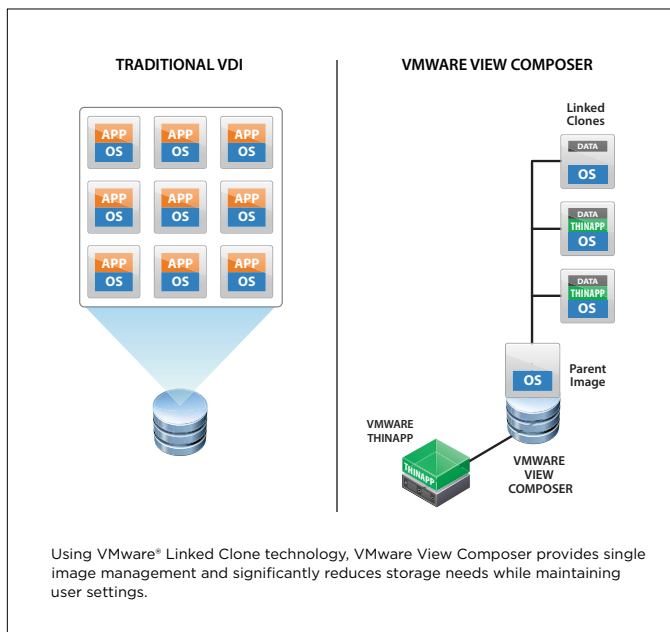


VMware View™ Composer

Advanced Image Management and Storage Optimization
for your VMware View Environment

AT A GLANCE

VMware View™ Composer, a key component of VMware vSphere™ 4, is tightly integrated with VMware View Manager to provide advanced image management and storage optimization. VMware View Composer reduces storage requirements for virtual desktop machines by up to 90 percent and enables organizations to more effectively manage their desktop images.



What is VMware View Composer?

A vital component of VMware View 4, VMware View Composer delivers advanced virtual image management to conserve disk space and streamline virtual desktop provisioning and deployment.

Benefits

VMware View, the market leading desktop virtualization solution, enables organizations to move their desktops into the datacenter, where they can be more easily managed and secured. This simplifies desktop management, enhances security and reduces operational costs by 50 percent while enabling users to still have their own unique individual desktops. VMware View Composer further optimizes desktop image management in VMware View environments without compromising user personalization.

Single Image Management

Create once; deploy to many. VMware View Composer lets you create a single parent virtual image and push that image out to multiple users across an enterprise in minutes. Update, patch or rollout hundreds of desktops from a single, master image. VMware View Composer lets you refresh desktop images while retaining user settings during updates and patches.

Reduce Storage Costs and Requirements

With VMware View Composer, you can refresh Linked Clones regularly to their original state to reduce their size, or easily remove retired desktop images from the server to free up additional space. You can also create separate user data disks to preserve individual user profiles and preferences while still reducing storage needs.

Leverage Resources Efficiently

VMware View Composer helps you manage growing disk space for virtual machines with Storage Over Commit, which determines how aggressively virtual machines can be allocated to available free disk space. By improving utilization of storage capacity and by leveraging storage cache, VMware Linked Clones can actually outperform traditional desktop virtual machines.

How Does VMware View Composer Work?

VMware View Composer uses VMware Linked Clone technology to optimize desktop storage space and improve image control. Linked Clones have been used in production datacenters with VMware ESX and Snapshot technology for many years. They act as unique pointers for each user to a single virtual machine master. These Linked Clones each have unique identities, and they can be powered on, suspended or reconfigured independently of the master image. Linked Clones can be

BENEFITS

- Reduce storage requirements for virtual machines running in a virtual desktop infrastructure.
- Simplify patching while retaining end users' settings and data.
- Rapidly provision and deploy virtual desktops across the enterprise.
- Manage hundreds of desktops from a single, central image.
- Benefit from enterprise-ready scalability, reliability and performance.
- VMware ThinApp dramatically reduces the cost and burden of managing applications and images.

refreshed at the administrator's discretion, without affecting user data or settings, to ensure tight OS management and optimize storage resources.

Preserve user data

VMware View Composer provides several options that allow administrators to either have fully persistent Linked Clones (that grow over time) or to leverage the benefits of "personalized" stateless desktops that refresh on every boot. In the latter, user settings and data are redirected to an independent user data disk, allowing an administrator to move users or groups of users to a new master almost instantly.

Simplify application management

VMware View Composer works seamlessly with VMware ThinApp™4. Many organizations have legacy applications that save data locally. ThinApp captures those settings and natively redirects them to a user data disk, thus preserving user data across View Composer desktop refreshes. In this model, VMware View Composer and ThinApp dramatically reduce the management burden of enterprise applications and images.

Optimize storage resources

With VMware View Composer, you can rebalance, recompose or refresh desktop images regularly as the View desktop environment grows and changes:

- **Refresh.**

Restore linked clones back to their original size, helping to reduce the size of clones that grow over time and simplifying the removal of undesirable changes.

- **Recompose.**

Push new versions of a master image out to all users or a subset of Linked Clones. Recomposing provides a quick way for organizations to redeploy desktops that require software patching, updates, service packs or additional software.

- **Rebalance.**

Enterprise implementations of virtual desktops hosted in a datacenter demand flexibility. VMware View Composer lets you easily move selected Linked Clones from one storage LUN to another with a single mouse click. You can also add more storage as space runs out, or retire an existing storage array.

Key Features

Linked Clone technology: Deploy, recompose or refresh

- Create multiple desktops from a single master image.
- Reduce storage requirements for virtual desktops by 50-70 percent and even more with stateless desktops.
- Deploy, patch and update master images quickly from a central location in the datacenter.
- Restore desktop virtual machines to their original state to save storage space and undo undesirable changes.
- Rapidly provision and deploy hundreds or thousands of virtual desktop images.

User data disk creation

- Update or patch linked clones without affecting user data or settings.
- Automatically redirect user profiles and data from ThinApp applications to a persistent user data disk to ensure that end users' data always preserved."Automatically redirect all application "writes" that are packaged with ThinApp to persistent user data disk.
- Reduce storage costs by storing Linked Clones and data disks on different storage tiers.
- Leverage backup and disaster recovery advantages of virtualization.

Enterprise-Class scalability, reliability and performance

- Scale Linked Clones to master images by over 50:1, depending on your storage array and setup. Refer to the VMware Reference Architecture for more details.
- Control how aggressively Linked Clone virtual desktops can be assigned to the free space available on the data store.
- Relocate virtual images to new LUNs with a single mouse click to optimize storage resources.
- Leverage storage cache to improve virtual desktop performance.
- Leverage the advanced functionality of VMware Infrastructure 3, the industry's leading, most reliable virtualization platform.

How to Buy

VMware View Composer may be purchased as part of the VMware View Premier or VMware View Premier Add-On suites. Existing customers may purchase the VMware View Premier Upgrade suite. VMware View Composer requires VMware Infrastructure 3.5 or above and shared storage in a cluster in order to run.

24 x 7 Gold and Platinum Support

VMware offers enterprise-class support to all VMware View Premier customers. For customers that require additional services, VMware also offers a two-day jumpstart engagement on best practices and getting started with your VMware View Premier deployment.

Find Out More

For information or to purchase VMware products, call 1-877-4VMWARE (outside of North America dial +1-650-427-5000), visit www.vmware.com/products, or search online for an authorized reseller. For detailed product specifications and systems requirements, please refer to the VMware View Premier install and configure guide.

