

# Lakeside SysTrack Assessment for VDI - Part 1

## Summary

To make a successful move to Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI)/Desktop-as-a-Service (DaaS), assessment is key and necessary to plan your detailed rollout properly and also to determine for whom a VDI/DaaS is the right solution in the first place.

By using Horizon Air, VMware's DaaS offering, we have taken away the requirement of having deep understanding of the hardware, hypervisor, network and storage, as this is managed entirely by VMware, so you can concentrate on creating and managing the perfect desktop for the end user.

The customer responsibility focuses on the desktop management services above the waterline as seen in the graphic below.



However, to be able to create the perfect desktop you need to understand the user requirements in term of applications the user is consuming and provide a powerful enough desktop configuration so the user gets a better user experience than on his laptop or desktop he works right now. Otherwise there is no point for him to move to VDI.

## Agent Install Prerequisites

To get started with the assessment you require to install Lakeside agent which is already preconfigured for your particular environment to collect data.

Prerequisites are required to be installed before installing SysTrackCloudEdition.msi otherwise you get in trouble with a working service see below.

- Microsoft Visual C++ 2010 Service Pack 1 (x86) Redistributable
  - For 32-bit and 64-bit operating systems
  - File name: vcredist\_x86\_VC2010\_SP1.exe
- Microsoft Visual C++ 2010 Service Pack 1 (x64) Redistributable
  - For 64-bit operating systems only
  - File name: vcredist\_x64\_VC2010\_SP1.exe

Lakeside supports the below Client OS to run the SysTrack agent on.

## Supported Operating Systems

- Microsoft Windows XP Service Pack 3
- Windows Vista
- Windows 7
- Windows 8
- Windows 8.1
- Windows 10

## Data Points and user behaviour

A virtual desktop assessment provides you with the following information of your existing environment and user estate:

- Users and user groups used for application assignments
- Applications and application versions
  - Application latency
  - Application chattiness to their backend systems
    - Average data send to the backend systems
    - Retention connection to backend systems
- Used versus installed applications
- Operating systems
- Hardware specifications
- Resources including CPU, RAM, Disk and graphics (GPU)
- Storage IOPs
- Network bandwidth consumed per desktop

This information is essential to determine and select the user groups you want to move to VDI desktops and to calculate your business case so you can defend the cost savings you get by moving your desktops to the cloud.

VMware teamed up with Lakeside Software to provide an excellent assessment tool free for 90 days to get a real-world view of the activity taking place across your organization's desktop computing environment.

SysTrack provides accurate assessment information to plan and implement a successful virtual desktop platform, and delivers it in a packaged report format that provides easy-to-understand answers to the various stakeholders involved in the process.

This provides essential information in the early phases of virtualization projects, that help you to identify the best candidates based on real usage patterns and conditions.

In later phases of the project, it helps you to decide which desktop models you require for the different use cases and helps you create the correct desktop pools.

In project approval phases, you can combine Lakeside SysTrack Desktop Assessment report with the [VMware Horizon Use Case Calculator](#) to help predict costs and justify the case for virtual desktops.

# Environmental Summary

This report provides you with details to understand your target user groups for VDI and understand if users are highly mobile or stationed and which devices type they are using.

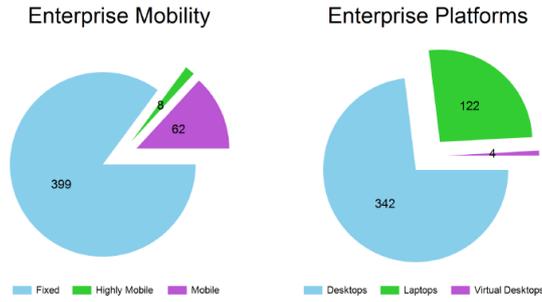


Figure 1 Enterprise Systems Summary

With detailed info on the platforms and the average age of your systems, you get a clear picture of which systems are good candidates for a refresh or migration to VDI.

| Manufacturer              | System Count | Average Age Years | Health |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------|
| Dell Inc.                 | 249          | 5.49              | 91.67  |
| Hewlett-Packard           | 202          | 4.54              | 95.08  |
| Dell Computer Corporation | 9            | 7.65              | 69.33  |
| VMware, Inc.              | 4            | 4.47              | 73.25  |
| TOSHIBA                   | 2            | 4.65              | 84.5   |
| Mustek6376Mst6376         | 1            | 3.82              | 61     |
| TBD                       | 1            | 4.87              | 81     |

Figure 2 Enterprise Age

It is also important to look at information like the concurrency level of your estate to calculate the right amount of VDI desktops you need at peak times. This is important to get your VDI desktop figures right and to maximize your ROI.

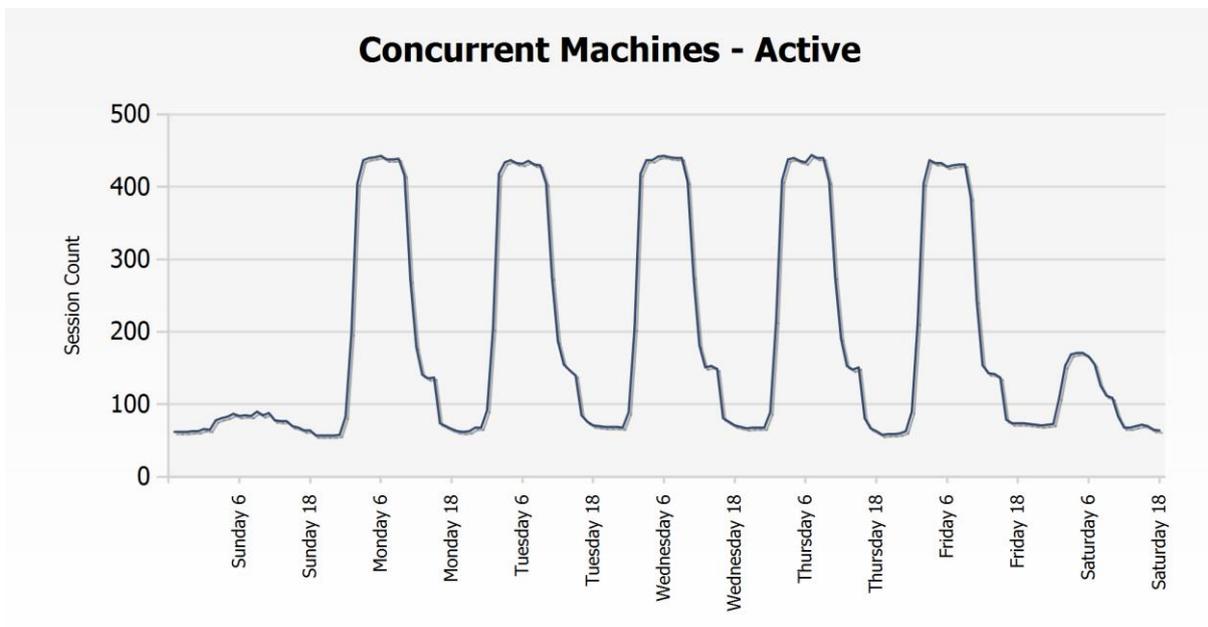


Figure 3 Concurrency Summary

## Environmental Compliance

To be able to understand the user behaviour and the compliance of your environment various reports are provided such as Patch Distribution, Cloud Storage Applications, and User File Size distribution.

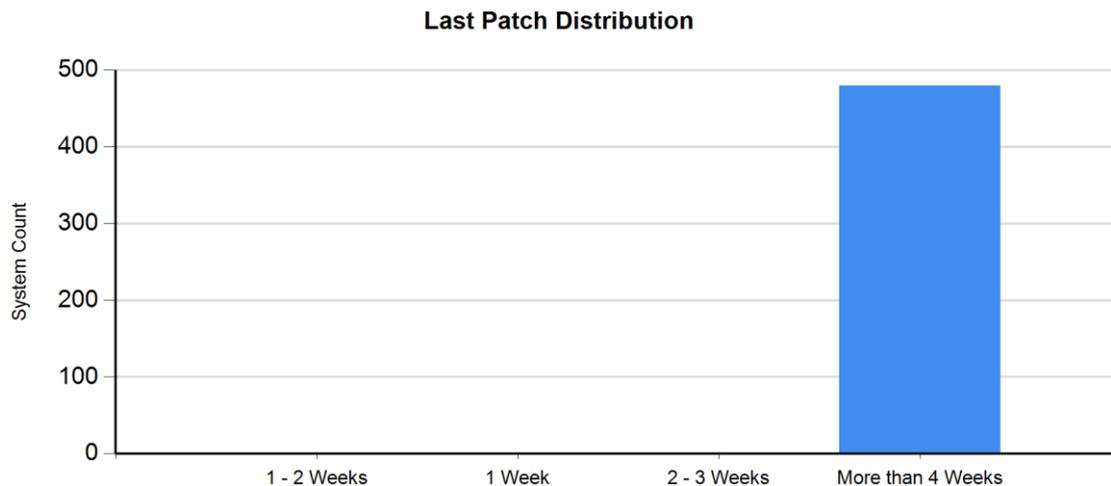


Figure 4 Last Patch Distribution

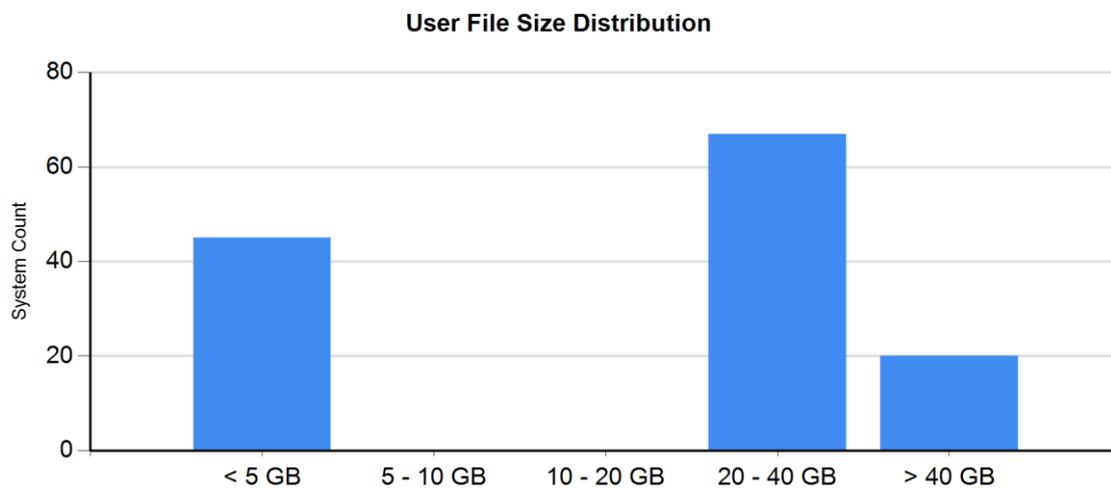


Figure 5 User File Size Distribution

### Cloud Storage Applications in Use

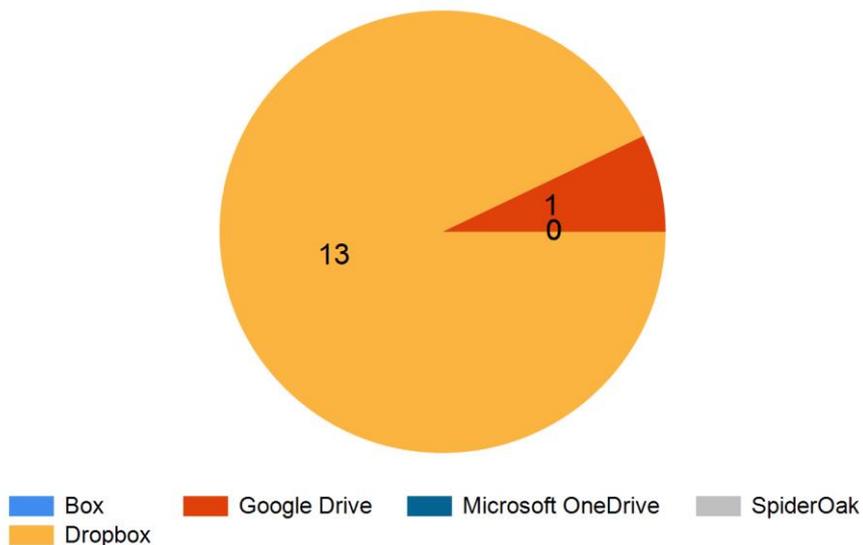


Figure 6 Cloud Storage Use

In addition to the above data sets you are provided with a list of the top

- 25 websites
- 25 applications
- 25 software packages
- Application port usage

used in your environment. These data points give you a greater understanding of your environment and user behaviour.

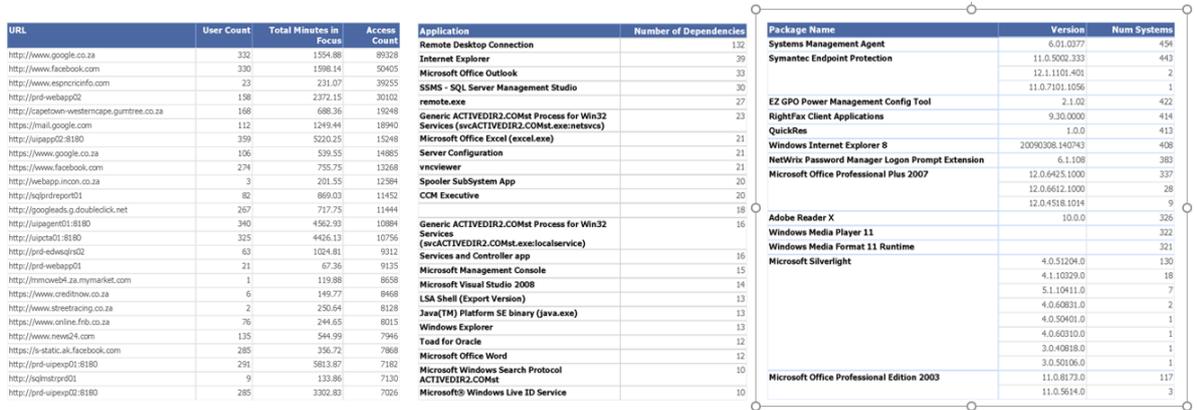


Figure 7 Top Website/Applications

## Solution Summary

The solution summary provides you with a generic overview of whether your users are more suitable for an on-premises VDI solution based on Horizon 7/Horizon Air Hybrid-mode or a cloud-based solution like Horizon Air. It also details how to manage your existing desktop systems or BYOD platforms with AirWatch, Mirage or Flex.

The first determination divides it into Horizon family versus physically managed devices, and then further distinguishes between mobile, BYOD and corporate assets to be managed.

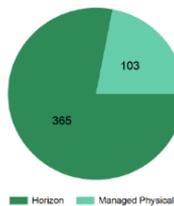
Within the Horizon family, it is then separated further between candidates for on premises versus cloud hosted.

This distinction is made on a high level with the below data points collected.

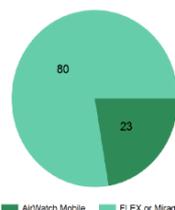
1. If a device is observed to have high mobility and times of limited connectivity (e.g. offline usage) or if they have extremely unique resource needs (very high) or some exotic requirements and it is advised to keep it as a managed physical system.
2. Any machine that doesn't fall into the first bucket is considered a possible fit for virtualization, either on premises or could hosted.
3. These are then broken into cloud-based Horizon Air or on-premises based Horizon 7 or Horizon Air Hybrid-mode depending on
  - a. Higher resource load
  - b. Large numbers of network dependencies (e.g. Application latency)

| Solution         | System Count | Type            | System Count | Solution                       | System Count |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Horizon          | 365          | AirWatch Mobile | 23           | Horizon and Horizon Air Hybrid | 325          |
| Managed Physical | 103          | FLEX or Mirage  | 80           | Horizon Air Cloud-hosted       | 40           |

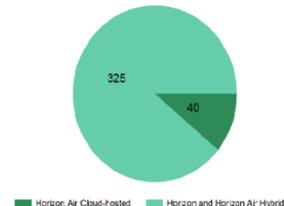
Horizon Solution Recommendations



Managed Physical Recommendations



Horizon Virtualization Recommendations



This helps to drive the decision on what should or shouldn't be virtualised, but that is not the final word on it, as you can drill down into more details on the data collected and that might lead to the point where you decide to move into a cloud deployment rather than on-premises deployment or vice versa.

In part 2 of this blog series, we'll cover more on the data points Lakeside provides through the various reports and dashboards in the SysTrack Assessment Tool.

### Conclusion Part 1

The free 90-day assessment VMware offers in cooperation with [Lakeside SysTrack](#) is a mandatory tool if you move to VDI and need details to make a decision on user selection, grouping, and applications instead of just putting a finger in the wind and taking a guess. It also puts you in position to assess security risks in your environment and clean up your Active Directory objects.

In addition, it also gives you tones of detail to understand the login process and the delays caused by applying large number of Group Policy's or DNS issue or latency issues in your infrastructure.

All in all, a great service if you ask me.

Watch out for Part 2 to get more details on the SysTrack Visualizer.