Recast

GUIDE

The Ultimate Guide to AVD

Three steps to an easy and successful implementation

Deploying Azure Virtual Desktops (AVD) can be complex. Recast Software provides the necessary flexibility in your end-to-end AVD deployment. This document has been created to describe our approach and recommendations to an easy and successful deployment of your AVD environment.

STEP 1

Create Your AVD (Master) Template

A clean master template is the key to successfully setting up an AVD deployment. Application Workspace offers multiple options to create the master template, ensuring fully automated AVD template deployment to your session host.

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Supported scenarios by Application Workspace

Option 1: Create a custom gallery image
Option 2: Choose a marketplace image
Option 3: Upload an image using Azure Image Builder. With all three scenarios Application Workspace will end-to-end help to create a clean and unattended Azure Virtual Desktop image to deploy applications and settings to all your endusers in an evergreen state



STEP 2

Deploy Your Applications

Next, we recommend that you convert your applications to MSIX. This is a challenging step and one where Application Workspace and Release & Patch Management make a big difference. If MSIX is not possible, we will provide you good and clean alternatives for the optimal AVD deployment. We help you through plan A, B and C as the end-to-end application management platform.

Plan A

Convert your applications to MSIX app attach with Release & Patch Management.

Application Workspace transforms your current applications to MSIX using customization and MSIX Readiness data, increasing your chances to succeed with MSIX. Still, we expect that only half of your applications fit into this plan.

Release & Patch Management converts the applications, when possible, and automatically creates all the required deployment tasks in Application Workspace.

Plan B

Applications that cannot be converted to MSIX can also be deployed as App-V. Application Workspace simply deploys all your current apps in an Azure Virtual Desktop session, without scripting.

Existing standard Microsoft technology does not support this. Application Workspace deploys any application in your (stateless) virtual environment but also to your physical endpoint.

Plan C

Virtualizing apps is a great idea for applications, but they can cause conflicts and settings are persistent on the desktop. App-V was designed to keep a clean image.

We recommend that you install the applications native, as clean as possible. On application startup Application Workspace dynamically pushes settings for the required app, like certificates, services, registry settings, database settings, etc.

With this approach application delivery in AVD is easy, the image is clean, and Application Workspace helps you with contextualizing and injecting your (application) settings.

The end-result of this approach is that 100 percent of your applications are deployed with little to no scripting and less effort.

Click, Run: Ready!

STEP 3

Connect Your Users

The final step is to connect your end-users. Keep in mind that a new solution generally always impacts your end-users. Application Workspace assists you to implement Azure Virtual Desktop without disrupting your end-users.

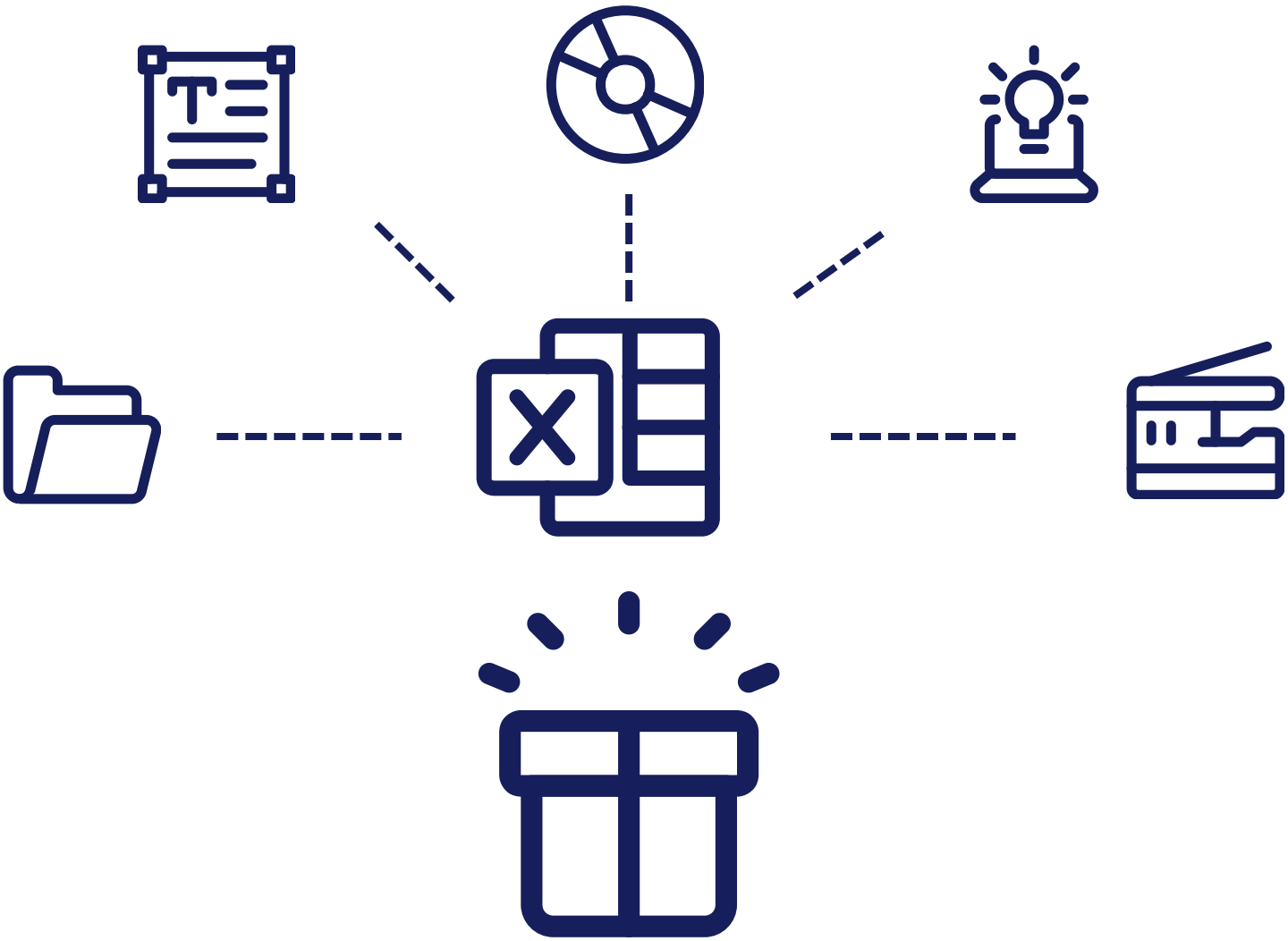
Recast Sotware's unique Smart Icon technology and context awareness capabilities help you to create the right scenario for your users to ensure seamless access to the right resource.

Smart Icon Technology to the Rescue

Use our connectors to connect your existing infrastructure and deliver all applications to your end-users as normal. At the same time, you can start working on setting up a new Azure Virtual Desktop environment. With our deployment, workspace management and connector capabilities we deliver and connect this in the same platform as your current workspace solution.

Other functionalities of the Smart Icon:

- Distribution and installation of applications, settings and variables
- Filters and context awareness to get the right setting to the right user
- Smart launch actions directing users depending on the context to the right session. This can be a mix of local, on-premises SBC/VDI solutions and cloud workspaces



The context is defined by the IT department.

The IT department can connect to the current Server Based Computing or Virtual Desktop Infrastructure environment and direct users to the on-premises solution, and at the same time slowly deliver the new environment to a small portion of end-users.

The user is not impacted because Application Workspace uses the context defined to redirect the user to the right environment, delivering it with single sign-on.

An example: Microsoft Excel

The user clicks on the Excel icon on their workspace. The user works on a corporate owned laptop. Application Workspace verifies the current location and device compliance, automatically installing the Excel client when necessary. Then the systems starts the local application and initiates single sign-on into the Excel session.

In another scenario, the user switches to a personal device. They click the same icon, but now Application Workspace starts a Windows Virtual Desktop session instead. We can adapt to thousands of scenarios to deliver the best user experience, enabling seamless transitions across any device or virtual platform.

Recast Software and Azure Virtual Desktop

Recast Software is an official Azure Virtual Desktop partner. We deliver images, applications, and settings to Azure Virtual Desktop.

Learn more:

Technical Documentation: docs.liquit.com
Application Workspace YouTube Channel: youtube.com/liquit

Highlights:

- The Azure Virtual Desktop connector to sync and publish apps and desktops with one single press of a button
- Single Sign On to Azure Virtual Desktop
- Native MSIX support – without scripting requirements
- MSIX app attach and FSlogix support with on-demand mounting
- No complex back-end infrastructure required for managing these environments
- Anywhere operations – Just standard internet ports are required
- Full hybrid support, manage and deliver Azure Virtual Desktop from any location to any device

About Application Workspace

Founded as Liquit in 2015, Application Workspace continues to be your trusted solution for seamless application management. With our rebrand under Recast Software, we still offer the same powerful tools you rely on – simplifying deployment, and providing access to over 7,000 applications. Visit us at www.recastsoftware.com for more information and to explore our latest solutions.



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