

MICROSOFT SKYPE FOR BUSINESS WITH VMWARE HORIZON

Get a superior user experience with a Microsoft and VMware optimized Skype for Business solution

Enterprises are increasingly turning to Microsoft Skype for Business as a unified communications platform, enabling their employees to boost productivity through online messaging, meetings, and audio and video calls—while lowering costs.

The VMware Horizon® Virtualization Pack for Skype for Business, developed in collaboration with Microsoft, allows you to deliver Skype for Business in a virtual desktop while also delivering a great user experience. It enables your mobile workforce to collaborate and stay productive, from anywhere.

The solution works by leveraging a media engine at the client to create an optimized solution, with the client endpoint providing media offload capabilities for audio and video calls. This results in a solution that can optimally deliver audio and video either directly between endpoints for one-on-one collaboration, or offload it to a central Multipoint Control Unit (MCU) for multiparty conference calls or meetings.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Deliver the rich audio and video experience of a physical desktop
- Eliminate security threats and data leakage at the endpoint
- Centralize management of the OS and application
- Reduce costs by decreasing the load on data center infrastructure

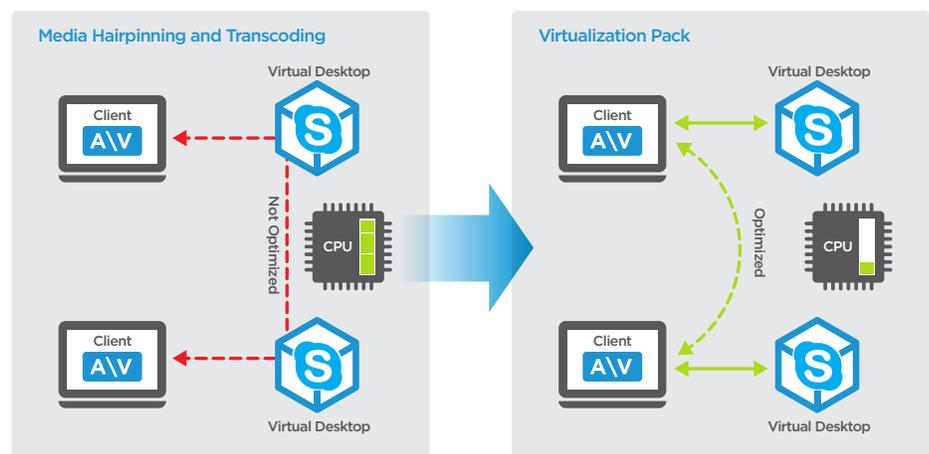


Figure 1: Make Optimized Audio and Video Calls within Horizon Desktops

The optimized solution delivers a better user experience and avoids increased data center infrastructure traffic, which can lead to chokepoints and performance issues. With this solution, users can communicate and collaborate using rich Skype for Business audio and video capabilities without compromise.

Collaborate Securely

Security is a top priority for every organization today, but insecure endpoints leave applications and data vulnerable. Delivering Skype centrally through a virtual desktop means that the Skype clients and Skype data, such as chats or exchanged files, are kept safe and secure in the data center. This completely eliminates a threat vector at the endpoint, dramatically simplifying security initiatives. Another benefit is that a lost or stolen device will not compromise any sensitive information.

Simplify Management

By centrally deploying Skype for Business with VMware Horizon, you can dramatically simplify management. VMware JMP (pronounced *jump*), which stands for Just-in-Time Management Platform, lets you dynamically provision desktops that include Skype for users that are entitled to it. You can manage both the OS and application image once, instead of on every single endpoint. User personalization and Smart Policies mean that users can get their own personalized Skype-enabled virtual desktop, while applicable policies such as disabling USB peripherals follow the user when outside a secure network.

Deliver a Great User Experience

The Skype for Business solution provides optimal delivery and processing of audio and video traffic. This means that users get a great user experience just as if they had their own physical desktop. With Blast Extreme Adaptive Transport that automatically adjusts to network conditions, users can continue to stay productive even on non-ideal networks that have low bandwidth or high latencies, such as in coffee shops or transcontinental distances.

Lower Costs

Unlike unoptimized solutions, the Virtualization Pack for Skype for Business offloads audio and video processing to the endpoints, and eliminates hairpinning at the data center. Eliminating the audio and video traffic through the data center decreases the load on data center infrastructure, and reduces costs by avoiding expensive data center upgrades.

Make the Move Today

Deploying Skype for Business in a virtualized environment offers many benefits that save you time, money, and resources while enabling collaboration and productivity for your users. VMware Horizon solutions offer the utmost flexibility by enabling you to deploy Skype for Business in the cloud, on-premises, or both. Take a look at VMware Horizon today to see how your organization can centralize Skype for Business deployments to deliver Skype anywhere, on any device.

For more information on deploying Skype for Business with VMware Horizon solutions, visit <http://www.vmware.com/products/horizon/skype-for-business.html>.

