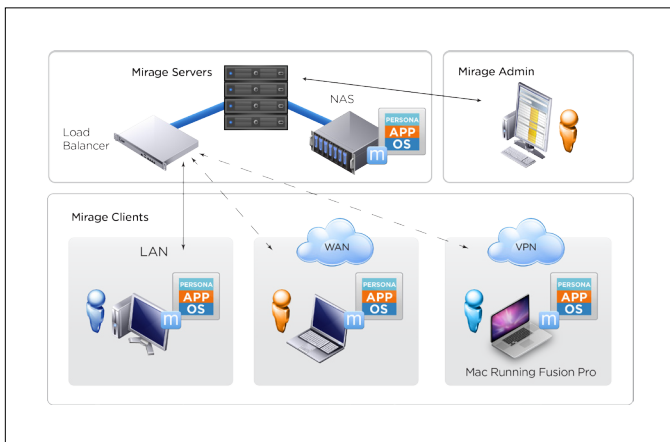# VMware Horizon Mirage

VMware® Horizon Mirage™ is a layered image-management solution that separates a desktop, laptop, or virtual endpoint into logical layers that are owned and managed by either your IT organization or the end user. You can update IT-managed layers while maintaining end-user files and personalization. To maximize end-user productivity, snapshots and backups of layered endpoint images enable quick recovery or rollback in case of failure.

BENEFITS

• Simplify the PC or virtual endpoint by transforming it into centralized, layered image services.

• Manage and secure endpoint images centrally to lower IT costs through built-in backup and recovery.

• Empower end users with a personalized desktop experience and optimized productivity.

The Horizon Mirage architecture includes the Horizon Mirage server in the data center to centralize desktop management and protection, the Horizon Mirage client to create a local cache for an optimal user experience at the endpoint, and advanced WAN optimization technology to speed bidirectional synchronization over the WAN.

Accelerate Windows 7 Migrations

Horizon Mirage accelerates the most common approaches to Windows 7 migrations: upgrading an existing Windows XP device to Windows 7 or migrating an end user's profile and files to a new Windows 7 machine. In addition, Horizon Mirage takes a full snapshot of the Windows XP system before it attempts the migration, so if something goes wrong, you can quickly restore the end user to the previous well-known state.

With these enhancements to a Windows 7 migration project, a 5,000-person organization could easily save USD $600,000 in IT time and more than USD $1,000,000 in user productivity.

Simplify PC Backup and Desktop Recovery

Whether you need to reimage a desktop, replace a broken hard drive, replace a lost or damaged PC, or roll back a malfunctioning PC to a previously working snapshot, restoring the desktop can be difficult. Horizon Mirage takes snapshots of an entire PC—including OS, applications, files and personalization—and restores an exact image of the end user's old system to any replacement device.

Easily Manage Remote and Branch Office PCs Without Added Infrastructure

Horizon Mirage was designed to excel over the WAN by leveraging deduplication capabilities, both in storage and during network transfers. This gives IT a powerful tool for managing laptops and desktops used by remote offices, home workers and traveling employees. Horizon Mirage centralizes exact copies of these endpoint PCs over the WAN and into the data center.

What Is VMware Horizon Mirage?

When Horizon Mirage is installed on a PC or virtual desktop, it scans the entire device and categorizes all of its contents into a number of logical layers. Horizon Mirage doesn't move anything around on the PC or virtual desktop. It just categorizes the data, so that your IT staff can perform more granular management of the endpoint.

Horizon Mirage then sends a complete copy of that endpoint image to the Mirage Server, which resides in the data center and keeps it synchronized. If an end user goes offline, Horizon Mirage performs a synchronization the next time that user comes back online. That synchronization includes the updates IT has made to the IT-managed layers, as well as changes that the end user has made to the system.

Images managed by Horizon Mirage can run directly on a desktop or laptop—or inside a virtual machine with VMware Fusion® Professional or VMware® Horizon View®. End users can leverage local compute power, such as CPU or graphics, whether they are online or offline.

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Features and Benefits

Simplified Desktop Management

Layered Image Management
Manage your endpoint image as a set of logical layers owned by either your IT organization or the end user. Update IT-managed layers while maintaining end-user files and personalization. Then, if an endpoint malfunctions, IT can restore the system layers on the endpoint to fix an issue, without compromising user applications and data. Or quickly migrate a user from an old PC to a new PC without losing any end-user data or personalization. Horizon Mirage complements and extends existing management processes and solutions for the PC life cycle.

Desktop Backup and Recovery
Full PC snapshots and ongoing synchronization of changes in the data center ensure quick desktop recovery. By quickly restoring the system to a new device, you can minimize end-user downtime when a PC is lost, stolen or damaged.

Application Layering
Easily deploy individual applications or groups of applications—or VMware® ThinApp® packages—to any collection of end users by leveraging Horizon Mirage managed-application layering. Applications common to a certain team can be grouped into a single application layer and applied to all of the endpoints for a group of employees. VMware ThinApp is included in Horizon Mirage.

Scalability with Small Infrastructure Footprint
Horizon Mirage is designed to support up to 1,500 end users per Horizon Mirage server, and it can easily scale up to 20,000 end users per server cluster.

Branch Office Optimization
Optimize branch office management by enabling any Horizon Mirage client endpoint to be a branch reflector. A Horizon Mirage branch reflector allows you to download any updates once from the Horizon Mirage server, followed by peer-to-peer updates to other Horizon Mirage clients in the branch office. Advanced algorithms ensure that only required data is sent between the Horizon Mirage server and Horizon Mirage clients in a remote location or office.

Flexible PC Image Deployment
Provision centrally managed Horizon Mirage images to physical Windows desktops and laptops, or support "bring your own computer" initiatives by delivering IT-managed images to virtual machines with VMware Fusion Professional, which is included in Horizon Mirage.

View Desktop Image Management
Manage virtual desktops in your Horizon View environment using Horizon Mirage. Install and update Mirage layers to full clone virtual machines in persistent desktop pools, just as you would with physical PCs. This includes updating applications, OS patches, and base images. Managing virtual desktop images with Horizon Mirage also allows updates to applications without affecting user-installed applications and data. IT can effectively use Mirage to manage both physical and virtual endpoints at scale.

Empowering End-User Productivity Across Boundaries

Personalized Performance
Enable end users to leverage the local computing resources of their desktops and laptops and maintain offline productivity. Images managed by Horizon Mirage install natively onto Windows desktops and laptops—or as virtual desktops in Fusion Professional running on Mac or Linux systems. Image layering gives end users the flexibility to personalize their systems.

Optimized and Adaptive Experience
The Horizon Mirage client monitors the resources being used on an end user's PC to ensure that the backup and synchronization processes never interfere with user productivity. Horizon Mirage dynamically adjusts CPU, RAM and network usage as needed to guarantee a seamless end-user experience.

Self-Service File Access and Recovery
The Horizon Mirage file portal enables end users to access any file on their endpoint from any Web browser. Users can also restore any file or directory with a few clicks.

Find Out More

For information or to purchase VMware products, call 877-4-VMWARE (outside North America, +1-650-427-5000), visit http://www.vmware.com/products or search online for an authorized reseller. For detailed product specifications and system requirements, refer to the VMware Horizon Mirage documentation.

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