HORIZON CLOUD ON MICROSOFT AZURE

Flexibly delivering application virtualization from the cloud

AT A GLANCE

The VMware Horizon® Cloud Service™ delivers feature-rich virtual desktops and applications using a purpose-built cloud platform that is scalable across multiple deployment options, including fully managed infrastructure from VMware, public cloud infrastructure from Microsoft Azure, or on-premises hyper-converged infrastructure (HCI). The service supports a cloud-scale architecture that makes it easy to deliver virtualized Windows desktops and applications to any device, anytime. And, with a flexible subscription model and turnkey solutions, organizations can easily get up and running and scale quickly.

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Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure simplifies the delivery of remote desktops and apps. With a single solution, organizations can easily publish and manage RDS-hosted applications and desktops on Microsoft Azure while leveraging on-premises and cloud resources. IT can save time getting up and running with an easy deployment process, simplified management, and an architecture built for the cloud. And for organizations with fluctuating app usage, the Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure solution provides flexible, consumption-based pricing down to the minute.

Today's workforce is changing how business is conducted. End users access corporate content from their offices, from home, and everywhere in between. They use non-Windows devices including iOS, Android, and Mac. And they demand that IT support the specialized applications they need to get the job done. Unfortunately, with shrinking budgets and limited staff, streamlined IT departments simply cannot keep up with these demands, especially while also trying to ensure that security and regulatory mandates are met.

Savvy organizations have embraced desktop and application virtualization to meet these demands. But deploying traditional desktops and applications requires specialized IT staff, and is a rigorous and time-consuming process. Setting up a complete virtual desktop and app environment can take days and sometimes weeks and solutions require ongoing maintenance and updates. Plus, nearly all environments are over-provisioned, leading to higher costs.

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure gives organizations the ability to connect their own instance of Microsoft Azure to the incredibly intuitive Horizon Cloud control plane, creating a secure, comprehensive cloud-hosted solution for delivering virtualized Windows applications and session desktops. The solution brings VMware virtual applications and session desktops to 38 Microsoft Azure global data center regions, while offering customers all the benefits of Horizon Cloud, including automated service updates and an intuitive management interface.

The VMware Advantage

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure accelerates organizations' move to the cloud. Horizon Cloud is unique in its ability to use a single cloud control plane to give customers the flexibility to choose their preferred infrastructure for delivering and managing virtual applications and session desktops. Leveraging the VMware cross-cloud strategy, customers can choose from several deployment options and can dynamically switch options if use cases change, employees move, or economics shift.

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure was built to deliver workspaces as a cloud service. Unique features of this service include:

Multi-cloud flexibility. This service pairs an organization's preferred choice of infrastructure including public cloud infrastructure from Microsoft Azure, or on-premises hyper-converged infrastructure (HCI), with a cloud control plane.

Centralized cloud management. IT can centrally manage and configure desktops, apps, and policies that are on premises as well as those hosted in the cloud. Cloud management enables IT to have a SaaS-like experience with automated service updates. A single pane of glass to manage the entire deployment reduces the time and expertise to get up and running.

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Session desktops and apps. This solution provides the ability to publish and manage RDS-hosted applications and desktops on Microsoft Azure while leveraging on-premises and cloud resources.

Graphics visualization. Superior graphics capabilities enable users to visualize graphic-intensive workflows on Microsoft Azure GPUs.

Premium user experience. Using Blast Extreme, a purpose-built protocol built for the mobile cloud, end users can enjoy a great desktop experience across any network, location, or device. The service supports a range of devices including smartphones, tablets, ultra-low-cost PCs, Macs, and more. IT can dynamically choose between VMware Blast Extreme or PCoIP display technology to deliver the best possible user experience even within the most challenging, high-latency environments.
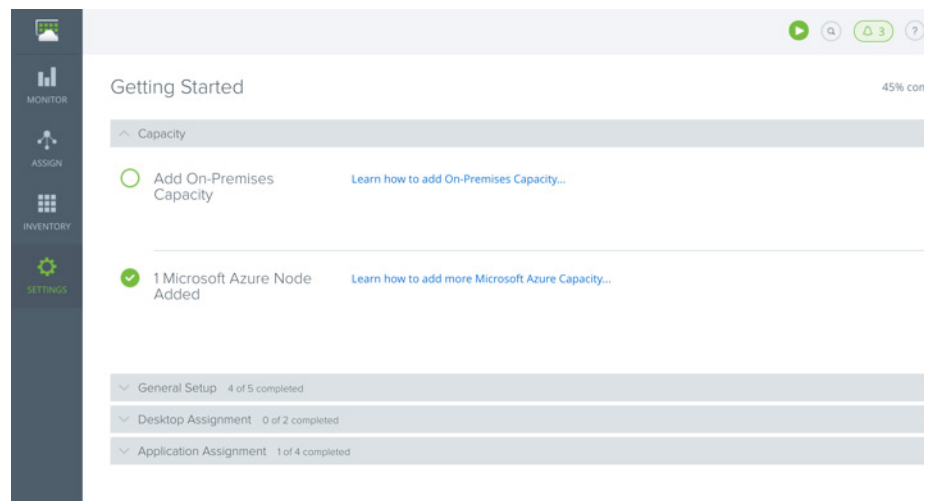
Figure 1: Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure Delivers Remote Published Desktops and Applications

Benefits of Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure

Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure delivers an array of benefits.

Multi-Cloud Deployments
• Flexibility to manage bring-your-own infrastructure with Microsoft Azure and hyper-converged infrastructure from a single console.

Low-Cost, Hourly Billing for Microsoft Azure Capacity
• Ability to pair consumption-based pricing on public Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) with Horizon Cloud service subscription.

Global Footprint
• Single instance to manage deployments across 38 Microsoft data center regions over the globe.

Easy Deployment
• Automated deployment of Horizon Cloud service components
• Integration with the Microsoft Azure Marketplace allows IT to import a Windows Server image, on which the necessary agents get automatically applied

FIND OUT MORE

For more information, visit
http://vmware.com/go/horizoncloud.

For information or to purchase VMware
products, call 877-4-VMWARE,
visit https://www.vmware.com/products/
horizon-cloud-virtual-desktops.html, or
search online for an authorized reseller. For
detailed product specifications and system
requirements, refer to the VMware Horizon
Cloud Service documentation.

Simplified Management
• Horizon Cloud always maintained at latest versions
• Under five-minute, self-scheduled upgrades for components
  on Microsoft Azure via Blue-Green upgrades

Superior Architecture
• Multi-tenant architecture built for the cloud
• Cloud control plane separate from the data path, avoiding
  unnecessary latency and maintaining business continuity
• VMware Unified Access Gateway™ deployed automatically
  in Microsoft Azure

Simple Offer
• Unified Access Gateway included in offer
• VMware User Environment Manager™ included in offer

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