and cuts approximately 13 weeks of redundant IT staff hours by eliminating the need for time-consuming, manual maintenance and patching of endpoints. Additionally, 1,215 hours per year have been reclaimed by organizations thanks to faster log-ins.

Stratodesk/VMware Horizon Compatibility Guide | VMware Horizon Client 5.0 | Horizon 7.0-7.8

Protocol	Release	Available on NoTouch
RDP	Multi Monitor	N/A
	Printer Redirection	Yes
	Radius Authentication	No
	RSA SecurID Authentication	No
	Smartcard	No
	PCOIP	Horizon 7.0-8/Horizon Client 5.0
	Client Drive Redirection	Yes
	FIPS Certification	Yes
	Flash Redirection	Yes
	Hosted Applications	Yes
	Kiosk Mode	Yes
	MMR	Yes
	Multi Monitor	N/A
	Printer Redirection	Yes
	Radius Authentication	No
	RSA SecurID Authentication	No

	RTAV	Yes
	Smartcard	No
VMware Blast Extreme	Horizon 7.0-8/Horizon Client 5.0	
	Client Drive Redirection	Yes
	FIPS Certification	N/A
	Flash Redirection	Yes
	H.264 Decoding	Yes
	H.264/JPEG/PNG	Yes
	Hi444PP	Yes
	Horizon for Linux	Yes
	Hosted Applications	Yes
	Kiosk Mode	Yes
	MMR	Yes
	Multi Monitor	N/A
	Printer Redirection	Yes
	Radius Authentication	No
	RSA SecurID Authentication	No
	RTAV	Yes
	Smartcard	No

NoTouch OS Cuts Costs, Increases Security, and Connects to Your VMware VDI

NoTouch Desktop Consists of NoTouch OS and NoTouch Center

Stratodesk NoTouch OS is the endpoint OS for your VMware Horizon environment, able to connect directly out of the box with the latest Horizon Client preinstalled. Easily deploy NoTouch OS onto your existing hardware via one of our convenient installation methods. Because NoTouch is Linux based, once it is installed there is no longer any need for Windows licenses and patches, countless IT staff hours, massive capital investments in hardware, or antivirus contracts for desktops.

NoTouch OS fully supports Blast Extreme, PCoIP and RDP and Repurposes Devices

Stratodesk supports Blast Extreme, PCoIP and RDP directly out of the box. Additionally, companies looking to save on capital investments in hardware can use Stratodesk NoTouch OS to repurpose existing devices. Repurposing is made easy thanks to NoTouch's

minimal hardware requirements, and it runs on almost any device on the market. These low requirements unlock tremendous savings potential by broadening the hardware pool that can be incorporated into your VMware deployment.

NoTouch Center Automates Endpoint Management

The second component of Stratodesk NoTouch Desktop is NoTouch Center, a browser-based administration software that automates endpoint management, configuration and updates to PCs, Thin Clients, Laptops and ARM based devices (including the Raspberry Pi) – all from one location. It is also the only endpoint management solution able to manage both x86 and ARM based devices in the same environment and can be run either on premises or in the cloud.

NoTouch Center Features

NoTouch Center comes with the Stratodesk Virtual Appliance, a 64-bit Linux-based Virtual Appliance (VA) preconfigured to run on VMware ESX. Stratodesk VA includes a pre-installed instance of NoTouch Center and a ready-to-run PXE/network boot server solution. Furthermore, NoTouch Center supports live inheritance of settings, meaning groups can be set and configured and easily kept in sync. It supports multiple user roles, monitoring, asset management, inventory, Helpdesk, and other features expected from an enterprise grade product.

Choose from Multiple Boot Options

NoTouch Center comes with the Stratodesk Virtual Appliance, a 64-bit Linux-based Virtual Appliance (VA) preconfigured to run on VMware ESX. Stratodesk VA includes a pre-installed instance of NoTouch Center and a ready-to-run PXE/network boot server solution. Furthermore, NoTouch Center supports inheritance of settings, meaning groups can be set and configured and easily kept in sync. It supports multiple user roles, monitoring, asset management, inventory, Helpdesk, and other features expected from an enterprise grade product.

VMWare Horizon VDI and Stratodesk NoTouch Desktop: A Perfect Combination

Competitive Advantage

Unlike similar solutions on the market, Stratodesk NoTouch Desktop already includes the latest VMware Horizon client. What's more, Stratodesk NoTouch Desktop is consistently updated whenever VMware releases a protocol update.

In addition, Stratodesk NoTouch Desktop is affordably-priced and requires little effort to set up. You will be asked to set up a connection to Horizon Connection Server when you run Stratodesk NoTouch for the first time. Just click on the shortcut to instantly connect to Horizon next time you boot up your NoTouch Desktop.

The included NoTouch Center allows effective and automated management of all your devices – conveniently from one location.

Stratodesk NoTouch Desktop includes the Stratodesk virtual appliance and PXE server for your Horizon environment. Your Stratodesk NoTouch endpoints can also serve as satellite PXE servers if needed to manage endpoints at multiple sites.

Best Practices

How Do You Install Stratodesk NoTouch OS?

There are a variety of installation modes – full hard drive installation that wipes out the existing OS, USB mode that allows it to run on the machine without touching its existing OS, and PXE boot.

Why Is Stratodesk Right for Your Hardware?

NoTouch OS future-proofs your VDI. It is easy to set up, configure, and manage, with easily configurable sessions right out of the box.

Discovering and Configuring Endpoints with NoTouch Center

Discovering endpoints with NoTouch Desktop is easy and can be done automatically. You can discover your endpoints by going to tools and providing the IP address or an IP address range. NoTouch Center finds all of the endpoints in that range and adds them to an unassigned group. Once endpoints are discovered, configurations can be done on a group level. NoTouch Center enables inheritance of settings.

Setting Groups

Additionally, several more advanced parameters and configurations exist within NoTouch Center. Specifically for VMWare connections, a variety of different parameters can be configured, including smart card logins, Speech mike support, multimedia support (including H.264 and Skype for Business), Cisco Jabber Devices, and your choice of PCoIP, Blast Extreme, or RDP.

Get Started Today

To learn more about how Stratodesk NoTouch OS and VMware Horizon can deliver on the full promise of your VDI without increased hardware and software costs, download a free trial at <https://www.Stratodesk.com/download> or contact your Stratodesk or VMware partner or sales representative.