

BENEFITS OF VDI

How colleges and universities can benefit from a virtual desktop infrastructure

VDI solutions and products are popping up all over the place these days. Many organizations are considering VDI, running pilots and trying to figure out the economics behind the technology. Here are just a few ways that colleges and universities can benefit from implementing a VDI solution:



- **Flexibility** - While colleges often want to provide a standard computing environment, there is a need to customize individual systems for specific needs.
- **Mobility** - With students learning in remote locations or in on-line environments, the ability to access the virtual desktop environment from any location is key. VDI moves desktop computing into the data center where it can be consumed from anywhere and across a variety of devices, including mobile devices such as iPads.
- **Application flexibility** – A VDI solution eliminates the challenge of needing to provide the ability to run multiple versions of the same application on a system.
- **Extended hardware life** - A VDI solution has the potential to extend the life of current hardware.
- **Better security** - Once a VDI solution is implemented, no data ever leaves the data center. All computing, processing and data storage happens in and stays in the data center.
- **Easier transition to new operating systems** - For the systems based on the VDI solution, operating system upgrades are easy.

COST SAVINGS OF VDI

- **Power Savings**
With no moving parts, terminals generally require a fraction of the power of fat clients. Some of this power savings is offset by servers and storage, but it's important to do the math to see where you fall.
- **Longer Hardware Life**
Although some terminals may cost as much as or even more than a fat client, their life is generally longer since there are no moving parts.
- **Lots of Clients on a Few Servers**
With centralized servers supporting 10 to 50 virtual desktops per server, there is an economy of scale with VDI.
- **Labor Savings**
If a VDI infrastructure is implemented correctly, there can be a tremendous labor savings as IT staff no longer has to constantly visit user desktops to handle problems.