Dell EMC Ready Solutions for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

Repatriate your desktops from the public cloud with confidence

Challenges to Repatriation

Attempting to replicate or repatriate desktops from proprietary DaaS environments is challenging and often requires jerry rigging requirements. But customers persist to achieve benefits such as:

- Take control of your DaaS
- Untangle business critical operations from single vendors
- Retake full autonomy and control of your virtual desktops with consistent governance across public and private clouds
- Improve economics and flexibility by eliminating vendor lock-in in the public cloud and deploy on platforms when and where they fit your business
- Drive performance and user experience SLA’s by gaining visibility into the underlying infrastructure

The temptations of turnkey cloud DaaS

In the wake of rapid remote work mandates and long-term ‘cloud first’ strategies, many organizations made the decision to migrate their workforce desktops into public cloud environments as a service, commonly known as DaaS (Desktop-as-a-Service) such as Amazon Workspaces or Azure WVD. While these investments are motivated by the need to embrace simplicity, scalability, cost reduction, and faster deployment, organizations often find unanticipated challenges, such as:

- Unpredictable and rising costs
- Security and compliance complications
- Performance management challenges
- Limited visibility and control of the core platform
- Difficulties maintaining user experience SLAs

These problems exist in all VDI environments to some degree but are exacerbated by public cloud DaaS which run on multi-tenant and abstracted infrastructure. Costs related to cloud storage, connectivity and throughput often make long term DaaS nonviable. Managing security and regulatory requirements often limits the options in DaaS offerings and can even pressure businesses to compromise their security for greater performance. End-user performance, perhaps the most important metric for any workforce solution, is almost impossible to manage with latency dependent on the network, 3D applications requiring enterprise-class GPU performance, and multi-tenancy making it impossible to tweak and configure environments to solve your specific business needs.

This is why repatriation from the public cloud to on-prem or hybrid environments has been a growing trend in the last several years. Repatriation means uncoupling workloads from dedicated public cloud environments and as of 2019, 77% of IT decision makers have repatriated one or more workloads from the public cloud. Repatriating workloads to an environment that better aligns with the above business objectives solves many of the challenges and allows IT to control their primary VDI deployments while utilizing hybrid models for burst and DR use cases. While Dell Technologies Cloud provides the framework to manage this on an ongoing basis, IT leaders must first conquer the challenges of untangling their desktops from proprietary and often black box DaaS solutions in the public cloud.

1 ESG Research Insights Paper “Understanding the Relationship between Cloud Management and Workload Placement” commissioned by Dell Technologies, VMWare and Intel Corporation, May 2020. Results are based on a survey of 1,257 IT decision makers from 11 countries in organizations that utilize public cloud infrastructure and on-premises data center environments. Actual results will vary.
Making it easier to run your workloads where they make sense

Migration of public cloud DaaS into self-managed VDI environments provides a number of significant challenges for IT. Operators need to identify, size, and migrate the authentication and authorization mechanism, the virtual machine images, the applications and software running on the desktops, user profiles, home director, and application data, and more from the public cloud DaaS into an on-premises environment. IT must also understand the various offerings and components that underlie and complement the DaaS service and replicate or remap those services to their new Horizon environment. Navigating these challenges on your own is time consuming and risks missing critical information that can compromise any deployments success.

So that’s why the Dell EMC Ready Solutions team has published guidance on migrating or replicating your DaaS environment on Workspaces or WVD to a Horizon environment running on-premises or in a co-located datacenter with the Dell Technologies Cloud Platform (VMware Cloud Foundation on Dell EMC VxRail). Our guidance helps you manage this transition yourself through our free and easily followable best practices guide or we can help manage this transition for you with our turnkey deployment services, simplified lifecycle management, and single vendor support experience from Dell Technologies. We are committed to helping customers run their workloads where the work best for you and this guidance will help you make those choices in your business.

The Dell Technologies Difference

VMware Horizon running on Dell Technologies Cloud (DTC) is the hybrid cloud strategy that enables all the use cases most commonly associated with public cloud deployments such as handling temporary traffic and usage spikes, managing your data center footprint, disaster recovery in the cloud, and predictable cost curves. After repatriating your desktops from a closed and proprietary DaaS, Horizon on Dell Technologies Cloud gives you the ability to run your virtual desktops where you want, with as little or as much management as you want. Dell Technologies Services makes it easy to deploy, support, and manage your environment.

Dell EMC Ready Solutions for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure is the blueprint for your virtual desktop repatriation strategy and allows you to take advantage of the cloud without letting the cloud take advantage of you. It lays out a proven and validated path to deploying your VMware Horizon environment on or off premises as well as a simple way to manage those deployments as one. Employ familiar tools from VMware and partner vendors to provision, govern, automate, and orchestrate your VDI or other workload domains across multiple cloud deployment options. Perhaps most importantly, you can improve IT spending and economics by creating a single reporting framework across all your cloud environments. Avoid cloud lock-in costs and application re-work fees by maintaining a consistent infrastructure and operations framework. This allows you to maintain the benefits of the cloud for your applications and workloads without being locked into proprietary services that are inflexible, costly, and lack business controls.

To answer the challenge of unlocking the cloud for your virtual desktops and repatriating them from closed DaaS systems, Dell EMC Ready Solutions is here to provide a proven path that delivers outcomes that fit your business.

Read how in our free white paper on our VDI Info Hub.