Simplifying & Scaling VDI with Citrix XenDesktop, Microsoft RDS, and VMware Horizon.

Unidesk layering innovation provides all of the capabilities needed to simplify deployment and management of Windows virtual desktops and applications in one powerful, easy-to-use solution.

Application Layering

Package apps once as read-only virtual disks and deliver to thousands of VMs with the look and feel of s local install. Validated by Gartner as the best way to deliver apps in VDI, application layering lets you easily deliver .NET, drivers, plugins – all the apps that defeat traditional virtualization tools – with full interoperability.

Windows Image Management

By layering all of your apps separately, you can keep your Windows OS layer clean and avoid image sprawl. You'll finally achieve the one golden image and patch-once efficiency that VDI has promised.

Persistent Personalization

Give your users desktops they'll really love, without sacrificing manageability. Unidesk's Personalization layer captures all customizations – including user-installed apps – in a writable virtual disk that's unique to each desktop. Update the OS and App layers as often as needed; Personalization remains intact.

Desktop Provisioning

Provision non-persistent and persistent desktops by mixing and matching OS and App layers in any combination or order. The only difference is the Personalization layer – for non-persistent desktops, it is wiped clean after each desktop use.

Storage Optimization

Reduce disk space needs for each desktop VM up to 80%. With Unidesk, the same read-only OS and Application layer virtual disks are mounted and shared by many VMs, providing greater space savings than other image sharing technologies, yet retaining all personalization.
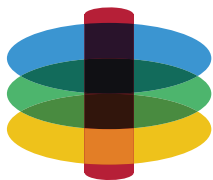
Patch, Repair, Audit, Restore

Undo patching mistakes or resolve end user break/fix issues in minutes simply by rolling desktops back to earlier versions of any layer. Audit all changes and inventory application assignments for easy compliance and license management.

Citrix, Microsoft, and VMware Integration

Leverage Unidesk's front-end integration with Citrix XenDesktop, Microsoft RDS, and VMware Horizon and back-end integration with Microsoft Hyper-V and VMware vSphere to simplify desktop and application management in any virtual environment.
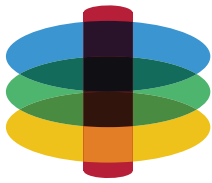
Layering: A new, simpler approach to Virtual Desktop Management

Unidesk's patented desktop layering technology combines the management simplicity and storage efficiency of non-persistent, stateless virtual desktops with the modern, customizable user experience of persistent desktops.
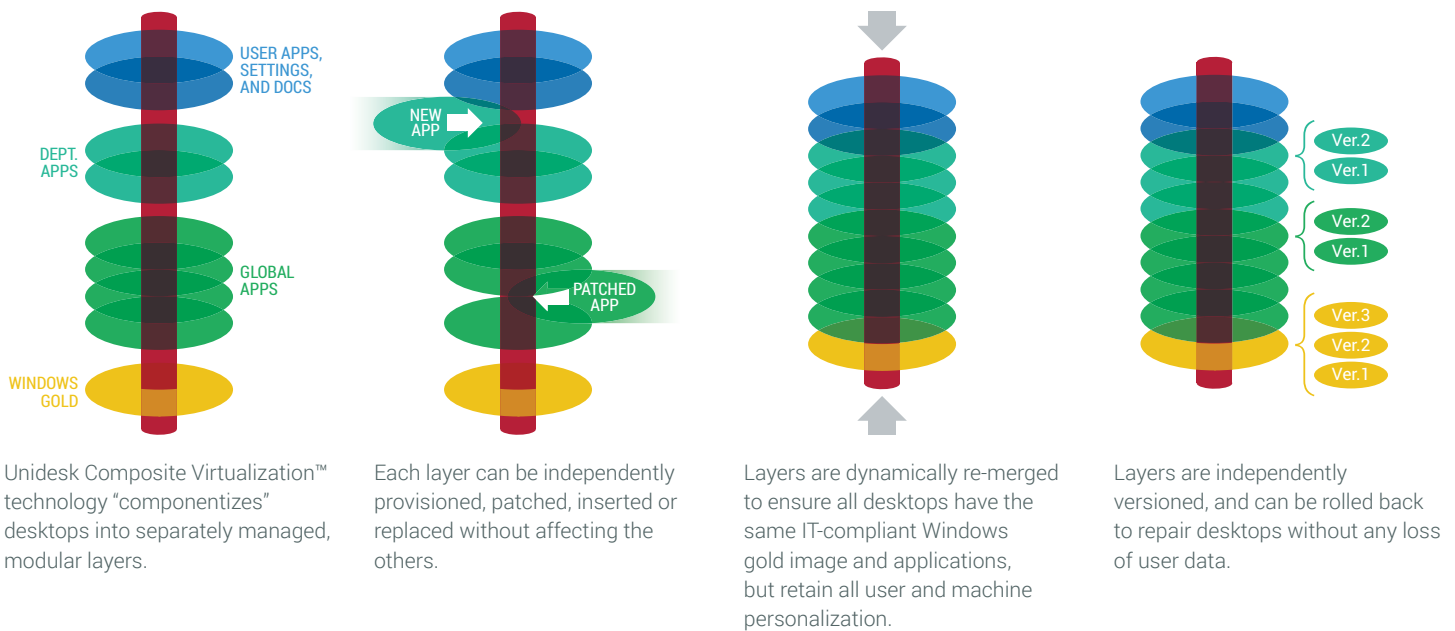

Unidesk desktops boot off of a virtual C: drive made up of independently managed, cleanly separated "layers." IT uses Unidesk to create single pristine layers of the Windows OS and standard applications. As end users use their desktops, their changes are automatically captured in personalization layers. Unidesk dynamically composes these layers at boot time into unified storage. Workers get desktops they can fully customize. IT gets desktops that are easy to provision, patch, and repair.

Unidesk's web-based management console enables you to effectively compose all desktops from the same independently packaged operating system and application layers. All user persona customizations, including user-installed applications, are automatically sustained through patches and updates to the IT-assigned base layers.
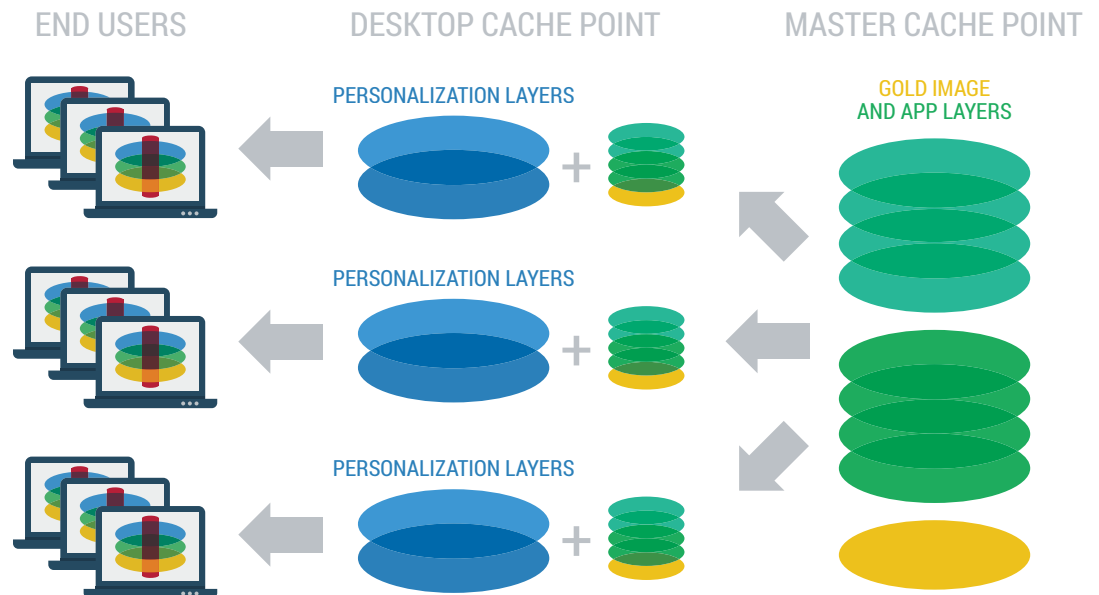
Layering: How it works

Unidesk Composite Virtualization™ technology dynamically combines the OS and app layers created and assigned by IT along with each user's personalization layer. IT can provision, patch, and update all desktops by simply updating a layer once. None of IT's changes affect the local profile settings, user-installed applications, and data in the personalization layer. Because Unidesk operates between the hypervisor and Microsoft Windows, anything can be a layer, including the OS itself, system services, and kernel-mode apps.

USER APPS, SETTINGS, AND DOCS

DEPT. APPS

GLOBAL APPS

WINDOWS GOLD

NEW APP

PATCHED APP

Ver.2
Ver.1
Ver.2
Ver.1
Ver.3
Ver.2
Ver.1

Unidesk Composite Virtualization™ technology "componentizes" desktops into separately managed, modular layers.

Each layer can be independently provisioned, patched, inserted or replaced without affecting the others.

Layers are dynamically re-merged to ensure all desktops have the same IT-compliant Windows gold image and applications, but retain all user and machine personalization.

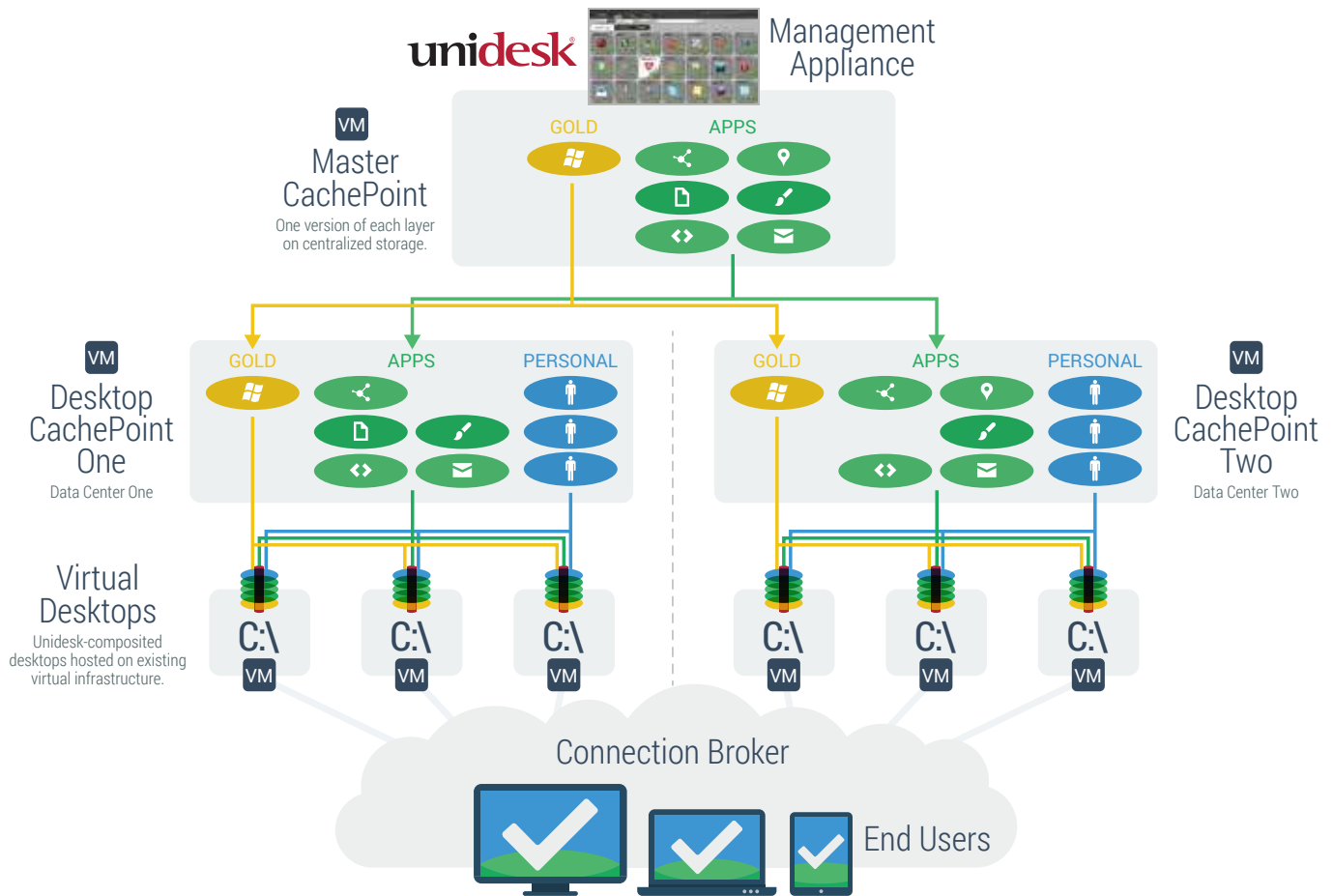Layers are independently versioned, and can be rolled back to repair desktops without any loss of user data.

Unidesk CacheCloud™ technology stores OS and application layers once, and replicates them across your infrastructure.

Single instance storing and sharing of layers naturally eliminates duplication, and combines with thin provisioning to reduce VDI storage requirements up to 70%.

END USERS   DESKTOP CACHE POINT   MASTER CACHE POINT

PERSONALIZATION LAYERS

PERSONALIZATION LAYERS

PERSONALIZATION LAYERS

GOLD IMAGE AND APP LAYERS

Seamless Integration with Existing Infrastructure

Unidesk software integrates quickly with your existing infrastructure, connection broker, directory, and storage. Unidesk consists purely of virtual appliances – no additional hardware is required.

unidesk — Management Appliance

VM Master CachePoint
One version of each layer on centralized storage.

GOLD   APPS

VM Desktop CachePoint One
Data Center One

GOLD   APPS   PERSONAL

VM Desktop CachePoint Two
Data Center Two

GOLD   APPS   PERSONAL

Virtual Desktops
Unidesk-composited desktops hosted on existing virtual infrastructure.

C:\ VM   C:\ VM   C:\ VM   C:\ VM   C:\ VM   C:\ VM

Connection Broker

End Users

Unidesk exceeds the capabilities of profile management, application virtualization, storage optimization, and PC configuration point tools with one, unified solution that minimizes VDI cost and complexity.

CLIENT	SAMSUNG IGEL DELL WYSE hp LG
CONNECTIVITY	CITRIX XenDesktop vmware Horizon View Microsoft Remote Desktop Services
MANAGEMENT	unidesk®
HYPERVISOR	vmware vSphere Microsoft Hyper-V
SERVER	CISCO IBM hp DELL NUTANIX simplivity
STORAGE	TINTRÍ NetApp tegile FUSION-io PURESTORAGE hp nimble storage EMC² V3 VCE