

Sun™ Virtual Desktop Solutions

Connecting the campus



Highlights

- Connect educators, students, and faculty to applications and information from almost any device
- Increase revenue opportunities by extending the classroom for distance or eLearning
- Simplify administration and improve productivity, efficiency and security while providing privacy
- Reduce power and IT operational costs
- Protect IT investments by using and optimizing existing infrastructure
- Prevent downtime from viruses, worm attacks, or end-user device failures
- Set up new users, workgroups, departments, or classrooms in minutes
- Provide session mobility from device to device, enabling a follow-me campus experience
- Access multiple desktops or applications running on diverse platforms from a single device



Students and faculty rely on computers and connectivity to enhance their studies and increase productivity. With the prevalence of computers in classrooms, dorms, offices, and libraries across the campus, managing such a wide variety of computer devices has become overwhelming for IT resources on limited budgets. Ensuring the privacy of sensitive information is also a concern.

Sun™ Virtual Desktop Solutions enable users to enjoy the benefits and functionality of a traditional desktop, such as personalizing individual desktops, printing locally, and audio and video, while reducing many of the IT challenges related to managing a large distributed desktop environment, such as:

- Limited budgets and the rising cost of desktops
- Overload on staff to manage patches and software upgrades
- Downtime due to hard drive failure of local devices or virus infections
- Secure and fast access to data, information, and desktops from a wide variety of devices
- Coordinating campus-wide deployments
- Managing data and sensitive information and tracking usage
- Delivering help desk functions
- Addressing provisioning issues

The Sun solution

Sun is helping schools address these challenges. With Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions, educational institutions can provide all authorized users — students, educators, faculty, administrators — with an easy and secure way of accessing applications, information, and complete desktops from almost any device with an Internet connection or from a thin-client device.

With Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions, desktops and applications can be provisioned to end users who are assigned appropriate access rights based on individual or group criteria. Access to

these desktops and applications is provided by Sun Ray™ technology, Sun Secure Global Desktop Software, or a combination of both. The ability to leverage the stability and scalability of Sun's Solaris™ 10 Operating System adds an even greater level of security for controlling access and protecting sensitive data.

As a stateless client that needs no configuring and is not susceptible to viruses, the Sun Ray virtual display client is an ideal choice for accessing server-based applications or virtualized desktops. Utilizing smart cards, users can move their virtual desktop from Sun Ray device to Sun Ray device on the network. When the smart card is removed, nothing is left on the device.

The addition of Sun Secure Global Desktop Software provides secure, browser-based access to the same server-based applications or virtual desktop session from a wide range of client devices, including Windows PCs, Apple Macs, other thin clients, and even Windows PDAs. Sun Secure Global Desktop Software also provides access to legacy UNIX®, Linux, Windows, AS/400, or mainframe applications.

Using Sun's virtualization approach to server-based computing allows users to be users and relieves users of the maintenance and management burden from already overloaded IT staffers. Users are free to securely access applications and desktops over the network without having to rewrite applications or deploy costly virtual private network (VPN) software or hardware.

Security

Ironclad security is essential to keeping sensitive data private and safe. With Sun Ray Software and Sun Secure Global Desktop Software installed on servers running the Solaris OS, Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions capitalize on all that software's inherent features, including advanced security, scalability, and reliability. Plus, the three-tiered architecture provides an added layer of protection against malicious attacks to the datacenter. The Solution employs leading dual-factor authentication mechanisms, such as RSA SecurID, and integrates with LDAP, directory services, Microsoft Windows Domains, and UNIX passwords.

Availability

Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions provide always-on mobile access for students and educators on the move, emergency first-responders, and others needing to reduce the time it takes to access critical data. The Solution allows a student and or faculty member to stop using a desktop or application at any time on one device and resume the session later on a different one — without session interruption or loss of data. As an added benefit, mobile application access reduces manual data entry and associated human error that can affect data integrity, while providing users the ability to move about freely.

Cost savings

By centralizing application administration, Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions reduce the overhead associated with PC-based upgrades and refresh cycles. The training of new users is accelerated, and the retraining of existing users is eliminated. And because desktops and applications are Web based and accessible from a variety of devices, multiple workstations are no longer needed,

reducing capital expenses, maintenance, and associated support costs. In addition, the Sun Ray client uses only 4 watts of electricity, reducing power requirements and making it an eco-friendly choice.

Sun Virtual Desktop Solution components

Sun Ray clients

Sun Ray virtual display clients offer the ideal platform for displaying the virtualized desktop. A Sun Ray client contains no resident operating system or applications, which makes it virtually immune to viruses and service attacks. And because a Sun Ray client doesn't contain a disk drive or any means of persistent data storage, it is an unattractive target for theft. All data and applications displayed onscreen disappear the instant the client is turned off or the access card is removed.

Sun Secure Global Desktop Software

Sun Secure Global Desktop Software provides secure, mobile access to virtualized desktops and applications from a variety of clients over any network. Cost-effective and reliable, even in complex business and technology environments, it delivers centralized management and flexible application access with industrial-strength security and encryption. Sun Secure Global Desktop Software enables immediate access to centralized Windows, UNIX, mainframe, and midrange applications from any device with a Java™ technology-enabled browser or native client.

Adopt Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions

With Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions, users gain secure, flexible, and rapid access to desktops and applications while retaining familiar interfaces and reducing costly and time-consuming retraining. Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions enable you to:

Learn More

To learn more about Sun Ray technology, visit sun.com/sunray.

To learn more about Sun Secure Global Desktop Software, visit sun.com/sgd.

You can learn more about Sun Virtual Desktop Solutions by visiting our Web site at sun.com/datacenter/consolidation/virtualization/desktop.

- Increase user efficiency through instant, flexible access to desktops and applications — from any device or platform
- Consolidate network infrastructure and create a centrally managed computing environment
- Provide secure delivery of sensitive data over any network
- Improve and maintain regulatory compliance
- Reduce deployment and maintenance costs through network-based desktop and application access

About Sun

A singular vision, The Network is the Computer™, drives Sun in delivering industry-leading technologies that focus on the whole system — where hardware, software, and services combine. With a proven history of sharing, building communities, and innovation, Sun creates opportunities, both social and economic, around the world. You can learn more about Sun at sun.com.