SOLUTION OVERVIEW

VMware Horizon on Microsoft Azure VMware Solution

KEY BENEFITS

• VMware SDDC running on Azure Bare metal infrastructure
• Quickly scale and provision virtual desktops and application workloads on Azure
• Feature rich platform based on Horizon and the VMware SDDC
• Leverage existing VMware investments, skills, and tools
• Instant Clones deliver desktops and applications automatically
• Take advantage of native vSphere features such as vMotion, Content Library, etc.
• Cloud-based image, application, and user environment management services simplify management across multi-cloud
• Access to native Azure services

What is Azure VMware Solution

Azure VMware Solution is a first-party Microsoft service that delivers the VMware Software-Defined Data Center (SDDC) stack as a managed service—sold, operated, and supported by Microsoft—running natively on bare-metal infrastructure in the Microsoft Azure Cloud. Azure VMware Solution is a VMware Cloud Verified platform that offers vSphere, vSAN, NSX-T, and more, while being seamlessly integrated into Microsoft Azure infrastructure and management tools. With Azure VMware Solution, you can modernize your infrastructure by seamlessly moving vSphere-based workloads directly to Microsoft Azure without application changes. Because Azure VMware Solution uses the same VMware SDDC components you use on-premises, you can leverage the same skills and tools you use every day to build an elastic, hybrid, and scalable platform for your existing or new vSphere applications.

VMware Horizon for Azure VMware Solution

This solution delivers a seamlessly integrated hybrid cloud for virtual desktops and applications. It combines the enterprise capabilities of the VMware SDDC, delivered on Azure VMware Solution, with the market-leading capabilities of VMware Horizon for a simple, secure, and scalable solution. You can easily address use cases such as on-demand capacity, disaster recovery, and cloud co-location without buying additional data center resources.

For customers who are already familiar with Horizon or have Horizon deployed on-premises, deploying Horizon on Azure VMware Solution lets you leverage a unified architecture and familiar tools. This means that you use the same expertise you know from VMware vSphere and Horizon for operational consistency and leverage the same rich feature set and flexibility you expect. By outsourcing the management of the vSphere platform to Microsoft, you can simplify management of Horizon deployments.
KEY USE CASES

Data center extension
Easily extend your on-premises desktop services without buying additional hardware by expanding capacity into Azure. Locate virtual desktops and published applications in different geographical locations to provide low-latency, high speed access closer to users and applications.

Burst capacity
Easily scale your environment quickly to provide desktop and application capacity to contractors and seasonal workers with flexible pricing options.

Disaster recovery
Leverage the elasticity of the cloud as a cost-effective way to ensure desktop continuity by protecting desktops and redirecting users to alternative desktops running on Azure VMware Solution in the event of a disaster or outage in your on-premises data center.

RESOURCES

Azure VMware Solution (vmware.com)
Azure VMware Solution (microsoft.com)
Horizon Universal Trial Subscription
Horizon Resources on VMware Tech Zone
Horizon Reference Architecture

In this management model, the SDDC is fully managed by Microsoft, but customers control and manage their own Horizon infrastructure as well as RDSH farms and desktop pools. This is a significant advantage for customers who are already running Horizon on-premises because the Horizon architecture is the same. You can even leverage the Cloud Pod Architecture feature, for federated management, to connect Horizon pods regardless of whether the pods are on-premises or on Azure VMware Solution. Customers looking to build a hybrid virtual desktop environment can easily extend and link their on-premises environment to a newly deployed Azure VMware Solution SDDC.

To take advantage of scalability and compute density for your workloads, the Horizon management components can be hosted directly in Azure, instead of the SDDC. By deploying components such as Horizon Connection Servers, UAGs, App Volumes Managers, Cloud Connectors, and more in Azure you’re able to provide more of the SDDC compute resources to your virtual desktops and application servers.

Additional Azure benefits
• Free extended security updates for Windows Server 2008
• Azure Hybrid Benefit for Windows and SQL Server
• Unified consumption and licensing with Azure Services
• Full support for Microsoft Office 365