

# Atos Origin puts desktop virtualization through its paces

## Desktop virtualization based on Intel® Core™ 2 processors with vPro™ technology puts Atos Origin one step ahead of the competition

Atos Origin's Adaptive Workplace\* is a strategic offering that provides a full range of modular and flexible desktop and end-user support services. It enables the employee to work anywhere, at anytime. Recently Atos Origin worked with Intel and Citrix to evaluate the potential of using desktop virtualization based on Intel® Core™2 processors with vPro™ technology and Citrix XenClient\*. The aim was to support employees' increasing use of personal laptops in the corporate environment, giving them the flexibility and level of personalisation they want, without compromising security.



"Beta testing Intel's desktop virtualization solution enables us to bring our new Adaptive Workplace delivery method to market much quicker, giving us a significant competitive advantage."

Simon van den Doel,  
Portfolio Manager,  
Workplace and Servicedesk, Atos Origin

### CHALLENGES

- **Support employee needs.** Help customers deal with the increasing number of personal laptops being brought into the corporate IT environment
- **Strike a balance.** Introduce a new delivery method for Adaptive Workplace that can balance end-user flexibility with corporate IT security

### TESTED SOLUTION

- **Virtualized desktop.** Atos Origin beta tested Intel and Citrix's desktop virtualization solution, consisting of four desktops powered by Intel® Core™2 processors with vPro™ technology, running Citrix's XenClient\* client-side hypervisor
- **Hardware-assisted virtualization.** Intel® Virtualization Technology (Intel® VT) combined with software-based virtualization provides maximum system utilisation by consolidating multiple environments onto a single PC

### IMPACT

- **A new service.** Atos Origin plans to add desktop virtualization as a new delivery method for its Adaptive Workplace offering, designed to help its customers address the challenge of personal laptops being brought into the workplace
- **Competitive advantage.** Being involved at the beta testing stage will enable Atos Origin to bring this offering to the marketplace much more quickly, giving it a significant competitive advantage

### The bring-your-own challenge

In 2010 Atos Origin manages more than 700,000 desktops on behalf of its customers around the world. Since consumer technology accelerates much more quickly than business technology, many of Atos Origin's customers are finding their employees are adopting technology more quickly than corporate IT can provide it. As a result, many of them want to start bringing their own laptops into work.

This presents a new challenge for the IT department, since personal applications and software can interfere with work-related applications and software, affecting both security and stability.

To help its customers address this bring-your-own (BYO) laptop challenge, Atos Origin was keen to introduce a new delivery method for its Adaptive Workplace offering - one that separates personal and corporate computing environments, enabling them to incorporate BYO laptops into the corporate infrastructure without compromising on flexibility or security.



## Desktop virtualization will help Atos Origin's customers balance end-user flexibility with corporate security

### A new delivery method

Atos Origin already offers a range of delivery models including thin client, application virtualization and virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) streamed from the data centre. None of these solutions could sufficiently address the issue of BYO laptops.

Thin clients don't have the functionality users want, so users would still be tempted to bring in their own laptops. Application virtualization is risky since it doesn't completely separate the personal and corporate computing environments. And the advantages of running VDI from the data centre are negated if users bring in their own devices.

Intel and Citrix's alternative vision for desktop virtualization perfectly balances control for business with user flexibility. It allows the creation of multiple virtual containers on an end-user's laptop. These multiple containers can then be used for multiple needs - for example, one for work software and applications managed by corporate IT, and another for a user's own personal software and applications. Each container runs a virtual operating system, ensuring separation between the applications.

### Intel's Desktop virtualization

The solution draws on the hardware-assisted virtualization and security features of the Intel® Core™2 processor with vPro™ technology. Intel® VT combined with software-based virtualisation solutions provide maximum system utilisation by consolidating multiple environments into a single PC. The work-related container is protected through encryption, as well as hardware-assisted security capabilities such as Intel® Anti-Theft Technology, which can disable a laptop if it is lost or stolen. In addition, Intel® Trusted Execution Technology provides hardware-based mechanisms that help protect against software-based attacks and protects the confidentiality and integrity of data stored or created on the client PC.

It's for these reasons that Atos Origin jumped at the chance to take part in beta testing Intel and Citrix's desktop virtualization solution. An evaluation environment was set up in Atos Origin's development labs in the Netherlands consisting of four Dell desktop systems powered by Intel® Core™2 processors with vPro™ technology and running Citrix's XenClient\* client-side hypervisor. Atos ran a series of real-life tests, feeding back to Intel and Citrix its suggestions for how the next release could be improved.

### Spotlight on Atos Origin

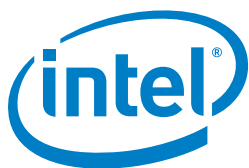
Atos Origin is a leading international information technology (IT) services company, providing hi-tech transactional services, consulting, systems integration and managed operations to deliver business outcomes globally. The company's revenues are EUR 5.1 bn and it employs 49,000 people. Atos Origin is the World-wide Information Technology Partner for the Olympic Games and has a client base of international companies across all sectors.

### Competitive advantage

Simon van den Doel, portfolio manager for the Workplace and Servicedesk at Atos Origin, explains: "We were extremely happy to take part in this beta testing, since it allows us to have a say in how the final solution will operate. Ultimately, this means we will have a much more mature product to integrate into our Adaptive Workplace offering."

Since the results of the tests have been so positive, Atos Origin plans to add desktop virtualization as a new delivery method designed to support its customers address the challenge of BYO laptops. Being involved at the beta testing stage will enable Atos Origin to bring this offering to market much more quickly, giving it a significant competitive advantage.

Thanks to the new delivery method based on desktop virtualization from Intel and Citrix, IT can achieve greater consistency, control and security through centralised management. And end-users get the full responsiveness and mobility they are accustomed to, as well as the flexibility to bring their personal laptops into work.



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