



Advanced automation and management for the virtual datacenter

XenServer is an open and powerful server virtualization solution that radically reduces datacenter costs by transforming static and complex datacenter environments into more dynamic, easy to manage delivery centers. Citrix Essentials adds advanced virtualization management and automation capabilities to both XenServer and Hyper-V environments, enabling customers to transform their datacenters into automated delivery centers.



Citrix XenServer and Citrix Essentials provide advanced virtualization management that makes both Hyper-V and XenServer environments more agile, scalable and manageable.

“Clients expect quick responses 24/7, but previously it could be a problem when attorneys were away from the office. After we implemented Citrix, people started noticing that they could get their applications and data anytime, any place. That was the return on investment that really impressed them.”

Neeraj Rajpal, CIO, Bryan Cave LLP

Server virtualization enables one physical server to support multiple workloads in simultaneously running virtual machines. The workload—consisting of an operating system, application set and configuration—is decoupled from the physical computing platform by means of a virtual machine. This achieves some important things, such as isolation (running multiple workloads safely and securely on a single computing platform) and workload portability (moving the workload across different physical computing platforms). It is even possible with more advanced server virtualization platforms to migrate actively running workloads across physical servers. This allows the workload to float across a pool of physical computing resources, enabling IT departments to maximize available computing resources, reduce costs and deliver applications to users reliably and effectively. With Citrix® XenServer™ and Citrix Essentials™, companies have the economics and features that enable them to progress to next generation IT delivery centers while simultaneously increasing the efficiency of existing resources and optimizing business agility and continuity.

Citrix XenServer

Citrix XenServer enables any organization, no matter the size or budget, to immediately benefit from server virtualization. Consolidating workloads from multiple instances of under-utilized hardware enables organizations to quickly realize savings in power, cooling and management, optimize the use of existing hardware, and deliver improved manageability and reliability.

Citrix Essentials for XenServer and Hyper-V

Citrix Essentials brings advanced management capabilities to Citrix XenServer and Microsoft® Hyper-V™ to create, integrate, manage and automate virtual datacenters at half the cost of other solutions. Organizations can easily extend the benefits of server virtualization platforms by adding Citrix Essentials automation capabilities to gain a rich set of features including automated high availability, workload balancing, lifecycle automation, dynamic provisioning and native integration with leading storage platforms.

Accelerate the delivery of server workloads

Citrix Essentials provides the tools necessary to update, test and deploy critical business production systems and internal lab-based environments in a repeatable systematic nature that optimizes change management processes and reduces operational risk. Dynamic provisioning makes server deployment as easy as a reboot and dramatically reduces image management and storage tasks.

Simplify management of the virtual infrastructure

Citrix Essentials adds powerful tools for managing virtual servers and virtual storage infrastructure, enabling organizations to create highly scalable, manageable and agile virtual infrastructures. Its simple, scalable, role-based management architecture allows IT administrators to group physical servers and storage resources into pools wherein they can easily provision, search, monitor, migrate and protect virtual machines across the enterprise. Its open architecture enables a virtual storage infrastructure that takes advantage of native storage services such as snapshots, thin provisioning and remote mirroring for flexible, yet simple storage management.

Key features

- **High availability**

Citrix Essentials provides fully automated system failover for virtual machine environments. Should a host fail, Citrix Essentials restarts virtual machines on available servers in the resource pool, using intelligent placement based on current resource utilization. Citrix Essentials high availability provides administrators with multiple protection levels, ensuring that the most critical workloads are restarted first, followed by lower-priority workloads as capacity allows.

- **Advanced storage management**

The StorageLink™ technology of Citrix Essentials delivers deep integration with leading storage platforms to reduce the cost and complexity of managing storage in virtualized environments by leveraging existing management features and processes. StorageLink provides one-click access to native storage devices for simplified management through configuration wizards that leverage existing array-based services and technologies directly from within the XenCenter™ Management Console.

- **Automated lab management**

Citrix Essentials automated lab management reduces the complexity, time and cost of managing non-production environments typically used in development, support and training organizations. Citrix Essentials for XenServer automated lab management lets IT accelerate the process of moving workloads through development and QA, ready for deployment into the live production environment.

- **Dynamic provisioning services**

Citrix Essentials provisioning services accelerate the roll-out of server workloads across your virtual environment—dramatically improving IT agility and simplifying ongoing IT administration by dynamically provisioning countless workloads from a single server image. With Citrix Essentials for XenServer, organizations can reduce both storage costs and the burden of patching, maintaining, testing and supporting hundreds of separate server images. It can provision workloads to both physical and virtual servers, and to XenServer and Hyper-V hypervisor environments.

- **Enhancing Microsoft Hyper-V**

Citrix Essentials for Microsoft Hyper-V provides a powerful set of advanced virtualization management capabilities that extend the enterprise management capabilities of Hyper-V and Microsoft System Center Virtual Machine Manager to help make virtualized environments more scalable, manageable and agile.

- **Stage management**

Citrix Essentials streamlines the process of building, testing, sharing and delivering applications on-demand into production environments for XenServer and Hyper-V customers. Administrators can create customizable workflows that define multi-machine configurations and move them through pre-production staging and integration testing processes, improving quality and minimizing the time to deploy critical updates or new business services.

“We have offset the costs of upgrading our PCs by £50,000, as the Citrix solution has enabled us to defer the cost of rolling out replacement hardware. The system has already delivered return on investment in value-added benefits such as secure remote access for fee earners, improved application management and performance, and provision of a highly flexible business continuity platform.”

Leo Cavendish, head of Group IT, Bedell Group

Feature	XenServer	Essentials for XenServer, Enterprise Edition	Essentials for XenServer, Platinum Edition	Essentials for Hyper-V Enterprise Edition	Essentials for Hyper-V Platinum Edition
Native 64-bit Xen hypervisor	•	•	•		
Windows and Linux guests	•	•	•		
Unlimited servers, VMs, and CPUs	•	•	•		
XenCenter management console	•	•	•		
Multi-server management	•	•	•		
XenMotion live migration	•	•	•		
Historical performance reporting		•	•		
E-mail alerting for performance and errors		•	•		
High availability		•	•		
Integrated storage management with StorageLink™		•	•	•	•
Workflow orchestration		•	•	•	•
Dynamic provisioning services (virtual only)		•	•	•	•
Dynamic provisioning services (physical and virtual)			•		
Automated lab management			•		•



Worldwide Headquarters

Citrix Systems, Inc.
 851 West Cypress Creek Road
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309, USA
 T +1 800 393 1888
 T +1 954 267 3000

www.citrix.com

Americas

Citrix Silicon Valley
 4988 Great American Parkway
 Santa Clara, CA 95054, USA
 T +1 408 790 8000

Europe

Citrix Systems International GmbH
 Rheinweg 9
 8200 Schaffhausen, Switzerland
 T +41 52 635 7700

Asia Pacific

Citrix Systems Hong Kong Ltd.
 Suite 3201, 32nd Floor
 One International Finance Centre
 1 Harbour View Street
 Central, Hong Kong
 T +852 2100 5000

Citrix Online Division

6500 Hollister Avenue
 Goleta, CA 93117, USA
 T +1 805 690 6400

About Citrix

Citrix Systems, Inc. (NASDAQ:CTXS) is the leading provider of virtualization, networking and software as a service technologies for more than 230,000 organizations worldwide. Its Citrix Delivery Center, Citrix Cloud Center (C3) and Citrix Online Services product families radically simplify computing for millions of users, delivering applications as an on-demand service to any user, in any location on any device. Citrix customers include the world's largest Internet companies, 99 percent of Fortune Global 500 enterprises, and hundreds of thousands of small businesses and prosumers worldwide. Citrix partners with over 10,000 companies worldwide in more than 100 countries. Founded in 1989, annual revenue in 2008 was \$1.6 billion.

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