

Information Technology Policy

Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

ITP Number ITP-NET019 Virtual Desktop Infrastructure	Effective Date 11-13-2012
Category Recommended Policy	Supersedes None
Contact ra-itcentral@pa.gov	Scheduled Review As Needed

This ITP establishes Citrix XenDesktop and VMware View Premier as enterprise product standards.

1. Purpose

This Information Technology Policy (ITP) establishes product standards for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure. The VDI standard is to assist in controlling costs, reducing risks and promoting a consistent management of desktops.

2. Scope

This ITP applies to all departments, boards, commissions and councils under the Governor's jurisdiction. Agencies not under the Governor's jurisdiction are strongly encouraged to follow this ITP.

3. Definitions

3.1 Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) is the practice of hosting a desktop operating system within a virtual machine (VM) running on a hosted, centralized or remote server.

3.2 Virtual Machine

A virtual machine is a software implementation of a computing environment in which an operating system or program can be installed or run.

4. Objective

Establish an enterprise product standard for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure to achieve:

- Increased speed and reduced cost for provisioning of new desktops
- Decrease cost in deploying new applications
- More effectively manage desktop images
- Maximize refresh cycles of client desktops
- Reduce security risks to the enterprise

5. Policy

5.1 Enterprise Product Standard

This policy establishes the following as enterprise product standards for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure:

- o Citrix XenDesktop 5.5 or greater
- o VMware View Premier 5 or greater

6. Responsibilities

6.1 Agencies under the Governor's Jurisdiction

Agencies requiring a Virtual Desktop Infrastructure solution are responsible for assessing their business and technical requirements and determine the appropriate fit to one of the enterprise product standards established in this policy.

7. Related ITPs/Other References

8. Authority

- Executive Order 2011-05, Enterprise Information Technology Governance

9. Publication Version Control

It is the user's responsibility to ensure they have the latest version of this publication, which appears on <https://itcentral.pa.gov>. Questions regarding this publication are to be directed to ra-itcentral@pa.gov. This chart contains a history of this publication's revisions:

Version	Date	Purpose of Revision
Original		Base Document