Microsoft

What's new & what's next with Azure Virtual Desktop

Driving innovation, security, and hybrid scale

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What's new & next with Azure Virtual Desktop

Industry recognition & innovation overview

What's new & what's coming

Windows Cloud strategic innovation

Key takeaways & next steps

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Gartner Magic Quadrant for DaaS

Microsoft has been named a Leader in the 2025 Gartner® Magic Quadrant™ for Desktop as a Service (DaaS) for the third consecutive year: Highest in execution and furthest in vision

Windows 365 and Virtual Desktop provide a full range of scalable, flexible, and secured virtual, Azure hybrid and on premises solutions to help businesses of any size.

- Broad capabilities across digital workplace technologies, hyperscale cloud, and AI.

- Robust global infrastructure provides support for clients in all regions and of all sizes.

- By 2027, virtual desktops will be cost-effective for 95% of workers compared to 40% in 2019. By 2027, virtual desktops will be used as the primary workspace for 20% of workers, up from 10% in 2019.

📄 Read full report:
aka.ms/DaasMQ2025

Figure 1: Magic Quadrant for Desktop as a Service

The Total Economic Impact™ of Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop

Using both Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop makes businesses more agile, efficient, and secure

Summary of projected benefits | Three-year risk-adjusted

Return on investment (ROI)

94%-217%

Net present value (NPV)

$3.2M-$7.4M

6-12 minutes
daily time saved per user

http://aka.ms/WCTEI2025

Based on projected results for a composite organization with 2,000 employees over three years.

This document is an abridged version of a case study commissioned by Microsoft: *New Technology: The Projected Total Economic Impact™ Of Windows 365 And Azure Virtual Desktop, March 2025.*

In case you missed it...

- Session host configuration

- **App attach in Azure Virtual Desktop**

- OneDrive support for RemoteApp

- Hibernate support for Personal Desktops deployments

- 25H2 Gallery images, includes FSLogix agent

- Windows 10 ESU Azure entitlement

- Multiple personal desktops per user

- Direct launch per url

- Webclient multi-monitor

- Azure Files support cloud only identities + FSLogix
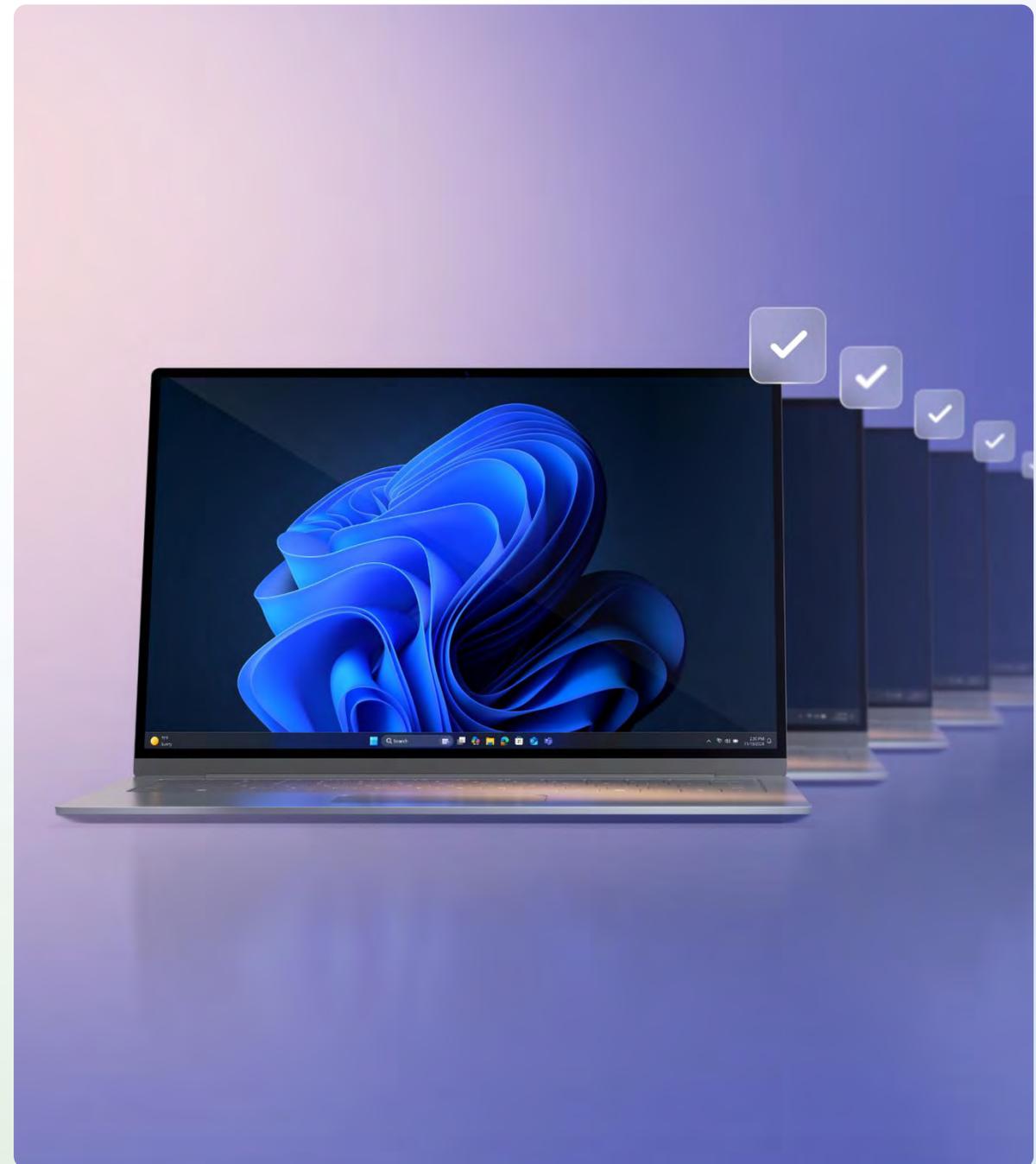
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Deployment

What's new and what's coming

Azure Virtual Desktop for hybrid environments (limited preview)

Next!

Azure Virtual Desktop for hybrid environments provides an additional alternative for cost-effective on-premises virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) based on Azure Arc.

Today Azure Virtual Desktop for Azure Local

Customer value

- Enables Azure Virtual Desktop support for high-latency, data residency, or application constraints that require on-premises VDI

Supported OS:

Windows Server
Windows 11 Enterprise, Windows 10 Enterprise
Windows 11 client multi-session, Windows 10 client multi-session

- May require new hardware

- Provides full Lifecycle Management (LCM) & power management capabilities

- Perfect solution for permanent on-premises deployments

Coming soon Azure Virtual Desktop for hybrid environments

Customer value

- Provides a rich Azure Virtual Desktop experience without requiring new hardware purchases or hypervisor changes
- Works with Partner solutions to add additional VDI management capability

Supported OSs:

Windows Server
Windows 11 Enterprise

- Expands the options for VDI deployment on existing hardware and any hypervisor

- Brings the benefits of the Azure Virtual Desktop management plane and Azure to existing VDI deployments

- Simplifies the path for cloud migration

- Partners provide LCM capabilities & power management capabilities

Azure Arc Azure Virtual Desktop extension deployment

- Admin creates host pool
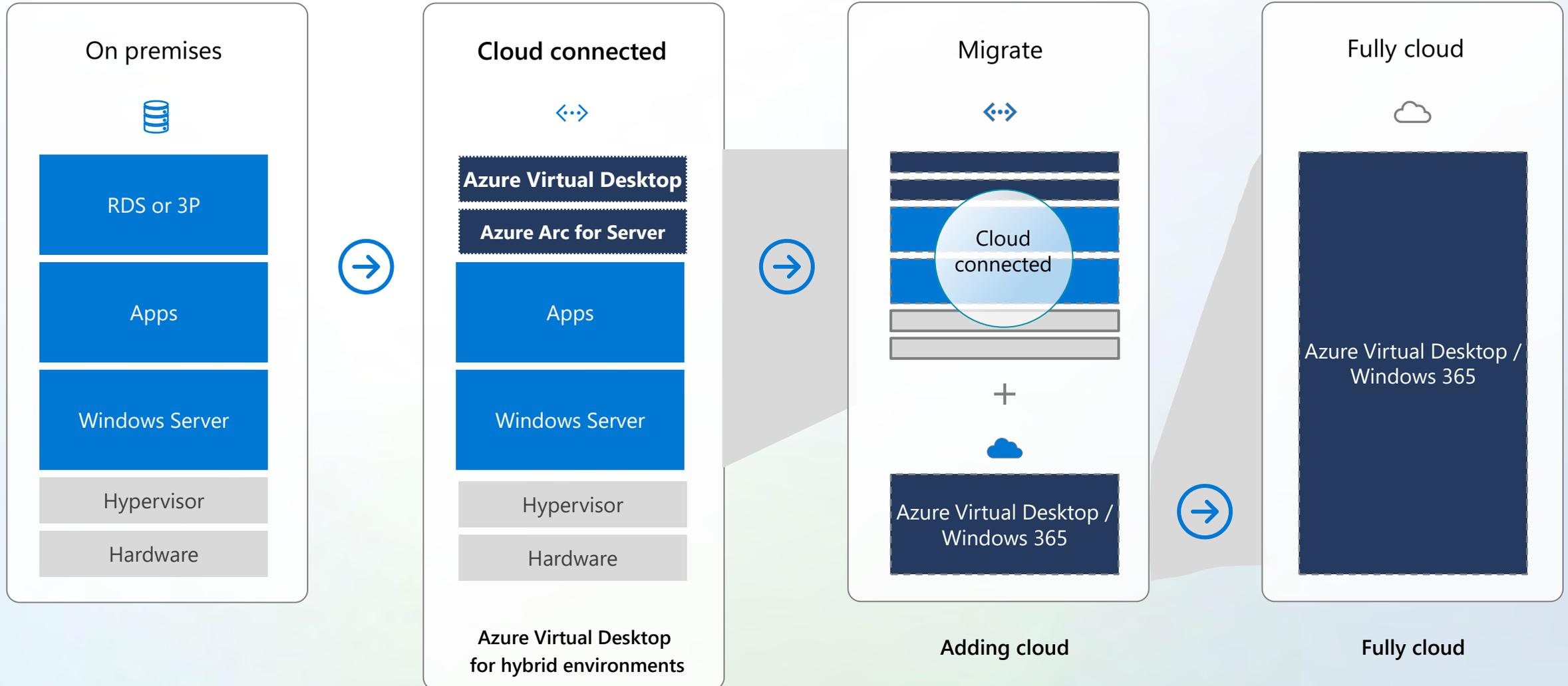- Admin creates VM using tools of their choice

1. Install Azure Arc Connected Machine Agent

2. "Add" Azure Virtual Desktop Arc extension
   - Installs Azure Virtual Desktop agents
   - Installs Remote Desktop Session Host (RDSH role (Windows Server only)
   - Adds device to Azure Virtual Desktop host pool

Leverage Partner solutions for creating virtual machines (VM), lifecycle and power management

Azure Virtual Desktop for hybrid environments: A new path for integrating existing VDI estate with the Azure Virtual Desktop cloud native management plane

Azure Virtual Desktop for hybrid environments: Partner integrations

Security & resiliency

What's new and what's coming

B2B external identities with Azure Virtual Desktop, now generally available

- Makes it easier to reach new users with B2B external identities

- Built-in identity protection – Strengthen Zero Trust with native controls and passwordless options.

- Passkeys and biometrics – Simplify sign-in while reducing credential theft risk.

- B2B external identities – Seamless, secured onboarding for partners and new users without compromising compliance.

- Per-user access pricing – Completes the scenario for ISV and external users.

- FSLogix integration – Allows for a seamless profile solution in a pooled environment.
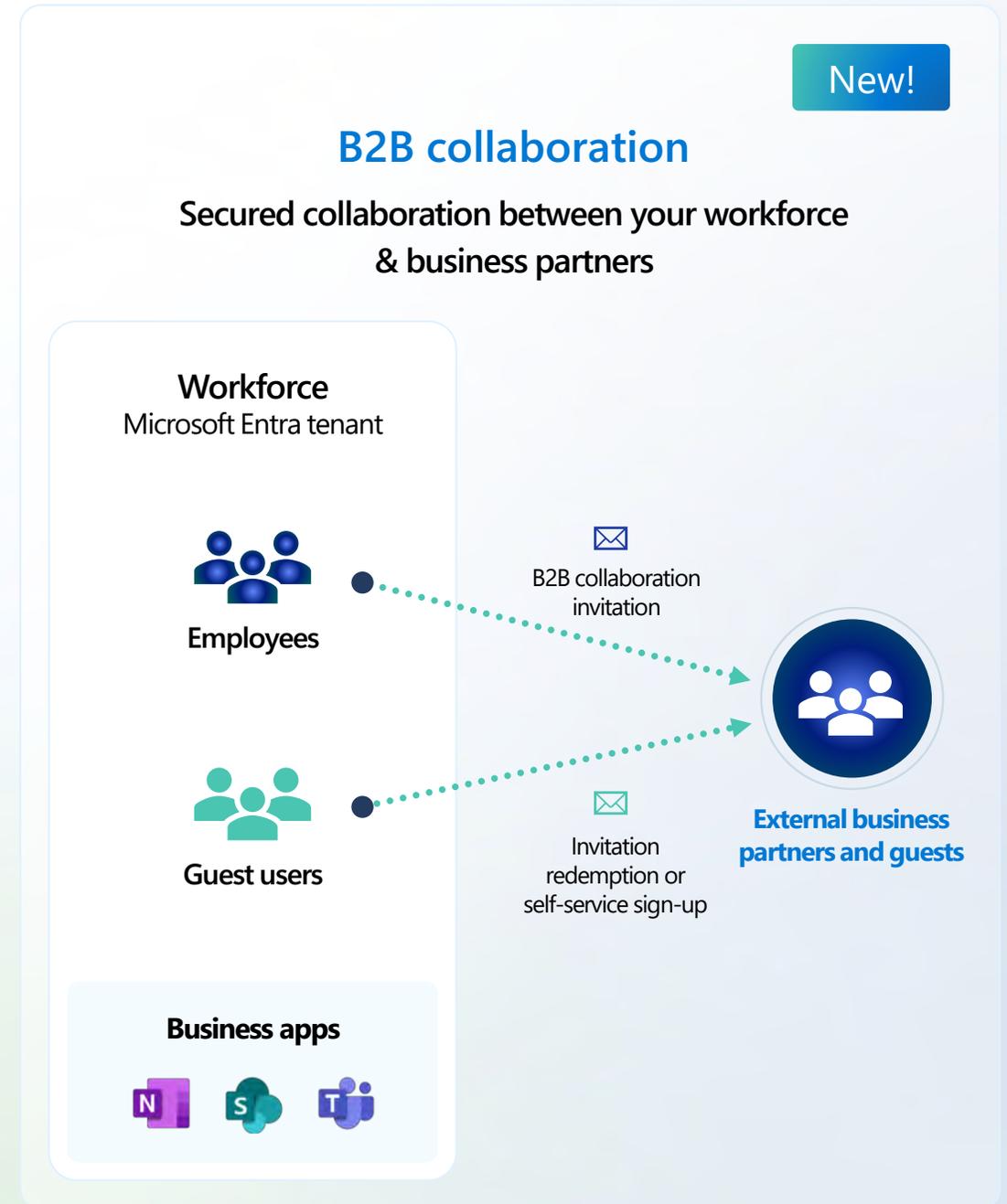
New!

B2B collaboration

Secured collaboration between your workforce & business partners

Workforce
Microsoft Entra tenant

Employees

B2B collaboration invitation

Guest users

Invitation redemption or self-service sign-up

External business partners and guests

Business apps
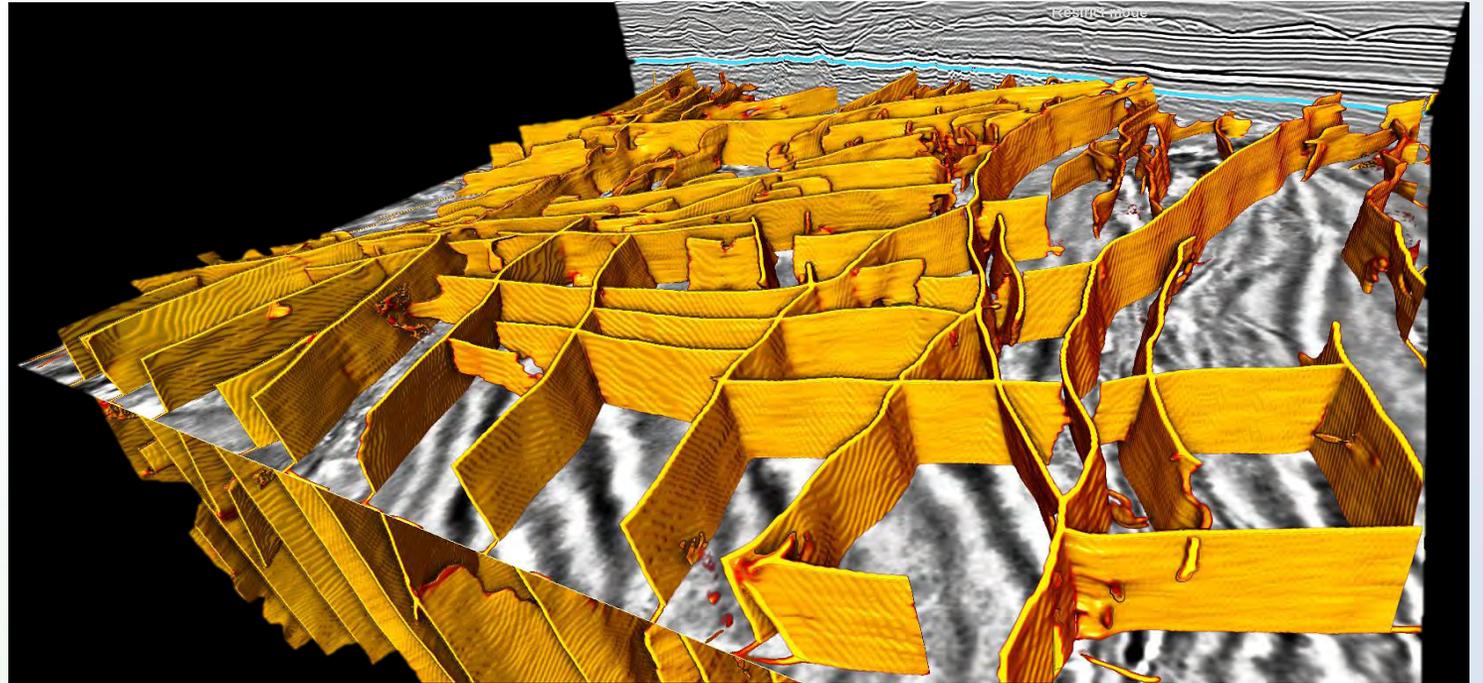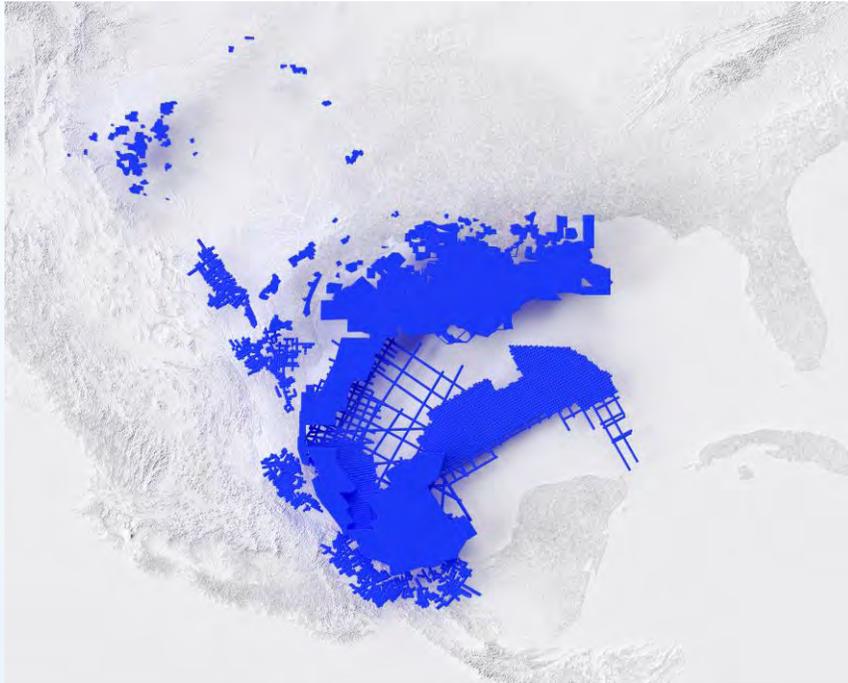
Azure Virtual Desktop B2B for SLB Petrotechnical Applications

Challenges

Infrastructure limitations for SMB

Identity and device management across platforms

Access to graphic-intensive applications

Scalability & adaptability

Security & resiliency

Cost optimization

Mark Gerrard Douglas
Vice President Digital Services

Azure Virtual Desktop B2B for SLB Petrotechnical Applications

Solution

- **Azure Virtual Desktop optimization:** Transforming SLB Petrotechnical applications access with high performance experience

- **Centralized management:** Providing on-demand scalability and centralized management to easily adapt to changing project requirements.

- **Azure Virtual Desktop B2B integration:** Allowing customers to access SLB-managed environments using their existing identities, without the need for additional user accounts or corporate devices.

- **Enhanced collaboration tools:** Collaborating effectively with seamless access to Microsoft productivity applications from anywhere.

Demo

SLB
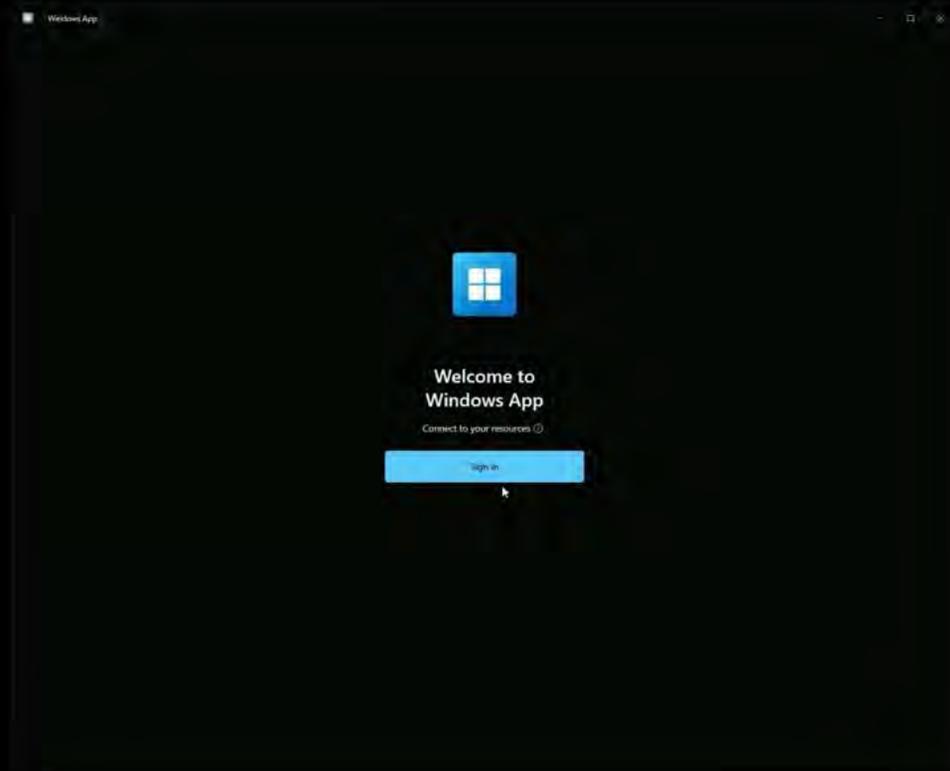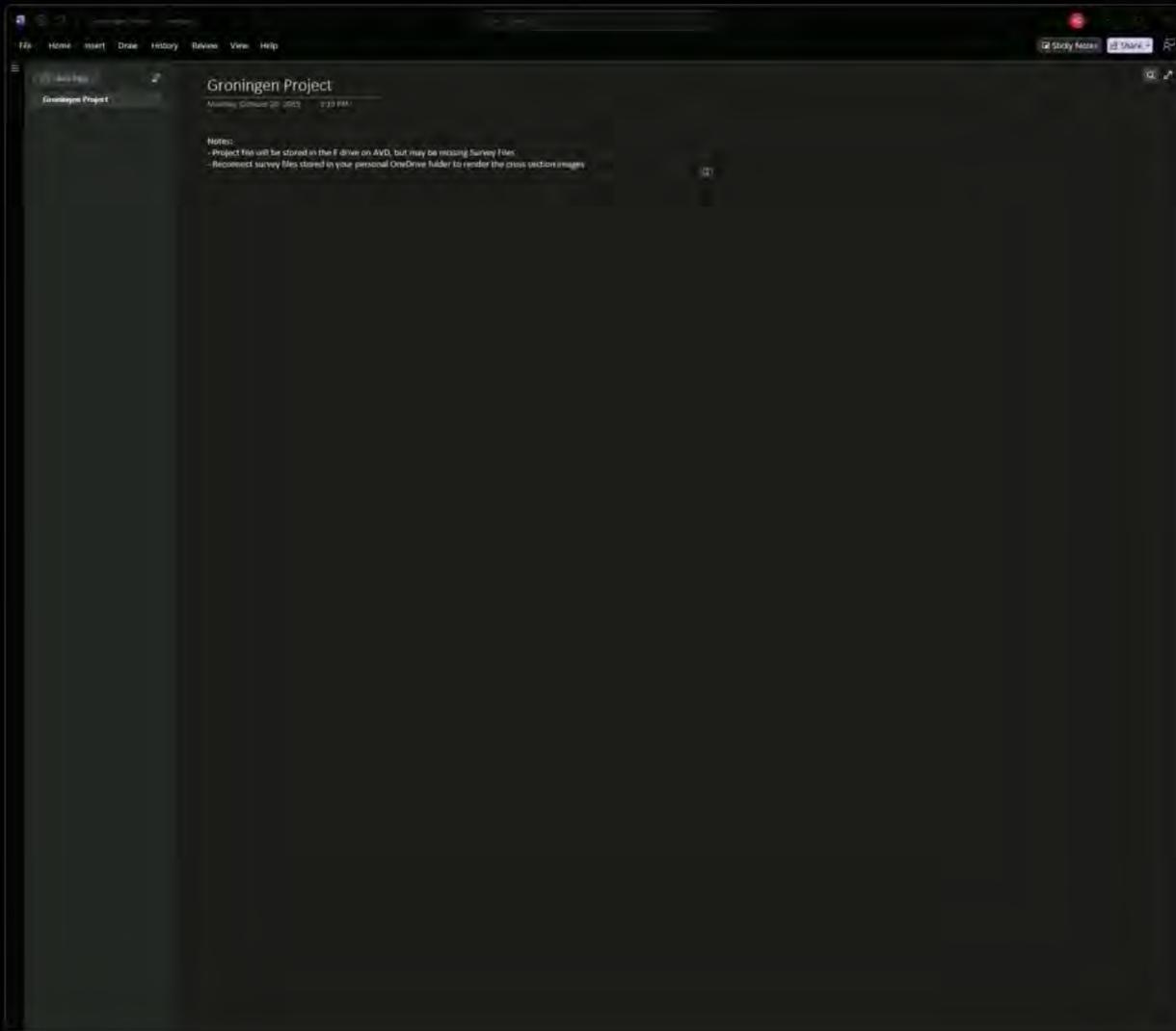
Regional host pools (public preview)

Strengthens cloud resiliency and service continuity in Azure Virtual Desktop and Windows 365

- Reduces blast radius of any infrastructure or Azure region outage

- Removes cross-region dependencies of connectivity infrastructure.

- "Caching" enables new connections during infrastructure outages

- Increases number of regional database deployments

- Increases data sovereignty availability

Coming soon for configuration in **Azure Virtual Desktop** in public preview.

Included as part of the **Windows 365** service.

Norway East

UK South
UK West
North Central US   Canada East   Germany West Central
West US 2   Canada Central   West Europe
West Central US   North Europe   France Central
            US Central   East US
West US   East US 2   Spain Central   Switzerland North   Korea Central   Japan East
                                                                            Korea South
                                      Israel Central   Japan West
West US 3   South Central US   UAE North   West India
                                      Central India   East Asia
            Mexico Central   South India
                                                                South-East Asia

                                      South Africa North
Brazil South   South Africa West
                                                            Australia Southeast   Australia East

Existing geographical database

New regional database

Management
What's new and what's coming

Ephemeral OS disks performance improvements (public preview)

New!

Ephemeral OS disks

Enable fast and secured scalable deployment with high-performance, local disks for dynamic workloads. *Available in public preview*

Demo

Ephemeral disks

More flexibility and control in session host management

- **Quick error recovery –** Detect a configuration issue early, pause, edit, and resume or restart without starting from scratch.

- **Control user access during provisioning –** Start session hosts in drain mode so administrators decide when users can connect.

- **Boost deployment reliability –** New canary checks validate configurations before full pool provisioning.

User experience

What's new and what's coming

Remote desktop protocol (RDP) Multipath improvements for Azure Virtual Desktop and Windows 365 (generally available)

New!

Mean time to unexpected connection drop (MTTF) in hours

2X ↑

2020	2021	2024	2025	2026
4	5	6	6.5	8

+1h | Managed RDP Shortpath

+1h | Direct RDP Shortpath

+1h | Relayed RDP Shortpath

+2h | Multipath (UDP)

UX | Connection Lost Screen

Setup | IP Consolidation + one click Zscaler config

Coverage | TURN Relay Global expansion

+1h | Multipath (TCP)

<1s Reconnect | Fast Reconnect
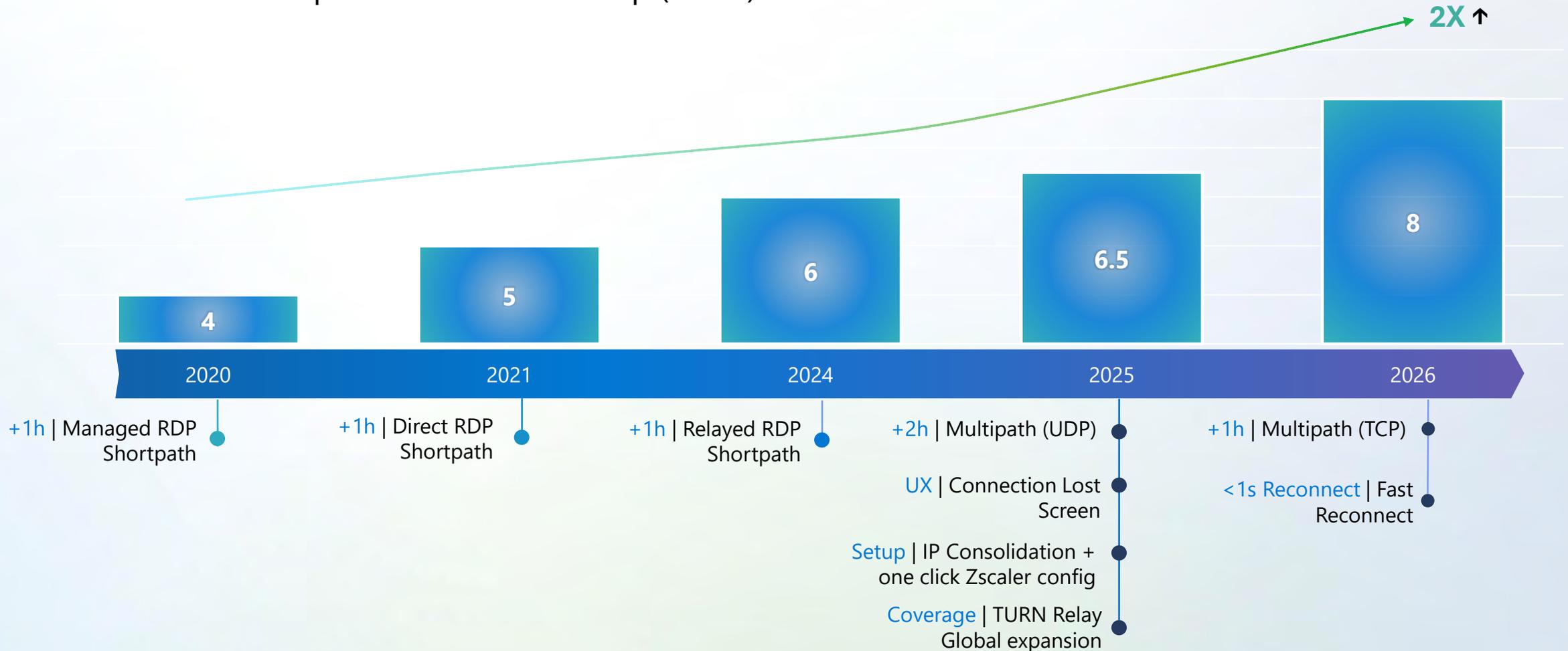
Demo

RDP Multipath

Enhanced RemoteApp user experiences

We've overhauled our approach to remoting individual windows

- Under-the-hood improvements across the board

As a result, **RemoteApps** behave more like users expect:

- Better Windows Snap support and full-screen support
- Better hotkey support (e.g. Win+<ArrowKey>)
- Better dots per inch (DPI) handling
- Better window look and feel with borders, shadows, light/dark theme
- Lays the groundwork for future RemoteApp improvements
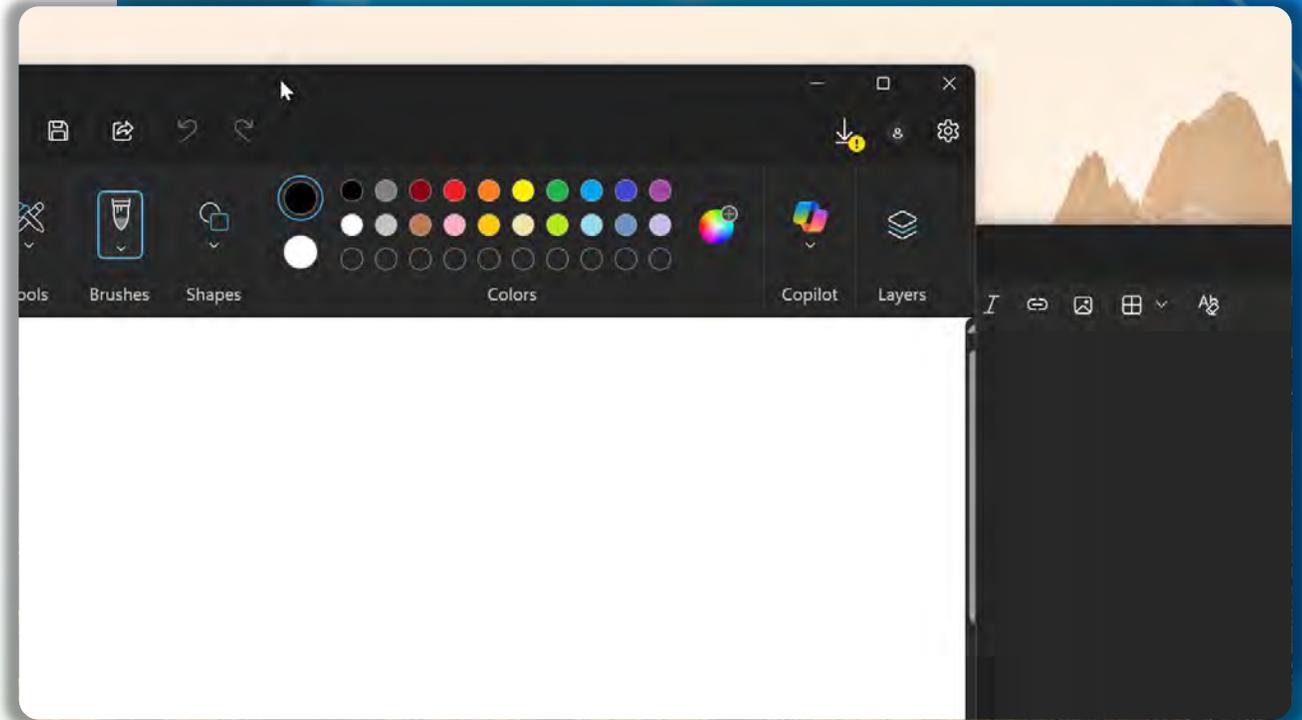
aka.ms/RemoteAppsIgnite2025Learn

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Windows in the cloud: Solutions to meet every organization's needs

Windows 365

A complete software-as-a-service (SaaS) solution that securely streams your personalized Windows desktop, apps, settings, and content from the Microsoft Cloud to any device

Azure Virtual Desktop

A cloud virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) platform-as-a-service solution (PaaS) that delivers hosted desktops and apps with maximum flexibility and control

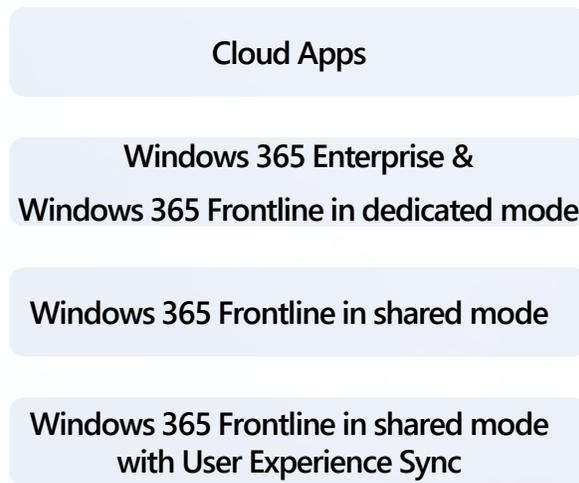|	Optimized for simplicity and experience	Optimized for flexibility and control
OS support	Windows 11 or Windows 10	Windows 11, Windows 10, single- or multi-session, Windows Server
Admin	Microsoft Intune	Azure Portal
Service	SaaS: Complete end-to-end Microsoft service	PaaS: Granular controls over configuration and management
Pricing	Predictable per-user, per-month pricing	Consumption-based pricing
End user	• Full Windows like-local desktop remoting experience • Self-service actions (i.e., Restart, Restore, Reset) • Rich app and desktop remoting experience	• Hybrid deployments for organizations with data residency or latency requirements • Rich app and desktop remoting experience
Clients	Windows App, HTML5, Windows 365 Link	Windows App, HTML5

Aligning our innovation strategies for Azure Virtual Desktop and Windows 365 to reduce feature gaps

SaaS

PaaS

Cloud Apps	→	**Apps**	←	RemoteApp
Windows 365 Enterprise & Windows 365 Frontline in dedicated mode	→	**Dedicated**	←	Personal desktops
Windows 365 Frontline in shared mode	→	**Non-persistence**	←	Pooled
Windows 365 Frontline in shared mode with User Experience Sync	→	**Semi-persistence**	←	Pooled w/ FSLogix

Resilient and secure foundation

Windows App

Spotlight: Reporting & monitoring in Windows 365

Delivers enhanced Windows 365 reporting and monitoring that VDI Admin's expect.

Delivers **data, actionable dashboards, and reports** for Windows 365 empowering **administrators, machine learning models, AI systems, and Copilot** with timely and relevant insights.

In private preview now

Scan the QR code to get started.

Accelerating migration to Windows 365

Windows 365 migration API + partner innovation = simplified migration to Windows 365
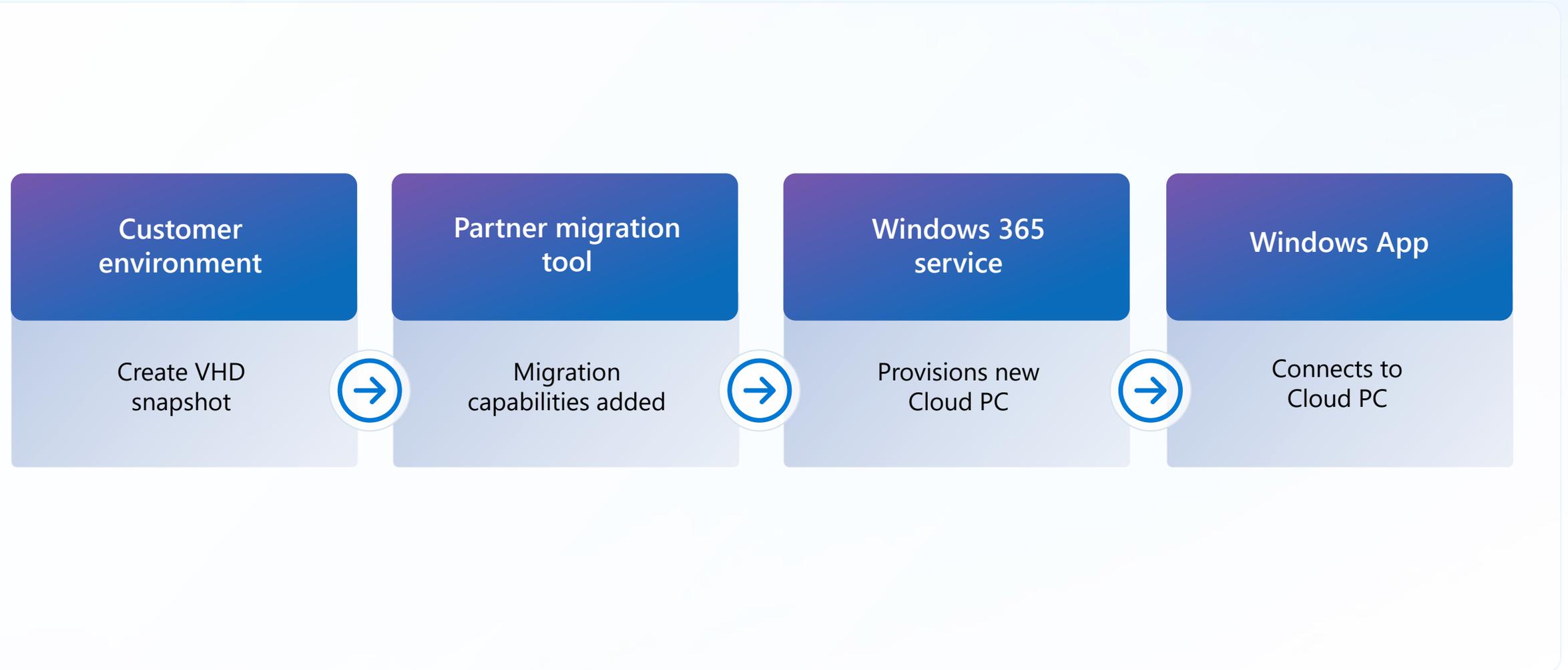
Customer environment		Partner migration tool		Windows 365 service		Windows App
Create VHD snapshot	→	Migration capabilities added	→	Provisions new Cloud PC	→	Connects to Cloud PC

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Azure Virtual Desktop innovation is critical

- Azure Virtual Desktop innovations drive value for customers and partners

- The pace and breadth of Azure Virtual Desktop is increasing

- Our innovation approach for Azure Virtual Desktop and Windows 365 ensures that great features find their way into both services

Resources

Read the latest Azure Virtual Desktop blogs

Azure Virtual Desktop for
hybrid environments

aka.ms/AVDHybridIgnite2025Blog

Strengthen business resilience
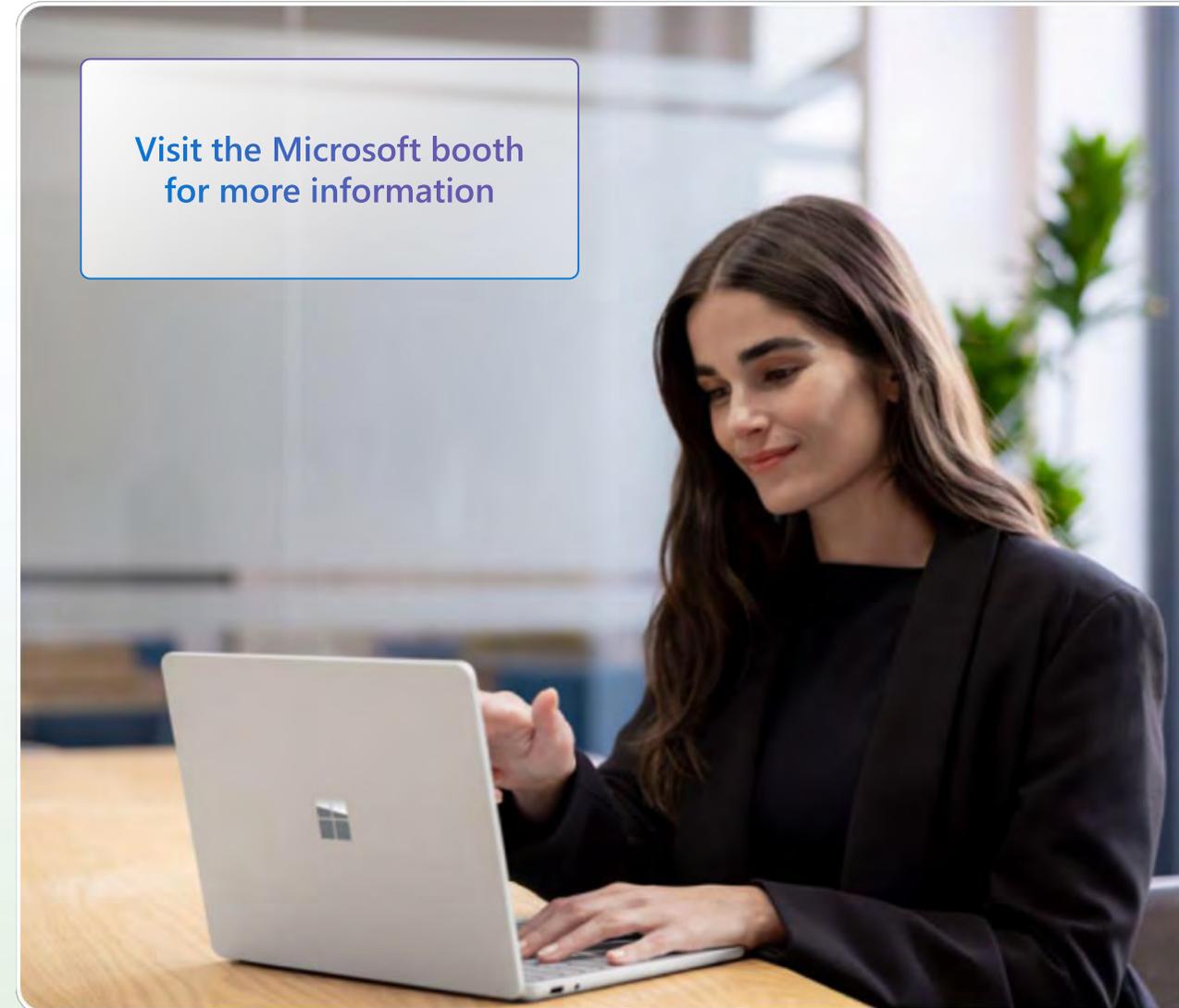with Windows 365 and
Azure Virtual Desktop
aka.ms/AVDandW365Resilience

Familiarize yourself with Azure Virtual Desktop:
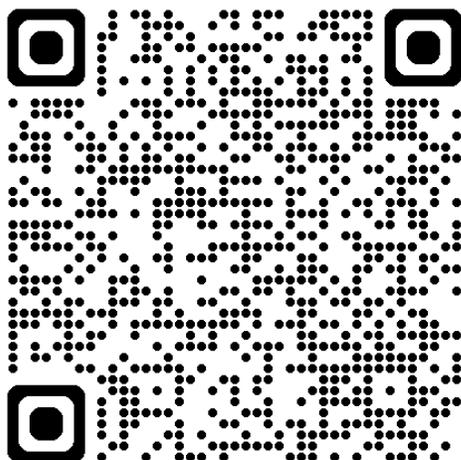

What is Azure Virtual Desktop

aka.ms/AVDDocs

Visit the Microsoft booth
for more information

Windows Cloud sessions at Microsoft Ignite

Azure Virtual Desktop & Windows 365

Tuesday, November 18		Wednesday, November 19		Thursday, November 20	
KEY 01	Opening Keynote 9:00AM PT	INN BRK1700	Frontier firms run on Windows 9:00AM – 9:45AM PT (45 Mins)	BRK 258	Inside Windows Security, from client to cloud 8:30 – 9:15AM PT (45 Mins)
BRK 343	Unlock the full power of Windows 365 1:00PM – 1:45PM PT (45 Mins)	BRK 342	Unlock efficiencies with Windows 365 Frontline & Cloud PC devices 1:30 - 2:15 PM PT (45 Mins)	BRK 339	What's new & what's next in Azure Virtual Desktop 9:45 – 10:30AM PT (45 Mins)
BRK 344	Agents at Work: Windows powers the era of intelligent productivity 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM PT (45 Mins)	THR 781	Cloud PC devices: Get started with Windows 365 Link and see what's new 4:00 – 4:30PM PT (30 Mins)	BRK 345	Resilient by design: How Windows has evolved with new recovery tools 1:00 – 1:45PM PT (45 Mins)
THR 785	Get started with Windows 365 Frontline and Cloud Apps 5:15 – 5:45PM PT (30 Mins)			THR 787	Windows in the Cloud: Resilience Meets Productivity 4:00PM - 4:30PM PT (30 Mins)

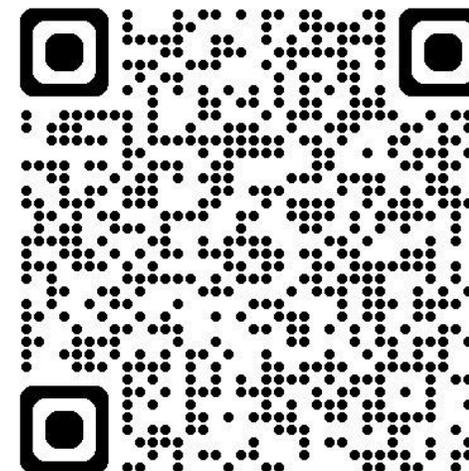■ Breakout sessions   ■ Theatre sessions   ■ Innovation session   ■ Keynote

Next steps

Join the Windows 365
Tech Community
aka.ms/W365TechCommunity
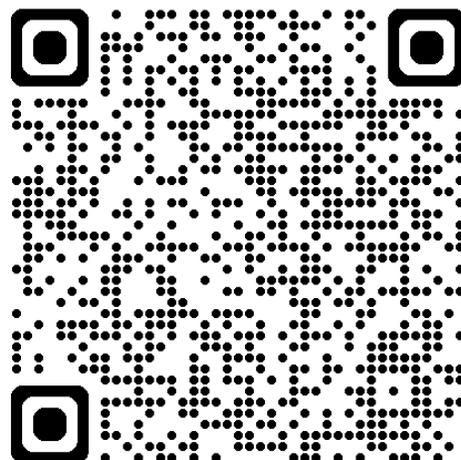
Join the Azure Virtual Desktop
Tech Community
aka.ms/AVDTechCommunity

Check out the latest Windows
security blog
aka.ms/WindowsSecurityResiliency
IgniteBlog

Thank you!

How did we do?

Tell us your thoughts about our sessions and complete the event survey

Go to aka.ms/ignite/sessions/evals or scan the QR code