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10 Reasons to Convert Existing PC's into Thin Clients

When companies first consider moving to a thin client environment, often the default option is to consider hardware-based thin client devices. These devices are marketed as being specifically designed for these type of environments, with the promise of delivering better management, lower power consumption, and are small enough not to take up much desktop real-estate.

The higher cost of deploying hardware-based thin clients

While all of this may be true, what is often overlooked is the cost of these devices, sometimes costing upwards of \$1000 (\in 850) per device. While some of this cost can be offset over a period of time, there is a far more cost effective alternative which is to deploy software-defined thin clients on devices that you already have.

Lowering costs by repurposing and delivering software-defined thin clients

Software-defined thin clients, as the name suggests, take advantage of your existing hardware, whether that be PC, laptop, or even existing thin clients, and use those devices to run a software thin client environment securely on top of the existing operating system. This now means you can save capital expenditure (CapEx) by not having to purchase new devices and can realize additional cost savings by deploying a Windows-based solution rather than a Linux-based alternative, utilizing the skills, knowledge, and tools that you currently use today.

Delivering enhanced security and end user mobility

ThinKiosk adds an unparalleled set of security features to protect both end users and the organization, working in or away from the office, based on centrally delivered policies governed by the IT teams. It enables flexible remote working, working from home, and the ability for the end user to bring their own Windows device.

Familiar and intuitive end user experience

ThinKiosk offers end users a unified and secure workspace interface from which to work. It has a familiar Windows-like look and feel, thus limiting the need for training or change management programmes often associated with large IT projects.

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ThinKiosk is the first, Windows-based software defined thin client solution delivering at scale, secure, centrally managed endpoints on any Windows device. It delivers a unified thin client user experience on all Windows end points, turning your existing Windows PC's, laptops, and thin clients into secure, centrally managed Windows-based thin clients that deliver:

- 1. Increased ROI on existing hardware
- 2. Reduced CapEx and OpEx costs
- 3. Agile deployment with no vendor lock-in
- 4. Advanced security features
- 5. Familiar Windows operating system
- 6. Support for VMware, Citrix, and Microsoft solutions
- 7. Centralized device management
- 8. Enhanced end user experience & productivity
- 9. Flexible working initiatives & business continuity
- 10. "Go green" delivering environmental and CSR benefits



INCREASE YOUR RETURN ON INVESTMENT (ROI)

With any new virtual or hosted desktop and application solution, one of the core reasons a business or organization embarks on such a project is to reduce costs and maximize the return on any investment made. ThinKiosk does just that by allowing you to repurpose existing Window devices, extending their lifespan and therefore further maximizing the ROI on those existing devices.

REDUCE YOUR CAPEX & OPEX COSTS

Repurposing existing Windows devices into software-defined thin clients has a massive impact on saving costs as you no longer need to buy new thin client devices. In addition to the savings in capital expenditure (CapEx), organizations will realize further cost reductions in operating expenditure (OpEx) with an advanced suite of management and security features, all fully integrated into ThinKiosk and designed to reduce ongoing support costs.

AGILE DEPLOYMENT WITH NO VENDOR LOCK-IN

Agility and flexibility should be a standard feature in deploying new users and devices, as well as ongoing management. ThinKiosk thin clients are driven by an innovative profile and policy engine, allowing IT admins to simply drag and drop profiles from one device to another, or apply new and different policies to existing users in just seconds. It means thin clients can be quickly and easily deployed without the hassle of having to re-image or reconfigure manually.

ADVANCED SECURITY FEATURES

Security is always at the top of the wish list when organizations consider thin client environments. Remote application and desktop solutions are secure by design, and a key reason why an organization deploys them. But what about the devices that end users connect from? ThinKiosk deploys a number of advanced security features in addition to the secure workspace interface, such as blocking apps from running, or connecting USB media devices.

DEPLOY WINDOWS-BASED THIN CLIENTS FOR THE BEST UX

Within any business or organization most of the end users will be working on PC's, laptops, and even thin clients, running the Windows OS. Users will be familiar with the look and feel, and IT admins will have the skillset and tools to manage a Windows environment. So why change? ThinKiosk is a Windows-based, software-defined solution. End users will have an enhanced Windows experience, with added security, and IT can continue using the management and deployment tools they use today.

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SUPPORT FOR VMWARE, CITRIX, AND MICROSOFT SOLUTIONS

Choosing a new thin client solution is often dictated by which virtual desktop or application solution provider you select. For example, with VMware you may choose a Zero Client for delivering the PCoIP protocol, or an HDX-based client for Citrix. But what if you change solution, or have a mixed environment? As ThinKiosk repurposed thin clients are based on the Windows OS, this allows you to support all vendors environments simultaneously.

CENTRALIZE & STANDARDIZE DEVICE MANAGEMENT

The advantage of converting PC's into thin clients is to deliver a standard, centralized way of managing those devices regardless of manufacturer, OS, or age. ThinKiosk enables IT admins to not only manage patching and updating of the repurposed thin clients, but also to deliver remote support to end users without needing a desk-side engineer visit. IT admins also have the ability to perform remote power commands, such as logoff, shut down and restart.

ENHANCE END USER EXPERIENCE & PRODUCTIVITY

Thin client devices are fast becoming the device of choice when it comes to connecting to remote desktops and applications when compared to using existing PCs. In this environment PC's don't always deliver the best end user experience. However, with ThinKiosk you can not only keep these existing PC's, but you can turn them into software-defined, Windows-based thin clients, adding advanced, unique features that enhance the overall end users experience.

ENABLE FLEXIBLE WORKING INITIATIVES & BUSINESS CONTINUITY

Traditional PC's are not known for their flexibility, being very static in nature, tied to desks and users. In contrast remote virtual desktop and application solutions are designed to enable flexible working practices. This can also be said about traditional thin clients too. With ThinKiosk, Windows laptops and home PC's can quickly and easily be used as thin clients, all without having to rebuild, or dual boot them. This easily enables BYOD and home working.

"GO GREEN" DELIVERING ENVIRONMENTAL AND CSR BENEFITS

We are proud of the fact that our products help you to become environmentally responsible by enabling the repurposing of existing hardware, therefore reducing the amount of hardware that gets sent to landfill. By repurposing your current PC, laptop and thin client estates you don't have to dispose of perfectly usable hardware, and instead you can repurpose devices, extending their working life, and meeting your organizations Corporate Social Responsibilities.

ThinKiosk is a Windows-based, software defined, enterprise ready PC to thin client conversion solution that delivers a unified thin client user experience on all Windows end points. It turns your existing Windows PC's into secure, centrally managed Windows-based thin clients, dramatically reducing hardware and management costs, while enhancing the end user experience.

With it's lightweight intuitive workspace interface, ThinKiosk provides businesses and organizations with a secure workspace from where they can access their remote and local desktop and application environments from any location.

For more details on the features and benefits, and why you should convert existing Windows devices into software-defined ThinKiosk thin clients, how they work, how they fit into your environment, and how ThinKiosk solves many of the issues faced by organizations today, please visit the ThinScale <u>website</u>, or contact the ThinScale team to discuss your specific project.

THINSCALE

Software solutions that enable IT to deliver the modern digital workplace without compromising on end user experience, security or performance.

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