



# Citrix HDX 3D Virtualization: Six Years of Remoting 3D Apps

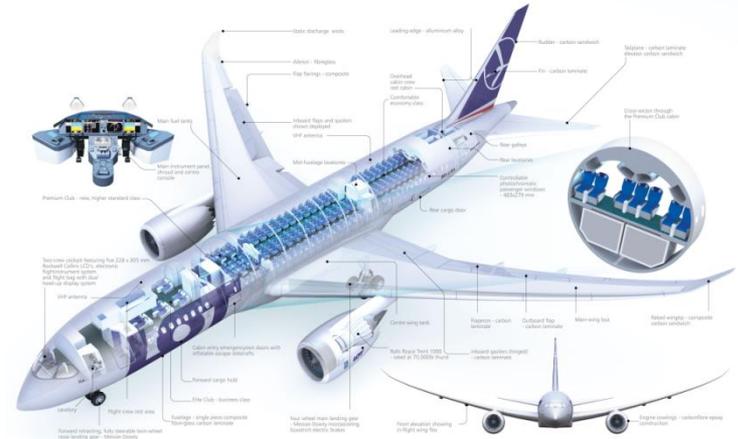
Derek Thorslund, Director of Product Management, HDX  
Mayunk Jain, Technical Marketing Manager

March 2015



# It started with Boeing...

- Back in 2006...
- Dreamliner design involved a global team
- Files transfers would have taken hours and put the company's IP at risk
- Project K2: ICA protocol enhancements and NVIDIA GPU acceleration of OpenGL in a private release just for Boeing



# A false start with “API Intercept”

- Project Pictor
- API capture driver approach
- What we learned
- Why we leap-frogged over Pictor to XenDesktop HDX 3D Pro (introduced in 2009)



# 2010: Early success stories

**BOMBARDIER**  
the evolution of mobility



**Vestas**®

Power and productivity  
for a better world™

**ABB**



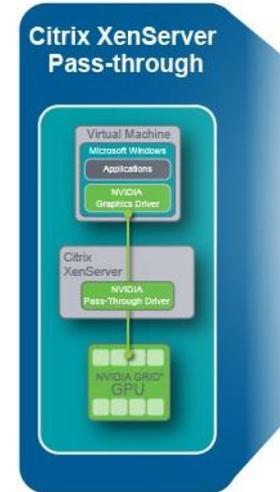
**VOLVO**

- Great traction at the high end of the market!
- But... **cost was a barrier** to many organizations
- The market needed a more scalable solution...

# 2011: Multiple GPUs per host



- XenServer 6.0 introduced direct GPU Passthrough 😊
- Huge increase in user density  
→ lower cost per user
- Now a single host could support [typically] 4 concurrent HDX 3D Pro users

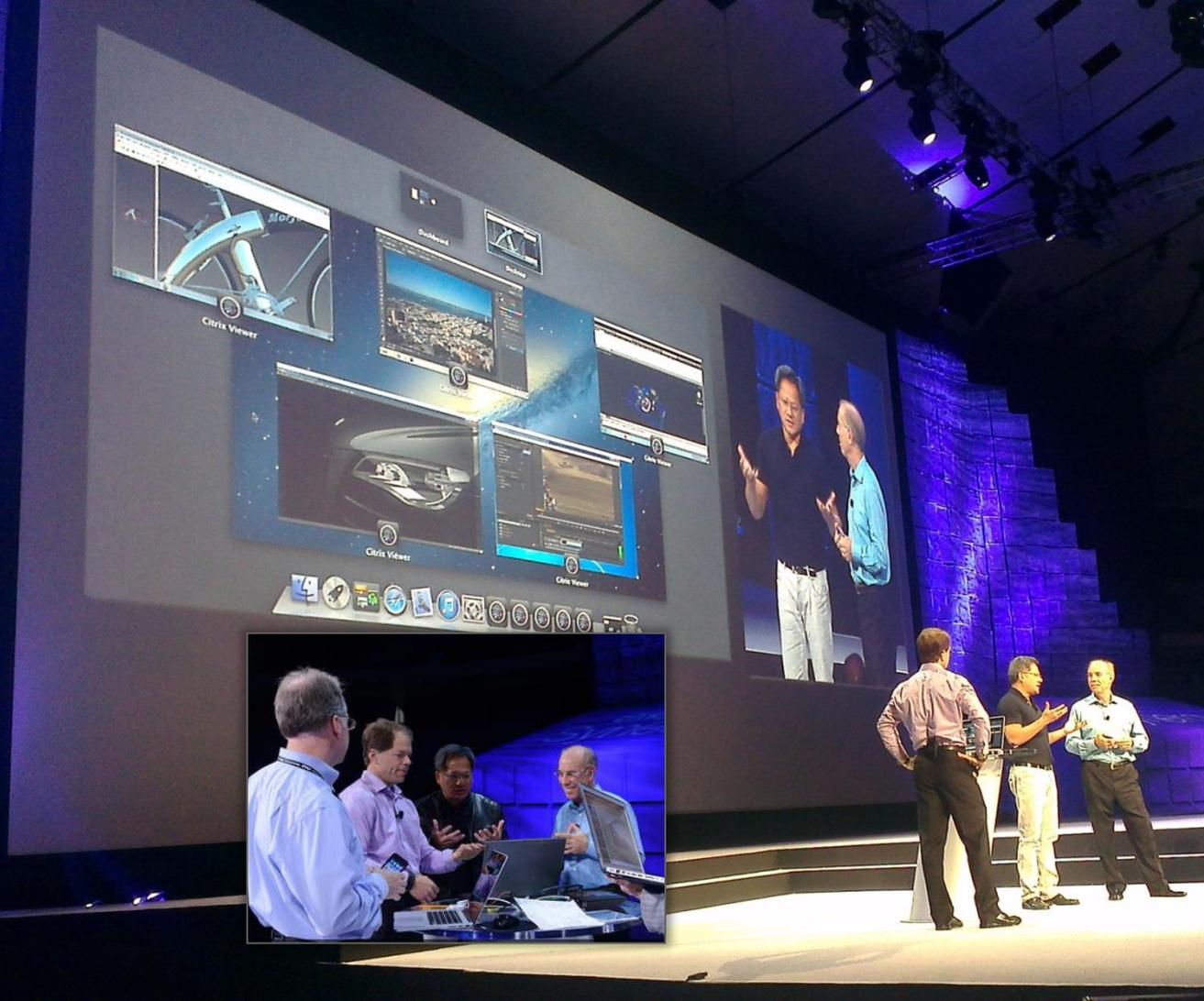


# 2012: Performance! Performance! Performance!

- XenDesktop 5.6 Feature Pack 1
- Citrix was first vendor to support NVIDIA's **“Monterey VGX” API (now “GRID”)**
  - Direct frame buffer access
  - Higher frame rate
- **H.264-based Adaptive Deep Compression**
  - Great bandwidth efficiency
  - Automatic adjustment of frame rate and image quality based on the network connection



GTC 2012 Keynote



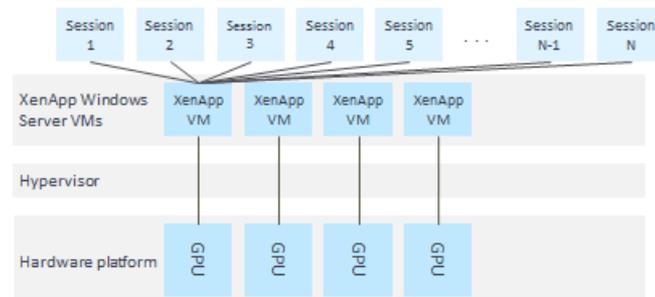
## Citrix Synergy 2013

Jensen Huang, NVIDIA Co-Founder and CEO, was featured in Mark Templeton's Citrix Synergy Keynote

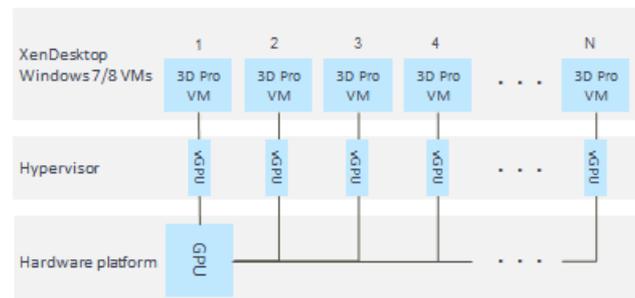
# 2013: High Performance GPU Sharing / “vGPU”

- For cost-effective Windows Server RDS “XenApp” workloads
  - No API Intercept
  - High performance; latest DirectX/OpenGL versions
- For highly-customizable Windows desktop OS “XenDesktop VDI” workloads
  - XenServer first to deliver NVIDIA GRID vGPU

## GPU Sharing with RDS workloads

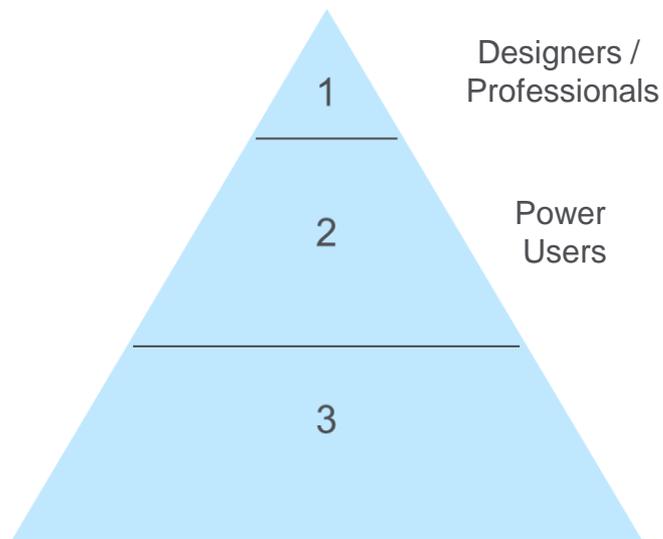


## GPU Virtualization for VDI workloads



# 2013: High Performance GPU Sharing / “vGPU”

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  - No API Intercept
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- For highly-customizable Windows desktop OS “XenDesktop VDI” workloads
  - XenServer first to deliver NVIDIA GRID vGPU
- GPU-accelerated 3D remoting now became available to a **huge second tier of end users**



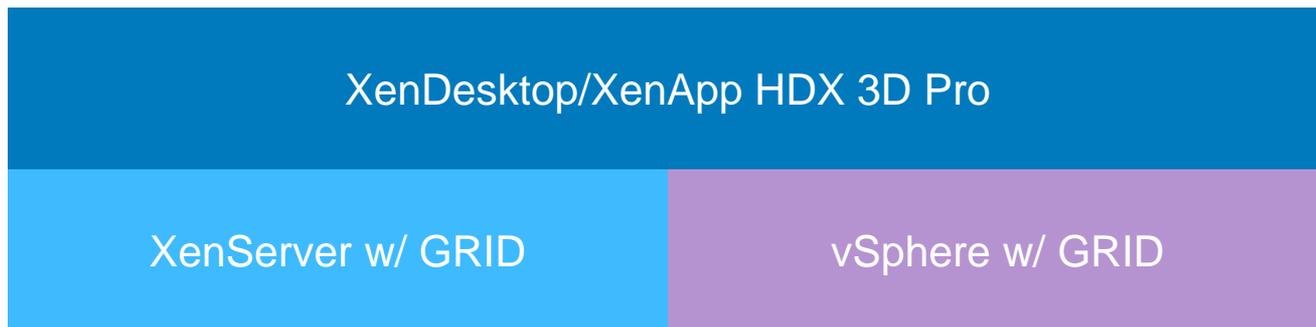
# 2014: Polishing the diamond



- **Reference architectures** from Cisco, Dell, HP, IBM
- ISV “Citrix Ready” **certification** program and white papers
- **PVS** (in addition to MCS) for vGPU provisioning
- Architectural updates to automatically pick up **new GPUs and vGPU profiles**
  - K280Q allowing a full GPU to be managed as a vGPU
- vGPU for XenApp, for specialized use cases
- **Generic USB Redirection** on XenApp, including USB 3.0 device compatibility
  - 3D mouse support on XenApp (previously just on XenDesktop)

# 2015: Citrix expands vGPU support to vSphere

- This week, Citrix announces **Day 1 support of hypervisor-agnostic XenDesktop on vSphere 6 with NVIDIA GRID vGPU**
  - VMware has switched from vSGA (API Intercept) to GRID vGPU
  - No further Citrix investment in VMware's vSGA technology



# XenDesktop and XenApp have always been hypervisor-agnostic

- Nearly 50% of Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp customers run it on VMware vSphere in large-scale production
- With expanded GRID™ vGPU hypervisor support, HDX 3D Pro customers can choose either vSphere 6 or XenServer

<http://blogs.citrix.com/2015/03/17/citrix-expands-vgpu-hypervisor-support/>



# Success stories...

This is not bleeding edge, this is prime time

# Graphics Virtualization Stack

Experience

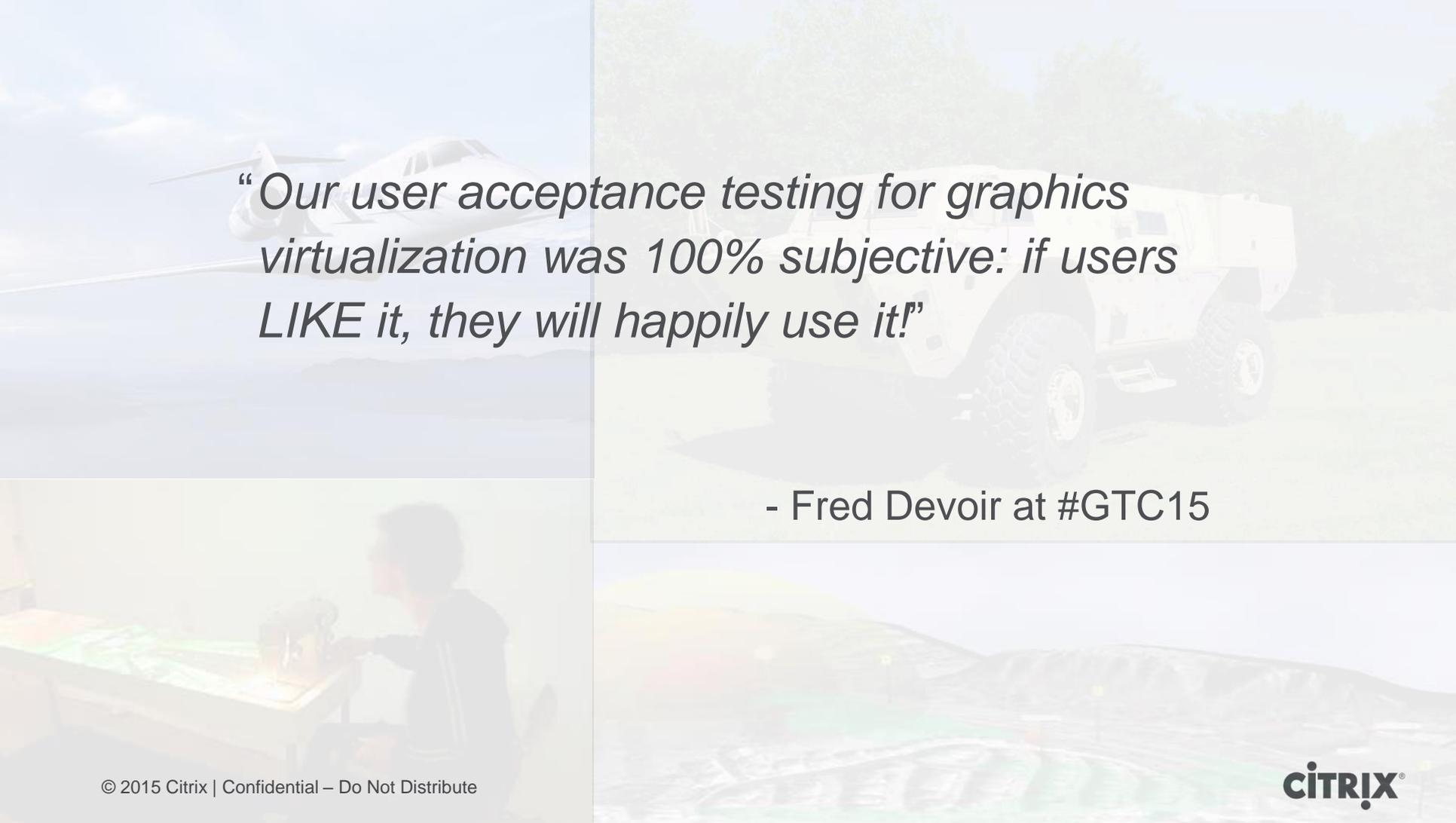
Users, User Interface,  
Peripherals, Location

Delivery

Platform, Protocols,  
Security

Compute

Server, Graphics Card,  
Hypervisor



*“Our user acceptance testing for graphics virtualization was 100% subjective: if users LIKE it, they will happily use it!”*

- Fred Devoir at #GTC15

# Graphics Virtualization: Success Checklist

1. Full app compatibility for **direct hardware GPU** acceleration
2. Responsive **user experience** from any device, with any peripheral, on real world network connections
3. Tools to monitor system status and **resolve issues quickly**, accurately



# No compromise GPU acceleration

CRITERIA #1

# #1: No compromise GPU acceleration

- Compute on any platform
  - Full Compatibility
  - Large-scale Deployments
- Bare Metal
  - vSphere
  - XenServer
  - CloudPlatform
  - Hyper-V (RemoteFX)

# #1: No compromise GPU acceleration

- Compute on any platform
  - Full Compatibility
  - Large-scale Deployments
- Largest HCL of Servers
  - Most Certified ISV Apps

# #1: No compromise GPU acceleration

- Compute on any platform
  - Full Compatibility
  - Large-scale Deployments
- 10's of Thousands of Users
  - 10's of Case Studies
  - Up to 300ms deployments
  - Over 6 years of operational experience

# Workstation-quality user experience

## CRITERIA #2

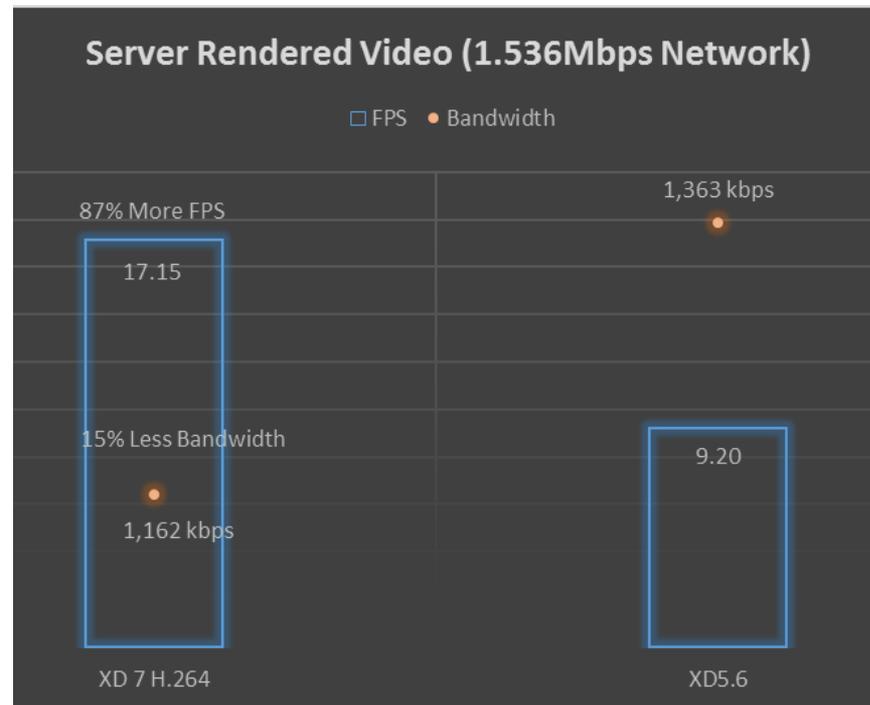
## #2: User Experience and Security

- Full Peripheral Support
  - Wacom drawing pads
  - 3D mouse support
  - Printers
  - Cameras
  - Thin Clients
  - Windows, Mac, Linux
  - iOS and Android
- Bandwidth Optimization
- Integrated Security
- Adaptive Protocol

## #2: User Experience and Security

- Full Peripheral Support
- Bandwidth Optimization
- Integrated Security
- Adaptive Protocol

<http://blogs.citrix.com/2013/11/06/go-supersonic-with-xendesktop-7-x-bandwidth-supercodecs/>



## #2: User Experience and Security

- Full Peripheral Support
  - Bandwidth Optimization
  - **Integrated Security**
  - Adaptive Protocol
- Block or allow USB storage
  - Client Drive Mapping
  - End Point Scan
  - Location Based Access
  - IP stays in Datacenter

## #2: User Experience and Security

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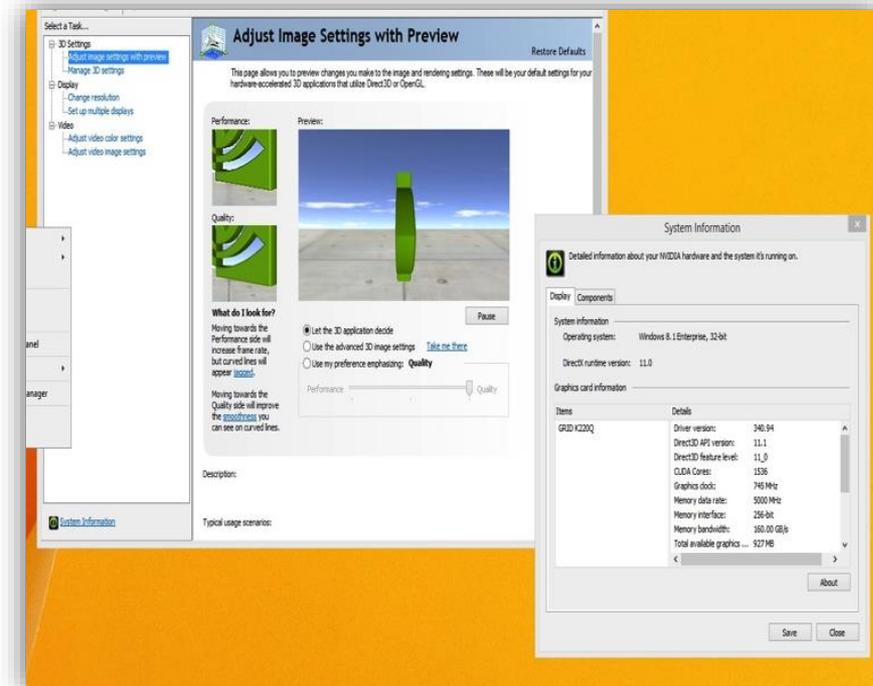
<http://blogs.citrix.com/2014/10/22/whats-new-with-hdx-display-in-xendesktop-xenapp-7-x/>

# Minimum downtime and disruption

## CRITERIA #3

# #3: User Management at Scale

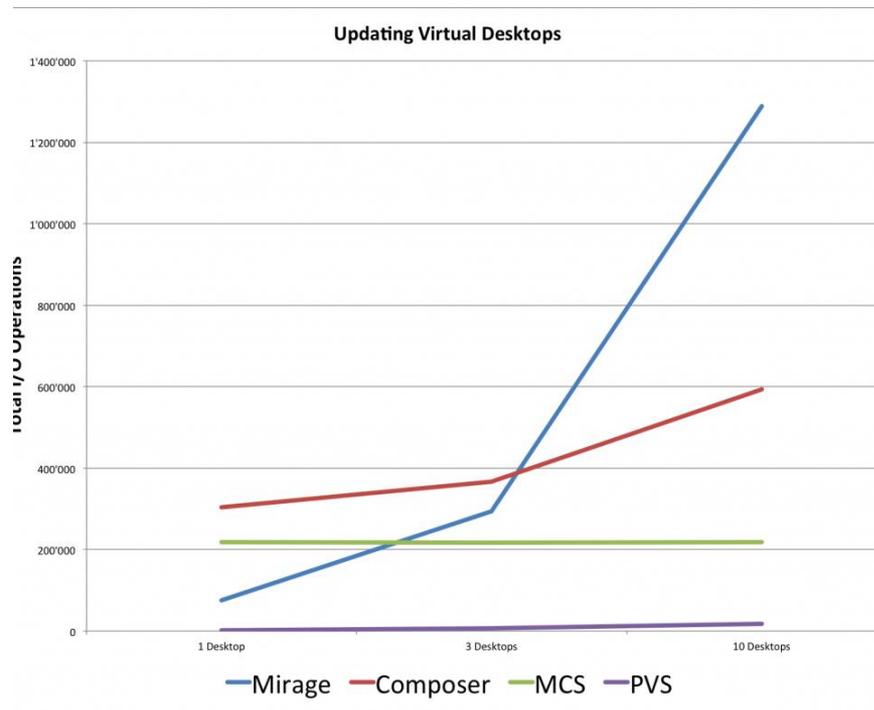
- Up-to-date drivers
- Quick roll-out and roll-back
- Purpose-built Helpdesk UI



# #3: User Management at Scale

- Up-to-date drivers
- Quick roll-out and roll-back
- Purpose-built Helpdesk UI

<http://www.citrix.com/tv/videos/11178>



# #3: User Management at Scale

- Up-to-date drivers
- Quick roll-out and roll-back
- Purpose-built Helpdesk UI

The screenshot displays the Citrix Director EdgeSight interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Director EdgeSight' and 'UK - Dashboard 0000'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Personalization:** Includes 'Reset Profile' and 'Reset Personal vDisk' buttons, and a 'Download System Report' button.
- Profile Information:**

Profile	Citrix Roaming Profile
Version	5.2.0.5020
Profile size	105 MB (609 files, 685 folders)
Profile data	Online
Profile data path	\\ch-dfs-rendering01p.any.citrix...
Usage	207 GB of 409.6 GB
Redirected folder	Online
Redirected folder path	\\anyd01p01-rendering01p...
Contents	Documents, Contacts
Usage	0 GB of 8.2 GB
Personal vDisk	Not applicable
- Search for User:** A search box with 'User' selected and 'HDX' entered. A dropdown menu shows a list of users, with 'David Ailder (3P) (CITRIX\daiald)' highlighted.
- System Status:** A list of components with status indicators:
  - Smart Cards: No icon, status unknown.
  - Audio: Warning icon, status unknown.
  - Graphics - Thinwire: Warning icon, status unknown.
  - Mapped Client Drive: Warning icon, status unknown.
  - Windows Media: Warning icon, status unknown.
  - Adobe® Flash®: Green checkmark, status OK.
  - Graphics - Thinwire Advanced: Green checkmark, status OK.
  - Network: Green checkmark, status OK.
  - Printing: Green checkmark, status OK.

<http://blogs.citrix.com/2014/05/20/compare-citrix-xendesktop-vs-vmware-horizon-view-end-user-monitoring-and-support/>

# Success story after success story...

Local-like Experience

HDX 3D Pro Delivery

GRID vGPU Compute

Successful deployments  
paid attention to the  
User Experience Checklist –  
not just the infrastructure blocks

# Automotive

PSA PEUGEOT CITROËN 

- GTC S5625, Alain Gonzalez
- **1,250 users online everyday** with 3D virtual machines on XenApp/XenDesktop, including PSA employees, partners and subcontractors (across 9 countries)
- 6 GPUs per HP blade; 48 users per chassis
- AutoCAD, NVH, Crash, 3DCom, CATIA, ANSA, V.Lab, Metpost
- Security, mobility, cost savings (60% cheaper), access from any device
- **User acceptance was key**; users especially love that they can disconnect and then reconnect from another device





# Textron / Bell Helicopter

GTC S5482 & S5485

## The Customer

Bell Helicopter, a division of Textron, is a rotorcraft manufacturer headquartered in Texas. Bell manufactures military helicopter and tilt-rotor products in Texas and commercial rotorcraft products in Quebec, Canada.



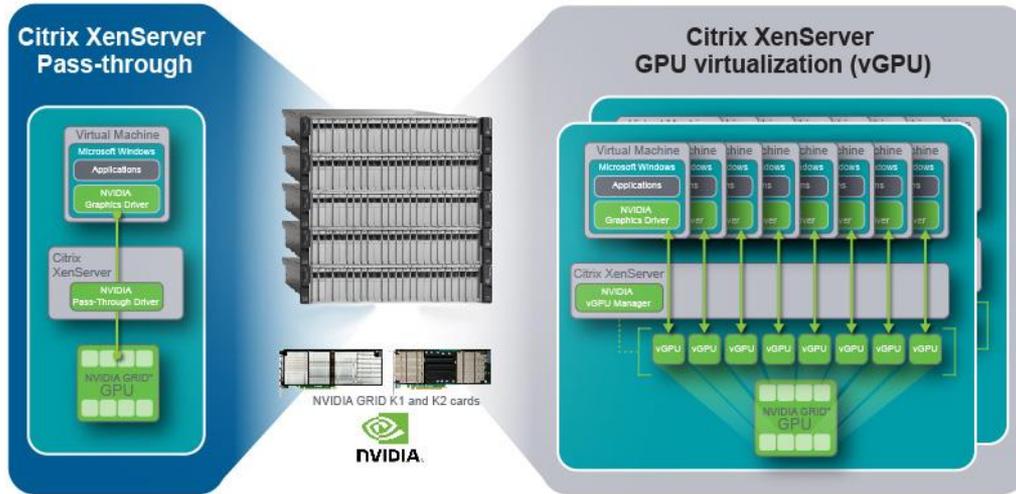
## The Challenge

- Ever design a helo? Massive 3D models
- Multiple locations
- Load times increased with distance from LAN
- Employees chained to Beige Boxes
- Intellectual Property on local laptops? Yikes!

# Textron / Bell Helicopter



## Solution



## Impact

- Pooled Virtual Desktops based on job roles
- Model load times 30-50% faster
- Like-for-like hosted to physical model
- All compute resides in Fort Worth
- All Intellectual Property remains in Fort Worth – “The Vault”
- Employees enabled:
  - Flexibility
  - Enhanced User Experience
  - Security

# Tata Technologies



- GTC S5593, V. Balaji (CIO)
- Engineering services outsourcing
  - 7,500 engineers in 25 countries
- Ramping up a Design Center used to take 2-3 months
- Now using Citrix XenDesktop HDX 3D Pro, XenServer and NVIDIA GRID cards
- PTC Pro/E, Dassault CATIA, Siemens Teamcenter NX, Windchill, HyperMesh
- Benefits:
  - Quick, easy provisioning and agility for growth
  - Anywhere access
  - Data security
  - “Green” savings (energy): 55%
  - Management savings due to centralization: 90%



# Global Architecture



## The Customer

Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates (KPF) is one of the world's pre-eminent architecture firms, with 6 global office hubs and projects in more than 35 countries

## Challenge

- To virtualize Autodesk Building Design Suite 2013, Adobe Creative Suite 5.5, Rhino, MS Office
- KPF wanted to offer **mobile workers** the same performance as a workstation in the office



# KPF



## The Solution

- Citrix XenApp & XenDesktop
- Cisco UCS and HP servers
- NVIDIA GRID K1 and K2 cards
- 20 CAD users per HP DL380p
- Citrix NetScaler for secure access by 3rd parties and remote staff

## The Results

- *“Within a short period of time users were logging on remotely on their iPad’s and using Revit, and one user even connected when on a plane flying from New York to London.”*



*“We were impressed with the performance of all the applications, in particular when accessing from home... It doesn’t matter what type of device our architects are using. Using any hardware from anywhere.”*  
--- Ryan Gyselinck, KPF IT manager

# Where do we go from here?

Derek's predictions for 3D graphics remoting

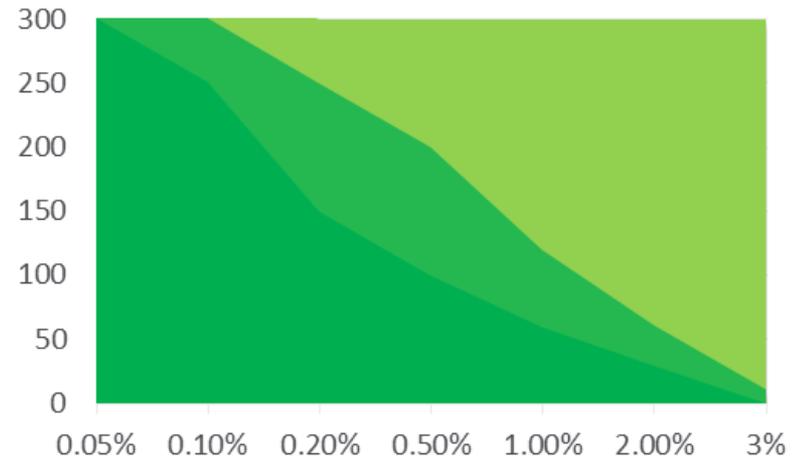
# 3D apps from Cloud Service Providers

- DaaS / RAaaS growth
- Lots of benefits to keeping data centralized
- Subscription model
- Seasonal/bursty demand
- Quick onboarding
- Software trials / beta testing
- CSP handles software patches/updates
- New vendor partnerships will emerge



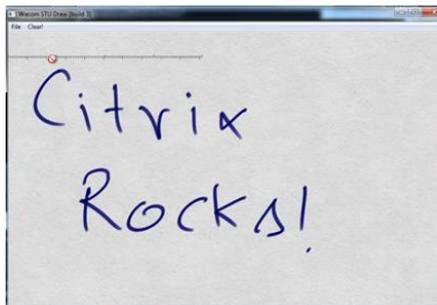
# “Framehawk” for nasty wireless connections

- Framehawk HDX technologies (now in limited Tech Preview) address the [mobile worker user experience](#)
- New ICA virtual channel based on “[Human UX protocol](#)” techniques
  - Image/pattern recognition
  - Instantly interruptible graphics layer
  - Intent engine
  - QoS signals amplifier
  - Time-based heat map



# Ever-improving WAN performance

- New codec technologies (e.g. H.265)
- Continued Framehawk innovations
- WAN optimization techniques for drawing tablets (e.g. Wacom)
- Enhanced interop between XenApp/XenDesktop and CloudBridge



# GPU acceleration for the masses

- No longer limited to 3D graphics professionals
- Moore's Law will improve scalability and drive down costs
- NVIDIA will see more competition from Intel and AMD



# Tablets for content creation? How?

- Connect your tablet to a [monitor](#), [keyboard](#)
- And soon, even a [mouse](#) for the iPad

## Citrix “X1 Mouse”



# Remoting of Linux apps

- IDC reports 26M paid Linux commercial client licenses
- Citrix Tech Preview of Linux VDI (initially 2D)
  - Link to sign-up: [now.citrix.com/LinuxPreview](http://now.citrix.com/LinuxPreview)
- Significant opportunity for 3D apps and HPC
- Full integration with XenApp/XenDesktop
- Use cases
  - Extend XenApp/XenDesktop to Linux app users
  - Linux ISV's and developers
  - Transition from Unix (already supported by Citrix) to Linux



**This is not bleeding edge,  
this is prime time!**

**CITRIX<sup>®</sup>**

**Work better. Live better.**