

# Integrating F5 Application Delivery Networking with VMware View

## Introduction

Organizations today are looking to deploy desktop virtualization to both local and remote end-users. These end-users not only reside on the Local Area Network (LAN) but there is an increasing demand for end-users across the Wide Area Network (WAN) to access desktops hosted in corporate datacenters.

As with other communication protocols, PCoIP display protocol performance depends on the VPN performance, available network bandwidth and network latency. Remote access can pose additional security and performance challenges to the IT organization. Fortunately F5 helps ensure that these users can be served securely and reliably over the WAN.

## VMware® View™

VMware View delivers a desktop solution enabling end-users to access virtual desktops running in the corporate datacenter from a variety of devices and locations. Using VMware View with the PC-over-IP (PCoIP) display protocol end-users benefit from a rich desktop experience on the LAN as well as across the WAN.

VMware is proud to work with partners like F5 who deliver solutions to enable secure access to remote end-users based on SSL-VPN security. The F5 BIG-IP Edge Gateway® helps end users benefit from the performance of PCoIP while providing an encrypted connection back to the datacenter where their desktop resides.

## F5 BIG-IP

Organizations consistently cite user experience, security, performance and cost-reduction as critical elements in the success of a virtual desktop project. With F5 solutions, you can maximize the success of your desktop virtualization project. F5 and VMware have tested and documented the benefits of using F5 BIG-IP® and VMware View® solutions together.

### Convenient Single Sign-On

Streamlining the authentication process into a single step and not requiring a manual logon with every network connection interruption greatly improves user experience. F5 BIG-IP® Edge Gateway™ advanced remote access solution caches sign-on credentials and enables authentication pass-through during the logon process. If the connection drops, BIG-IP Edge Gateway re-authenticates the user automatically, creating a seamless user experience, reducing the security risk, and lowering the volume of password-lockout calls made to the help desk.

### Secure Access

Corporations need secure access to protect sensitive and vital business information. BIG-IP Edge Gateway addresses this need with pre-logon checks to the endpoint device and supports a broad range of authentication mechanisms, including two-factor schemes and various back-end directory services. Furthermore, BIG-IP Edge Gateway can enforce Active Directory group policies on corporate-owned and non-corporate-owned assets during the duration of the connection. Once authenticated, BIG-IP Edge

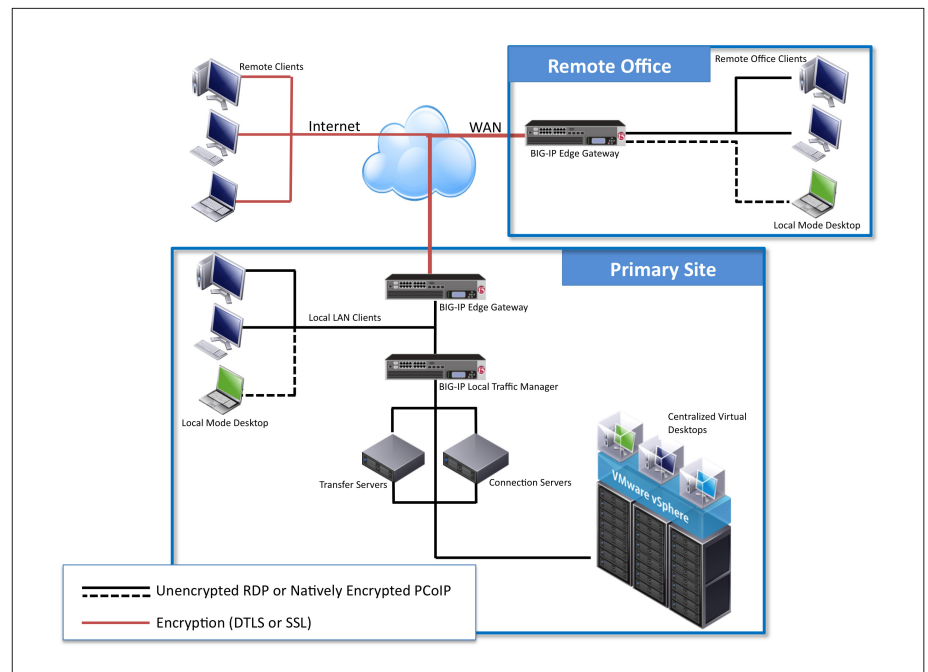
Gateway allows split tunneling, and guarantees the encryption of View transport protocols including PCoIP and RDP, whether natively encrypted or not. In the event that a network connection drops, it is important that users be re-connected back to the original host that was servicing their desktop for the fastest possible re-access. BIG-IP Edge Gateway enhances the VMware View source-IP based session persistence to support any network environment, including users behind proxies or Network Address Translation devices.

### High Performance PCoIP

VMware View 4.5 leverages the high-performance PCoIP display protocol. Most traditional SSL-VPN devices are unable to avoid degrading the performance of this unique protocol. BIG-IP Edge Gateway overcomes this with its Datagram Transport Layer Security (DTLS) feature. This feature provides all the benefits of secure access but without noticeable degradation of PCoIP performance. In addition Edge Gateway supports automatic fallback to TCP if a high performance UDP tunnel cannot be established.

### High Availability and Scalability

VMware View Manager manages connections between end-users and their virtual desktops running in the datacenter. The F5 BIG-IP® Local Traffic Manager™ (LTM) improves the scalability and availability of that service through load balancing, health monitoring, and SSL offload. That translates to a better user experience, lower server costs, and reduced operating expenses.



**Offerings**

- VMware View 2.x, 3.x, 4.0, 4.5
- BIG-IP Local Traffic Manager 10.1, 10.2
- BIG-IP Edge Gateway 10.1

**Summary**

With the ability to securely transport UDP based protocols such as PCoIP, the F5 Big-IP Edge Gateway delivers a solution for remote VMware View end-users to securely access virtual desktops residing in corporate datacenters. In addition the Big-IP LTM with load balancing and offload capabilities can help improve the availability and scalability of The VMware View Manager.

**Learn More**

- For more information please contact us at [info@f5.com](mailto:info@f5.com) or visit [www.f5.com/solutions/applications/vmware/view](http://www.f5.com/solutions/applications/vmware/view)
- For more information on VMware View see <http://www.vmware.com/products/view/>

