

WHITEPAPER

RED HAT ENTERPRISE VIRTUALIZATION FOR DESKTOPS: FEATURE COMPARISON

AT A GLANCE

- Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization 3 is the first fully open source, enterprise ready virtualization platform
 - Compare the functionality of RHEV to VMware View 5 and Citrix XenDesktop 5
 - Decide for yourself which solution is best for your use case
 - Consult the Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization for Desktops Competitive Pricing Guide for information on pricing
 - Consult the Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization for Servers Feature Comparison for information on RHEV platform features
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

When choosing a desktop virtualization platform to manage your desktop infrastructure, your architecture and capabilities may be limited by the features offered by each product. This document details the features and benefits of Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization for Desktops 3 in comparison with current market competitors.

This document is designed to give you information about Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization for Desktops and allow you to compare features and benefits across multiple virtualization platforms. This document is a comparison of Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization for Desktops 3, where comparisons are made to competing desktop virtualization products, VMware View 5 and Citrix XenDesktop 5.

The competitive data for VMware View 5, and Citrix XenDesktop 5 were gathered from data publicly available from each manufacturer, are not guaranteed by Red Hat, and are subject to change. Please refer to the appropriate manufacturer's website for the latest data.

	Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization 3.1	VMware View 5.1 Enterprise Bundle	Citrix XenDesktop 5.6 VDI Edition (With XenServer 6)
DESKTOP GUEST OPERATING SYSTEM SUPPORT			
Microsoft Windows Desktops	Windows XP (32 bit), Windows 7 (32 and 64 bit)	Windows XP (32 and 64 bit), Windows Vista (32 and 64 bit), Windows 7 (32 and 64 bit)	Windows XP 32 bit, Windows XP 64 bit, Windows Vista (non-Aero) (32 and 64 bit), Windows 7 (non-Aero) (32 and 64 bit)
Linux Desktops	Red Hat Enterprise Linux for Desktops 5 (32 and 64 bit), Red Hat Enterprise Linux for Desktops 6 (32 and 64 bit)	N	N
CLIENT DEVICE SUPPORT			
Traditional Desktop PC			
Microsoft Windows XP	Y	Y	Y
Microsoft Windows Vista	N	Y	Y
Microsoft Windows 7	Y	Y	Y
Linux	Y	Y	Y
Mac	N	OS X 10.x+	OS X 10.x+
Thin Client Support			
Wyse Thin OS	N	Y	Y
Wyse Linux (SUSE)	Y	Y	Y
10zig Linux	Y	Y	Y
IGEL Linux	Y	Y	Y
Windows Embedded OS: XPe	Y	Y	Y
Windows Embedded OS: WES 2009	Y	Y	Y
Windows Embedded OS: WES 7	Y	Y	Y
Windows Embedded OS: CE	No	Y	Y

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	Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization 3.1	VMware View 5.1 Enterprise Bundle	Citrix XenDesktop 5.6 VDI Edition (With XenServer 6)
Client Browser Support (Web Access)			
Internet Explorer 8+	Y	Y	Y
Mozilla Firefox 3+	Y	Y	Y
USER ACCESS			
Connection Broker (Included/Integrated)	Y	Y	Y
Web-based User Portal	Y	Y	Y
Self-Service User Portal	Y	add-on	add-on
Delegation of basic VM control	Y	Y	Y
Delegation of granular VM Administration	Y	Y	Y
USER EXPERIENCE			
Authentication/Login			
SmartCard authentication (pass-through)	Y	Y	Y
SmartCard authentication (login)	Y	Y	Y
CAC (Common Access Card)	Y	Y	Y
Single Sign-on from Windows client to vDesktop (Windows guest)	Y	Y	Y
Single Sign-on from Linux client to vDesktop (Windows guest)	Y	N	Platinum Edition only
Single Sign-on from Win/ Linux client to vDesktop (Linux guest)	Y	N	N

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	Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization 3.1	VMware View 5.1 Enterprise Bundle	Citrix XenDesktop 5.6 VDI Edition (With XenServer 6)
Audio Support			
Audio (speaker/output)	Y	Y	Y
Audio Microphone (input)	Y	Y	Y
VoIP Bi-directional audio (LAN)	Y	Y	Y
VoIP Bi-directional audio (WAN)	Y	Y	Y
MP3 audio playback	Y	Y	Y
Video Support			
Video playback (@ native frame-rate)	Y	Y	Y
Bi-directional video confer- encing (Skype, etc)	Y	No	Y
MPEG-2 (DVD Video)	Y	Y	Y
MPEG-4 / H.264 (.mp4)	Y	Y	Y
Apple QuickTime (.mov)	Y	No	No
REAL Networks (.rmv, .rma)	Y	No	No
Adobe Flash (audio/video)	Y	Y	Y
Microsoft Silverlight	Y	Y	Y
DivX	Y	No	Y
Unlimited Audio/Video for- mat or Codec	Y	No	No
MMR: Uses traditional Multimedia Redirection, which requires supported codecs to be installed locally on client and requires over- lay capabilities on specific graphics hardware	No	Y (Win XP/XPe/Vista Only)	Y

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	Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization 3.1	VMware View 5.1 Enterprise Bundle	Citrix XenDesktop 5.6 VDI Edition (With XenServer 6)
Peripheral Device Support			
USB 1.0 and 2.0 support	Y	Y	Y
USB camera (isochronous)	Y	No	Y
USB microphone	Y	Limited	Y
USB Mass storage devices	Y	Y	Y
USB smart phone redirection	Y	Y	Y
USB custom keyboards	Y	No	Y
USB printers	Y	Y	Y
Unrestricted USB device support	Y	No	Y
Copy and Paste			
Copy and Paste (Clipboard)	Y	Y	Y
Display/Monitor			
16/24/32 bit color	Y	Y	Y
Up to 4 monitors	Y	Y	Y
Resolution up to 2560x1600 per monitor	Y	Y	Y
Auto resize resolution (Windows vDesktop)	Y	Y	Y
Auto resize resolution (Linux vDesktop)	Y	No	No
3D OpenGL support	N	OpenGL 2.1 only	Y
3D DirectX support	N	DirectX 9 only	Y
Fallback RDP support	Y	Y	Y

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	Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization 3.1	VMware View 5.1 Enterprise Bundle	Citrix XenDesktop 5.6 VDI Edition (With XenServer 6)
VM LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT			
Static/persistent assigned desktops	Y	Y	Y
Stateless/dynamic assigned desktops	Y	Y	Y
Automatic Desktop Creation	Y	Y	Y
Manual Desktop Creation	Y	Y	Y
Disconnected / offline desktops	N	Y	Y
Virtual Desktop/Host Server affinity	Y	Y	Y
Auto-Start of Desktop Pools	Y	Y	Y
SYSTEM MANAGEMENT FEATURES			
Image Management			
Thin Provisioning: Virtual disks do not take up all of their allowed space upon creation	Y	Y	Y
Templates: Virtual machines can be deployed from master installations	Y	Y	Y
VM Snapshots: Roll back patches & upgrades (Cold and Live snapshots)	Y	Y	Y
Import/Export of VMs in standard OVF format	Y	Y	Y
VM Conversion: Tools that allow conversion of one vendor's virtual machine format to another	Y	Y	Y

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System Administration & Control			
Single-view Web-client for Centralized Control	Y	Y	Y
Host & VM System Monitoring & management	Y	Y	Y
User Portals: Provides administrative access to standard and power user	Y	Y	Y
Role-Based Access Control (RBAC): Granular, inheritable, directory-based security roles to all actions & objects	Y	Y	Y
Linux guest agent/tools: Enables manager to monitor VM health and status, SSO, etc	Y	No	No
Authentication & Directory Server support	Microsoft Active Directory IPA Red Hat Directory Server 9	Microsoft Active Directory only	Microsoft Active Directory only
PRODUCT LICENSING			
Per Concurrent User Connection	Y	Y	Y
Per Device	No	No	Y
Per Named User	No	No	Y



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All information in this document concerning Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization for Desktops was accurate as of November 2012. There may be changes in the current release— please reference the release notes for your installed version. All information concerning products from other manufacturers was taken from publicly available materials as of November 2012 with no warranty as to its accuracy. Please check manufacturers' websites for the latest information and specification on their products.

WHAT'S NEXT?

For more information, access redhat.com/rhev/desktop or contact your local Red Hat reseller.

ABOUT RED HAT

Red Hat was founded in 1993 and is headquartered in Raleigh, NC. Today, with more than 70 offices around the world, Red Hat is the largest publicly traded technology company fully committed to open source. That commitment has paid off over time, for us and our customers, proving the value of open source software and establishing a viable business model built around the open source way.

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