

This essential guide takes you through the key points you'll need to consider when choosing the right virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) solution and how to deploy it successfully.

Drawing on real-world experience from the world's leading Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) firms, it outlines crucial bases to cover when choosing a VDI provider and how to ensure your business reaps the full benefits of hybrid working.

## SOLVING THE HYBRID WORKING HEADACHE

Enabling people to collaborate effectively from anywhere is a huge opportunity for an AEC industry that's traditionally operated on ultra-low margins. In the transition to long term, hybrid working, many are considering (or reconsidering) VDI as a route to boosting workforce mobility and productivity.

But AEC companies have frequently struggled to get VDI to work. Off-the-shelf products weren't designed for graphics-heavy CAD apps or huge BIM datasets, meaning power users have become chained to their office-based IT. Rising complexity, costs, security risks and user frustration have led to many losing faith in VDI.







#### High-powered hybrid working comes of age

A new breed of VDI solution has emerged with unique capabilities for the hybrid working age. Networking, compute, virtualisation and storage technologies have evolved and are now more reliable and higher functioning. In the right hands, these improvements better utilise existing resources, significantly cut costs and, crucially, deliver great VDI experiences.

Using best-of-breed technologies, our purpose-built VDIPOD platform has proven to be effective in even the most demanding AEC industry settings.

Delivered as a fully-managed Desktop-as-a-Service solution, it's a headache-free way to boost collaboration and productivity across your entire workforce, ensuring your organisation can unlock ROI and competitive advantage from hybrid working.

## VDI DEPLOYMENT OPTIONS

There are two fundamental choices to be made:



#### **Cloud or on-premise?**

Decide which workloads to deploy in the cloud and which to retain on-premise where compliance with regulations or data sovereignty conditions is required.

With solutions like VDIPOD from Creative ITC, there's no need to choose - the platform can be consumed in the cloud, on-premise, or using a hybrid model in a single seamless solution.



#### Who manages what?

- A. In-house managed options such as on-premise VDI or Windows Virtual Desktop (WVD) hosted in the cloud
- B. Desktop-as-a-Service supported by a VDI specialist where everything is designed, provided and managed by an MSP

Be honest about your in-house skillset and resources available to support and manage long-term VDI deployment. The managed service provider (MSP) route can quickly deliver ROI with savings on hardware refreshes, virtualisation software, licensing and additional GPU, together with costs associated with system administrator salaries, power, rack space, out-of-hours staffing and training costs to support the deployment.

# ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CHOOSING A VDI PROVIDER

- Ooes the provider have a successful track record in your industry sector?
- ? Does the provider have experience of specialist industry apps used by your team?
- ? What are the provider's technical credentials?
- (?) What technical support will you receive during deployment and ongoing management and optimisation?
- What helpdesk support is available?
- ? What monitoring and reporting will they provide?
- (?) Will they support roll out of the platform across your business?
- ? Which technologies and versions are used in the platform?
- ? How often will the technologies be updated and the platform developed?
- (?) Can VDI be consumed in the cloud, on-premise, or using a hybrid model in a single seamless solution?
- ? Can you choose which workloads to deploy in the cloud and which to retain on-premise, for example where compliance with regulations or data sovereignty conditions is required?
- Open the provider differentiate between VDI profiles for ordinary and power users?
- ? Does the provider offer fixed or scalable pricing?
- ? How easy is it to reallocate resources to accommodate VDI burst capability and scalability?



## FIRST PURPOSE-BUILT VDI SOLUTION

Our game-changing VDIPOD solution was purpose-built entirely in-house to deliver real-world superior performance for heavy graphics users dealing with CAD applications and BIM models.

Combining leading-edge technologies with our unmatched agility and unparalleled industry experience, our unique Desktop-as-a-Service solution, delivered on VDIPOD, has proved effective in AEC settings previously thought impossible. It is the only solution seamlessly combining cloud, on-premise or hybrid consumption.

VDIPOD enables thousands of AEC professionals worldwide to effectively access tools and data - onsite. on the move or at home - and work just as productively as if they were in the office. Architects, designers and engineers in different locations and time zones can now easily collaborate together on complex 3-D building models, meaning that AEC businesses can deliver critical projects faster at less risk and cost.



<b>1</b> HR	BENOY	<b>₩</b> bam
BroadwayMalyan <sup>вм</sup>	Foster + Partners	RSHP
SHEPPARD ROBSON	SNC·LAVALIN	WilkinsonEyre



#### **VDI benefits enjoyed by our AEC clients include:**



#### Improved performance

Users enjoy the same or a superior experience than they get in the workplace.



#### **Increased productivity**

Effective collaboration and working from anywhere, boosting uptime and productivity.



### Choice of on-premise, cloud or hybrid model

We're the only provider who can deliver all in a seamless solution.



### Innovation with commercial sensibility

Practical path to achieving BIM Level 2 and 3.



#### Scalability

Power users can be quickly added and rolled back once a project ends.



#### Lightning-quick provisioning

IT provision for portacabin pop-ups and new sites can be spun up within minutes.



#### **Government-grade security**

Compartmentalised storage, simplifying compliance with public sector requirements.



#### **Centrally-managed updates**

More time for IT teams to spend on digital transformation projects.





Clients benefit from our deep understanding of virtualisation in the cloud and how AEC applications and network services behave together.



Clients also benefit from our leading-edge technologies and agility to continuously develop the solution further.



Our scalable pricing model
is one of the most flexible o is one of the most flexible on the market. Clients pay per user, per month, per profile by purchasing credits that IT teams can stipulate and reallocate any way they like, creating VDI burst capability and instant scalability for fast-changing business needs.



We recruit the best engineering talent and invest in them achieving the highest qualifications in their field. Our ratio of technicians to office staff is 4:1, significantly above our peers



Our UK based 24/7 Operations Bridge team of specialists proactively monitors and resolves issues before they escalate to service-impacting incidents.



Our exceptional service drives outstanding client satisfaction scores. In a recent survey, 100% of our clients rated our technical service as 'really good' or 'excelled expectations'.



"This investment will transform how we deliver with our clients, allowing us to move at pace, improving productivity and collaborating across time zones and disciplines in a way we've never done before."

lan Edwards, President and CEO, SNC-Lavalin

To learn more about how VDIPOD is helping AEC companies successfully transform to today's hybrid architectures contact:









creative-itc.com









