



# Apps on Demand

## VMware App Volumes for published app environments

### At a glance

Modernize traditional published app deployments while reducing infrastructure costs and app management time.

Organizations of all sizes rely on apps to run their business. The number of apps an organization uses can range from a few dozen<sup>1</sup> to hundreds or even thousands of apps.<sup>2</sup> Many organizations use virtual desktop infrastructure, desktop as a service, or published app deployments to deliver apps to employees, including legacy apps.

Although traditional published app deployments with VMware Horizon®, Citrix and Microsoft have offered IT many benefits, such as centralized management and security, a lack of innovation and years of deploying apps the same way has added management complexity, inconsistency, and overhead for IT. Management complexities include time-consuming processes for updating, patching, and managing apps, operating systems, and images. And as the demand for apps increases so does the infrastructure cost for always-on servers and farms. In addition, modernizing legacy applications while adopting new ones can create more challenges, including app incompatibility and managing a mix of legacy and cloud-based apps.

### Reducing the challenges of managing published apps

The Apps on Demand feature from VMware App Volumes™ addresses the challenges and costs of maintaining published app environments. With Apps on Demand, an app is attached to a generic Remote Desktop Session Host (RDSH) server only when the user launches the app. Moreover, the user's apps are enabled just in their session. As users launch apps, the apps are loaded and served to the user in real time on the available RDSH host. A new host is only stood up when the last available host reaches an IT-defined threshold capacity. This on-demand "farm-less" model reduces the number of servers needed to support your users and apps and the associated infrastructure costs and management time.

Apps on Demand for published app environments helps IT to drive infrastructure efficiency, supporting 99 percent of app types, and simplifying app and image management. Infrastructure efficiency is gained by changing the always-on model for infrastructure to an on-demand model. Apps on Demand supports app types, such as EXE, MSI, ZIP, JAR, [appcapture.exe](#) or even no installer at all. With Apps on Demand, IT can separate the OS layer from the app layer to streamline management and updates while dynamically delivering apps to reduce the farm infrastructure.

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1. Industry Dive. "Enterprise app sprawl swells, with most apps outside of IT control." Roberto Torres, September 20, 2021.

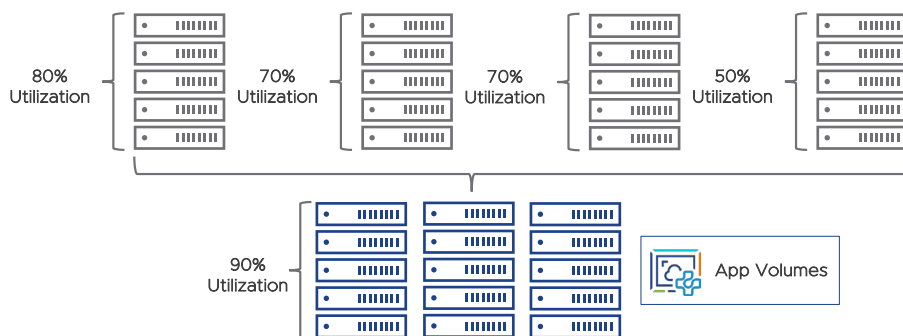
2. Okta, Inc. "Business at Work." 2022.

## The benefits of Apps on Demand

Apps on Demand for published app environments helps IT drive infrastructure efficiency and simplifies app and image management.

### Reduce published app infrastructure costs

To reduce ever-growing app infrastructure costs, Apps on Demand helps IT consolidate legacy app farms and servers while implementing an on-demand model—new app servers are deployed only when a user needs the app as compared to maintaining a costly always-on infrastructure model. Instead of spinning up new servers for every new app, IT can fully leverage the existing capacity before adding capacity.



**Figure 1:** Collapse multiple Citrix farms into one App Volumes powered farm, and reduce underutilized infrastructure with published Apps on Demand.

### Manage apps and images more efficiently

Traditional app management in published app environments is complex. For example:

- IT must manage copies of apps on each server.
- Updates to the host OS are limited to certain time frames.
- Changes to apps or the OS impact app performance and reliability.

At its core, the root of the complexity comes down to apps being tied to specific farms, creating snowflake server farm environments as the number of apps grows.

With Apps on Demand for published apps, IT can separate the OS and app layers, reducing the management effort. IT can also leverage user-based entitlements, resulting in time savings to manage app entitlements instead of the old way of server-based entitlement. With user-based entitlements, IT can follow users as they use different apps instead of managing entitlements individually on each app server.

## Modernize apps across clouds

To modernize published apps, it is critical to support the cloud-based apps as well as the legacy apps that have to stay in the data center. Managing these two sets of apps in different environments can double IT's management overhead.

Apps on Demand helps IT manage legacy apps and cloud-based apps with 99% app compatibility. IT can use additional virtualization formats, like VMware ThinApp® and MSIX app attach. In fact, App Volumes works with an existing MSIX app attach package, leveraging Microsoft's built-in virtualization alongside App Volumes formatted packages. With all these options, IT can virtually deliver all necessary apps to end users regardless of where they are hosted. If a cloud initiative gets delayed due to virtualized legacy apps in the data center, the problem is solved without re-coding.

Like with VMware Horizon and Citrix environments, Apps on Demand can help IT manage apps in Horizon Cloud on Microsoft Azure Virtual Desktop with Windows multi-session. Plus, App Volumes helps with app lifecycle management, including updates, patching and redeploying apps.

## Transform your app management strategy today!

Apps on Demand is included with App Volumes and supports Horizon, Citrix, and Microsoft published apps environments from one single platform. To take advantage of Apps on Demand, these Horizon subscriptions include App Volumes:

- Horizon Apps Universal Subscription
- Horizon Enterprise Plus Subscription
- Horizon Universal Subscription

View this [demo](#) to see Apps on Demand in action, or contact your VMware sales team for more details.