

Practical Basics Of Software Virtualization & Streaming

1. What Is Application Virtualization?

Thinstall defines application virtualization as the ability to deploy software without modifying the host computer or making any changes to the local operating system, file system or registry.

Using this next generation technology, organizations can deploy custom and commercial software across the enterprise without installation conflicts, system changes or impact on stability or security.

Virtualized applications eliminate nearly all of the complexities and support issues associated with delivering and accessing traditional applications for both fat and thin-client deployments. The time and regression testing required to successfully deliver applications and updates is shortened to hours instead of weeks.

Thinstalled applications can be run without any modifications or additions to a PC, including administrative security permissions. Applications virtualized with Thinstall operate exclusively in user mode and therefore the host operating system and other applications are protected from potential corruption by installation modifications.

1.1 The Market for Virtualization Solutions

Despite the consolidation hype, the number of applications businesses are supporting is growing and becoming increasingly complex as more applications continue to be stacked on top of each other. These complex applications also need to operate simultaneously and seamlessly communicate with each other. Over time, the systems supporting such a complex web of intertwined software becomes increasingly fragile. As a result, software deployments are increasingly expensive, support intensive and time consuming. IT faces months of time on multi-application regression testing, end user support and downtime caused by unforeseen application conflicts.

Traditionally, reliable and readily accessible software requires constant planning and a great deal of ongoing support. Forrester Research reports companies spend on average more than \$500 per year, per desktop, just managing applications: Enter Application Virtualization.

“IDC believes the market will increasingly implement virtualization in a growing set of use cases, in order to help customers create much more agile service oriented infrastructures (SOI). Corporations are looking for virtualization solutions that are easily managed, reduce costs and provide a stable, secure program that is easily implemented. Thinstall is providing a dynamic solution to meet a range of user demands,” says Michael Rose, Associate Research Analyst, Enterprise Virtualization Software at IDC.

1.2 Benefits of Thinstalled Applications

Thinstall Application Virtualization ensures faster deployment of software with a more seamless end-user experience. The benefits realized through Application Virtualization with Thinstall include the following.

- Fully portable and virtual: Thinstalled applications have the ability to stream from ANY network share without a local client or a backend server**
- Increased efficiency of application deployments: Virtualized applications enable administrators to confidently deploy or de-commission applications on the fly with little or no regression testing, even to the most secure desktops.**
- Eliminates runtime conflicts: Deploying Thinstalled applications reduces lengthy QA and regression testing.**
- Single application packages can be supported by any Windows platform.**

Thinstalled Applications can run without requiring any modification of administrative security permissions, which protects the host operating system from possible corrupting installation modifications. Thinstall technology solutions are uniquely different from other “virtualization” methods for application deployment. Thinstall is a true self-contained virtual application and the strategy behind the technology addresses the problems of host integrity and end-user productivity.

Thinstall provides remote and mobile users with their own familiar desktop environment, wherever their physical location might be, ensuring the security and stability of desktops. Thinstall fully supports Windows Vista and makes migration easier by eliminating Limited User Account (LUA) related errors and compatibility issues.