



# How Stratodesk “Velma Lakes Software” Enables Remote Work

**Stratodesk Whitepaper**

# It's not enough to run only on x86

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What is the future of work? How are enterprises handling the various challenges that are arising, like the emergency situation over the Coronavirus, enabling remote work and how can they conquer them? VDI has shown a lot of promise in its ability to handle modern work challenges and enabling remote work. But the future of remote work is even more complex. Today, enterprises need a synchronized, multi-platform, multi-cloud approach to managing their secure digital perimeters. This is true for not only endpoints located on-premises, but also for those located at home.

For starters, today's complex business challenges go far beyond what x86 endpoint management can achieve alone. Advancements made, for example, in technology like the **Raspberry Pi platform**, and operating systems capable of running on it, have made alternatives to traditional x86 Thin Client devices commonplace.

Why is the Raspberry Pi so important a factor in all of this? There are a multitude of reasons why enterprises and organizations (independent of what industry they are in) are choosing Raspberry Pis **alongside traditional** x86 Thin Clients to function as smart endpoints. IT might choose Raspberry Pi because it is smaller and consumes less power than **competing Thin Clients**. In turn, this saves money and resources.

Additionally, the Raspberry Pi platform is a secure, powerful and less expensive endpoint option. The cost difference for virtually the same performance as x86 Thin Clients is significant.

However, that does not eliminate the usefulness of x86 devices. Additionally, many enterprises have countless devices set up at different locations around the world. It may be useful and cost effective to add Raspberry Pi devices to their network. Here, however, IT is faced with an impossible task. They must find perfect harmony between their VDI or Cloud solution provider, disparate devices and unstandardized operating systems on endpoint devices.

# Modern Professional Work Habits Add Complexity to IT Endpoint Management



**It's clear that modern business needs have furthered far beyond the solutions that we have grown familiar with. Handling endpoint devices cross-platform at the enterprise level is already something that has not been done yet in history. To make matters worse, the challenges do not end there.**

Thanks to technological advancement, employees have unprecedented accessibility to the apps and data they need in order to get their work done. This is having a massive impact on society and how we think about work. Increasingly, things like "place" and "location" are having less impact. Instead, a lot of attention is being placed on flexibility, and enabling work from anywhere.

In fact, employers are pressed to look beyond their local talent pool in order to acquire the human capital they need. Skyrocketing housing costs and overall costs of living are pushing many people out of urban centers, and back towards rural environments. Additionally, very real health challenges are causing IT leaders to look elsewhere for solutions to enable secure, remote work. Additionally, having remote work capacity included in your endpoint strategy from the get-go enables you a fail-safe option to continue production during emergency situations.

All of these things are good. They can have a massively positive impact on society. After all, work is what you do, not where you go. But that does not eliminate the significant challenge providing secure, 24/7 access to virtual desktops poses enterprise IT everywhere.

## Security Is the Issue

Not only is IT tasked with enabling seamless connectivity to virtual/cloud desktops, it must do so while enabling unmatched security. Security is the top concern amongst most enterprises and organizations as they seek to build out a truly harmonious and secure digital perimeter.

There are several security benefits intrinsic to VDI/Cloud desktops. For example, most of the heavy lifting is done on the server, either on the corporate perimeter or in the Cloud via a Cloud service provider. Important corporate data is primarily housed in these secure, controlled centers. However, endpoints remain unprotected. This means that IT will be tasked with updating and maintaining the security on each and every endpoint device.

From a cost perspective, this also adds an incredible amount of investment on the part of the enterprise or organization. Antivirus/malware software must be provided for each device – that costs money both in terms of software licenses and in IT resources as resources are diverted towards protecting and maintaining endpoints.



# Remote Work Adds Security Challenges

Securing endpoints is challenging enough when those endpoints are dedicated x86 Thin Client devices securely fastened on-premises, never to be leveraged externally. However, that's clearly not the scenario most workers find themselves in. Today, workers will access their virtual desktops anywhere. Or they might alternate between different devices. For example, many expect to do their work on both company computers and personal devices.

There are however various policy problems and even legal implications involved with enabling flexible access to apps and data. For example, government entities have particularly hardened security standards and expectations placed on their IT, including how endpoints are secured and how information is accessed.

**Healthcare is another** notoriously security driven industry. HIPAA compliance laws govern how patient data can be accessed and stored. Healthcare IT must strive to meet these complex standards.

Beyond these scenarios, every enterprise is concerned with their corporate data. With cyberattacks rampant like never before, IT must seek to combat challenges. Meanwhile, business leaders must seek to have this take place without breaking the bank.

A better approach is sorely needed.



# Velma Lakes – The Single Answer for the Work Challenges of Tomorrow

**The latest software generation from Stratodesk stands apart and alone against a backdrop of solutions unable to handle the full brunt of complexity facing intelligent work stations of the future. Indeed, this new software generation marks a convergence between IoT and VDI technology. And that is very important for a few reasons. For starters, a merely “VDI” solution is not entirely adequate to face the many challenges enterprises and organizations now face. At the same time, solely x86 solutions are not effective enough, either.**

The future of desktop virtualization, and indeed intelligent workspaces, is smart. It's not based only in the x86 Thin Client devices we were used to ten years ago. On the contrary, the devices of the future are mixed, smart, and capable.

A plethora of effective smart devices have sprung up in the wake of IoT innovation. Broadly speaking, they can be grouped into x86 devices on the one side, ARM devices on the other. However, there is a great range and variety between even ARM based devices. Of course, a similar expanse exists within the x86 group.

For example, within the x86 family, you can have a hyper low power Thin Client – bare bones, equipped with only what you need to get a seamless user interface with your virtual apps and desktops. On the other end, we have advanced, ultra-powered gaming computers that employees use during the day, and access for personal use at night.

Stratodesk Velma Lakes bridges the gap between these two different worlds. It powers and manages devices cross-platform, in any cloud, anywhere.

# What is Velma Lakes?

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**Velma Lakes is the latest software generation from Stratodesk. It is, in effect, an entirely new way of perceiving and thinking of endpoint management. It seeks to find harmony between multi-platform, multi-cloud approaches in order to form a perfect synthesis of VDI, Cloud and IoT technologies and enable the intelligent workspaces of tomorrow.**

An accumulation of the innovative work endpoint management leader, Stratodesk, has been doing for the past two-plus years, Velma Lakes is the crescendo of the most powerful and advanced endpoint management innovations.

# What New Features Does it Possess?

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While the new update/OS image selection mechanism streamlines endpoint management processes by enabling unprecedented management for x86 and Raspberry Pi devices in the same network at the speed of a single click, system administrators and IT managers around the world will be dazzled by cutting edge and intuitive new user role management capabilities. These capabilities streamline user role management, enabling enterprises to seamlessly configure permissions across their entire organization with unprecedented ease.

The new licenses limitation feature also solves major system administration challenges by initiating unparalleled administration over the type of licenses and number allowed at any level.

**New features available** in NoTouch Center 4.3 also include integrations with Slack and Zoom, a fantastic new notification framework, allowing IT to know changes being made at once, easy drag and drop and right click functionalities, autosave, and much, much more.

# New Features Extend NoTouch Capabilities

Velma Lakes includes Stratodesk Cloud Xtension as well, extending NoTouch Center management through a standard internet connection to endpoints, wherever they are. No matter if they are based in the cloud or in the DMZ, **Stratodesk Cloud Xtension** intuitively validates connection and transmits critical data between NoTouch Center and endpoints, without a VPN. Shadowing and Webconnect work through Cloud Xtension, too.

## Disk Encryption

Stratodesk Disk Encryption is an exciting part of the new Velma Lakes software release from Stratodesk. As always, security concerns are manifest to Stratodesk customers. For this reason, devices converted by Stratodesk software already prevent personal data from being stored. Stratodesk also protects against the possibility of confidential data or information being acquired when a device is lost or stolen. Our software does this by encrypting confidential information. This form of encryption is very effective. Still, some enterprises require further security for certain information deemed by most to be unworthy of protection.

## HTML Shadowing

Take advantage of advanced, secure and flexible shadowing using Velma Lakes.

Stratodesk Velma Lakes software uses HTML5 to enable screen shadowing right from your browser without any third-party software. Thanks to secure tunneling technology, Velma Lakes software is able to fluidly pass through firewalls without opening up any security risks. In addition to remote controlling the endpoint yourself, you can have multiple people initiate shadowing at the same time.

# Stratodesk Velma Lakes Enables Remote Work

In addition to connecting devices to the Cloud automatically without the need for a VPN, Stratodesk software also includes a native VPN directly out of the box. Additionally, Stratodesk further **empowers remote work** by quickly and seamlessly installing onto remote endpoints in a matter of seconds. By just making one single firewall rule, remote endpoints can be successfully connected to your secure digital perimeter, and managed by Stratodesk NoTouch Center.

The advantage of Stratodesk for remote work also extends into the realms of endpoint security. Remote access is fully capable securely via personal devices or dedicated work devices thanks to Stratodesk NoTouch software.

In a world where a virus can quickly spread from community to community around the world in a matter of weeks and in so doing effectively shut down entire economies, it's more apparent than ever that companies must have an emergency, remote work solution in place.

With Velma Lakes, a perfect synthesis of speed, flexibility, and ease of management is now available worldwide – the ideal depiction of what software can achieve when combined with the infinite use cases of tomorrow's technology. Stratodesk customers can update to Velma Lakes via the download portal in their Stratoworld accounts, while those interested in trying Stratodesk out for themselves can download a free trial by visiting <https://www.stratodesk.com/download/>.

# About Stratodesk

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Stratodesk is the world's leading endpoint OS and management solution. It is used by government and healthcare organizations, banks, SMBs and large enterprises to eliminate cost and scalability obstacles facing their complex network of devices. By delivering the only management software for mixed environments of x86, ARM and Raspberry Pi devices, Stratodesk is reinventing endpoint computing for enterprise IoT and VDI. Our cutting edge, linux-based solution, NoTouch, is hardware-agnostic and runs on the Raspberry Pi.

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