



# A Brief History of VDI 1.0 (2009-2014)

# We built VDI 1.0



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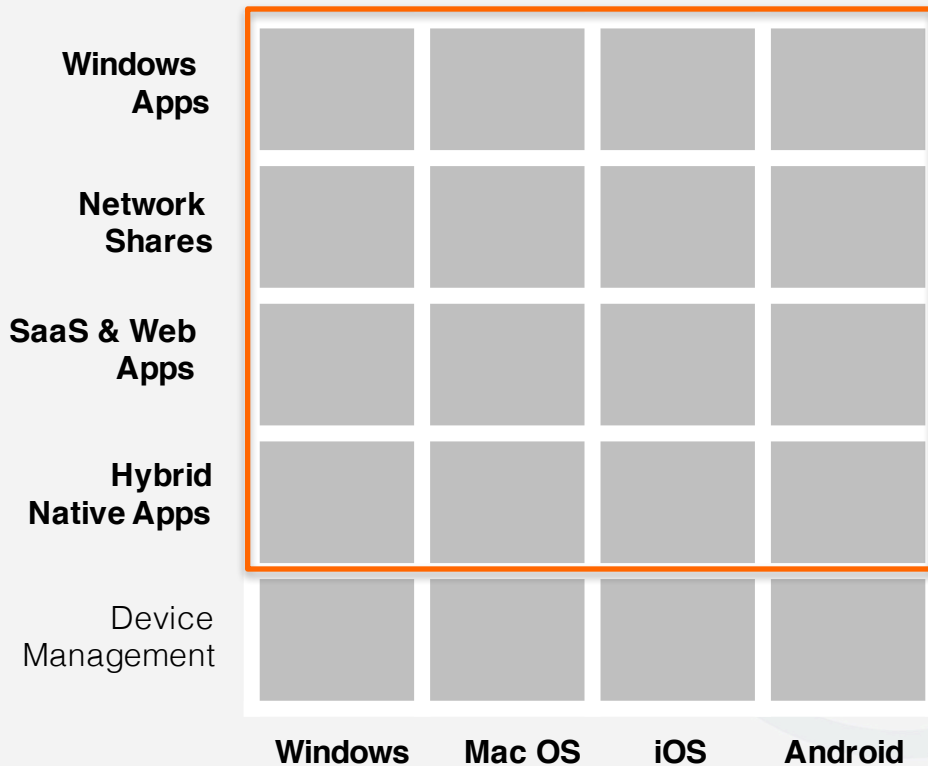
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# End User Computing Problem since 2009

End users want to access:

- windows apps like SAP
- network file shares
- SaaS apps like Office 365
- web apps like SharePoint
- native apps like Box

from any device



# VDI was a promising solution in 2009

## VDI value prop then:

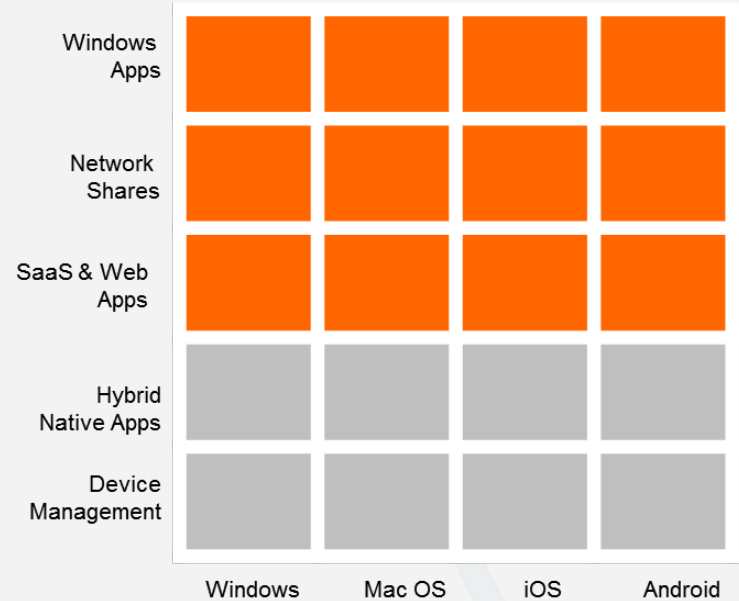
Just virtualize the desktop in the data center and access from any device.

## The standing ovation:

Citrix & VMW sold \$1B of licenses in 18 months!

## Then reality set in:

The complex architecture slowed deployment. For most, it took more than a year to deploy. But complexities continued to create issues post deployment.



# What happened to the promise?



**Let's start with the  
origins of technology  
behind VDI**

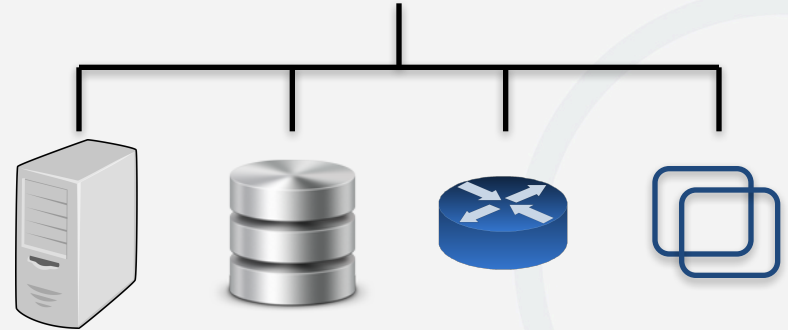
# Data centers were optimized for server workloads in 2009

## 1. Workload Characteristics

Server virtualization products were optimized for:

- Tens to hundreds of virtual machines
- Each virtual machine needs 5-50 GB of database storage
- Each virtual machine does 80% read operations

## 2. Organization



- Separate teams for servers, storage, networks, and virtualization.
- Tools, workflows and org are aligned.

# VDI workloads broke the data center architecture

## **Desktop Workload Characteristics are different**

Thousands of virtual machines

Each virtual machine needs 2-10X (20-100 GB) of storage

## **IT couldn't just add more storage!**

Data Center Storage costs \$10,000/TB

Desktop storage costs \$100/TB

## **And existing storage solutions were optimized for read workloads**

Each desktop does 80% write operations (not a problem on a PC, but created havoc on shared storage performance)

# Enter the Era of the VDI workarounds

## Led to the introduction of dynamic desktops

One Windows image for the entire company

Add applications dynamically

Add user profile dynamically



**100s of man-years** of investment in VDI software:

- Golden images
- Dynamic desktop provisioning
- Local disks
- New image management
- De-duplication
- App Layering



# So...a VDI deployment for 30k desktops required:



30+  
FTE



Load  
Balancers



Web  
Interface



Active  
Directory  
30+  
servers  
Controllers



Provisioning



Storage



1000+  
servers

Servers for virtual  
desktops

60TB  
storage

# Lots of operational issues - sometimes the workaround is worse than the problem!

## Resulting in operational complexity and higher OpEX

Increased headcount: 1 full time admin per 1000 desktops

Increased calls to helpdesk

Incurring additional CapEx costs to solve storage and server bottlenecks



## Every problem spans organization boundaries

Every problem becomes a problem for five different teams:

Server/Storage/Network/Virtualization/Desktop

*Whose fault is it?*

# That's not all. VDI delivers poor user experience for all apps!

Every application becomes a remote Windows App

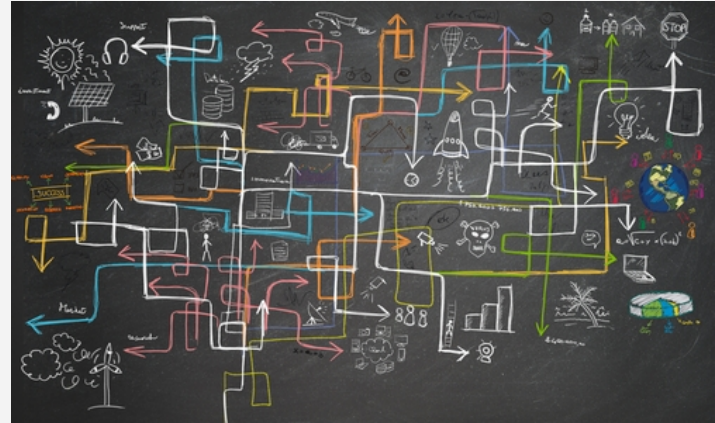
- How far is the user from the desktop? Latency?
- What is the bandwidth between the user and the desktop?
- What about real-time communication apps like VOIP?
- What about video? Can I watch YouTube?
- What about conferencing apps?



# So the remoting protocol had to be fixed!

100s of man-years of investment in protocol (HDX/PCoIP/RDS) improvement.

- Client-side redirection of audio/video
- Improve experience on mobile
- Improve remoting protocol for Mac
- Server-side GPU for 3D graphics
- Out of band CODECs
- Add UDP channels



Basically, introduce more technology to workaround the problem introduced by VDI. **Not really K.I.S.S.**

# But protocol improvements only go so far...

- Why should Web apps be treated like Windows Apps?
- Why should documents not be available when the user is offline?
- Why should the users have to consume a Windows desktop on a phone?

# And VDI doesn't work for ROBOs



## 50% of enterprise users work in ROBOs

- Network connectivity between branch and data center can go down
- VDI nobody can work in a branch if the network connection goes down
- User experience limited by bandwidth or latency of connection when it's up

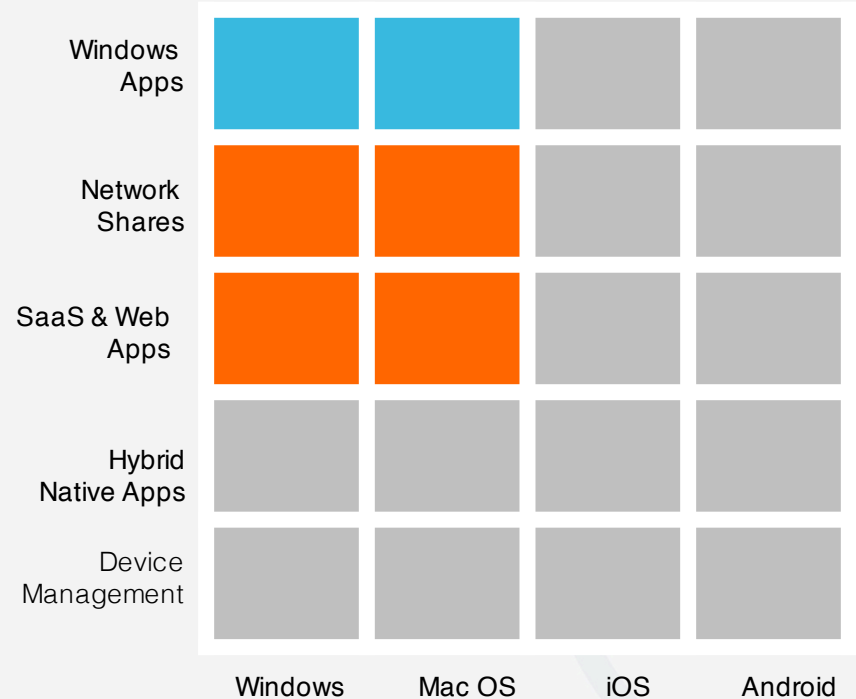
# VDI went from being a 30% solution to a 8% solution!

## High TCO and Complexity

- Cost of storage
- Performance of storage
- Dynamic desktops

## Poor User Experience

- Limited by latency and bandwidth
- Web apps/Mobile Experience/ Offline behavior



# So what now?

- VDI is now a 8% solution.
- Workarounds created more problems for IT.
- IT still needs to solve app delivery... and now in a mobile world.

## *What If...*

**We could build a VDI solution from scratch?  
And use the cloud?**





**Check out the e-book sequel:**

*VDI is dead! Long live VDI 2.0!  
Built for the cloud and hyper-converged era*

<http://www.VDI20.com/whatsVDI20>