



REMOTE ACCESS AND BUSINESS CONTINUITY

Enable Remote Productivity Using Virtualization

With an ever-growing list of risks to businesses, the need for business continuity planning is more critical than ever. Today's disruptions can be both human-made (e.g., labor actions and cyber threats) and natural (e.g., public health emergencies and earthquakes), so you need to prepare your business for the unexpected.

The Need for Business Continuity

Without a plan, the consequences can be devastating. The US Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) estimates that 40 – 60% of small businesses never recover following a significant disruption to their businesses. For others, it could result in long-term damage that takes years to recover (if ever).

The CIO leadership team is in a unique position to navigate their organization through a continuity crisis. They can leverage modern best practices and technologies to not only provide business stability during a crisis, but also transform the way employees work and adapt to future disruptions. As a starting point, a comprehensive plan must include a strategy to enable every employee to work remotely in the event of an emergency.

- Telecommuting has grown by 115% over the last decade ¹. -

The Changing Workforce

The trend towards supporting remote workers is quickly becoming standard beyond continuity planning. Thanks to advancements in technology, the number of workers who work from home has grown by 140% since 2005, one of the fastest-growing segments of employment ².

By 2028, an estimated 73% of companies will support some form of remote worker, with the remainder employing fully-remote staff exclusively ³. It also has a spin-off benefit in terms of employee retention. Businesses who support work-from-home have been shown to experience 25% less staff turnover ⁴ and are viewed favorably by younger people entering the workforce.

Enabling staff to work from home is not only a Human Resources benefit, but it also reduces the risks associated with a centralized workforce. In its place, is a distributed model that protects business operations by providing employees with connectivity and resources they need to stay productive from almost anywhere.



Planning for Technology and People

Implementing remote work requires CIOs to consider both technical as well as human behavioral barriers to change. Communicating with employees to promote the adoption of new ways of working is as essential as refining existing procedures and selecting the right remote access technologies ⁵.

Any new solution has to be minimally disruptive if employees are to willingly transition over to a new way of working. Lowering barriers to change can be addressed by delivering tools that offer a familiar experience and involve a minimal learning curve. Other considerations include:

Ensuring that employees have access to their files and other necessary resources, including sensitive corporate data, if it's central to their daily workflow.

IT support staff must be able to manage people and equipment remotely.

Anticipating the possibility that employees may have to use non-corporate PCs, including personal devices. This opens up a list of potential issues like security, access to business applications and performance. Also, the most common method for remote connectivity involves a VPN solution. Personal devices will more than likely require configuration of VPN software, something that can be beyond the capabilities of some employees.

Taking a comprehensive view of security compliance risks. The use of non-corporate provisioned devices and VPNs can introduce new security risks. There is an increased risk of data leakage and loss due to cyber threats or device theft. Gartner estimates that one laptop is stolen, on average, every 53 seconds. Other studies show that lost and stolen devices are the primary causes for 40% of data breaches over 10 years. Moreover, a majority of theft takes place outside of the office, including theft from vehicles (e.g., cars and trains), hotels, restaurants and other public places ⁷. In the absence of preventative measures, like remote device wiping, storing information locally on a device opens up a new vulnerability that must be addressed.

Remote Productivity Through Virtualization

Inuvika OVD Enterprise offers a solution for enabling employees to work securely from home or anywhere else. It centralizes corporate data and applications within your cloud data center and delivers them to employees in a familiar Windows or Linux virtual workspace.

From an employee perspective, they connect to a workspace and experience the same desktop, applications and data files regardless of which device they use, or where they are located. It's a device-independent experience, meaning that you no longer have to rely on a single device to get your work done. You can work on a desktop in the office, disconnect, leave and reconnect from home on your personal laptop, tablet, phone, or any browser-enabled device without having to configure anything ahead of time.



Protect Your Corporate Data

OVD addresses critical data security issues like data leakage and theft. No information is ever stored on the end user's device while they are logged into an OVD session. All applications, data and processing of data remain securely "air-locked" within the data center and they never leave.

At the same time, all of the user's data is instantly accessible from other devices without the need for transferring files between devices or on a portable storage device. The only data ever transmitted to the user device are encrypted key clicks and screen data.

IT departments can also assign user permissions that limit access to data and restricts what users may do with it (e.g., copy to clipboard, save locally, or print). Should a device ever be stolen, no data is lost or compromised.

A Great User Experience on Any Device

Modern devices are no longer exclusively Windows-based. IT departments face a growing demand to support non-Windows devices, while also dealing with the fact that most existing business-critical applications still run on Windows alone.

Inuvika overcomes this barrier by providing an experience that feels like a natural extension of a user's local desktop environment, but on any device and OS. You can even use local and network printers for an authentic in-office productivity experience on your device of choice. Also, sessions and apps launch quickly, so you won't have to deal with lengthy start times to get down to work.

OVD delivers both Windows and Linux applications on devices like Macs, thin clients, tablets, phones and even Chromebooks. For added flexibility, you can also access your virtual workspace environment on any HTML5 Web browser.

Users also have a choice in how they use their apps:

- ▶ Within a traditional Windows or Linux desktop;
- ▶ Within an intuitive Web-portal, complete with a friendly file management interface; or
- ▶ As individual applications delivered and seamlessly integrated into the user's own local Windows, Linux, or macOS device desktop.

Best of all, users don't have to perform complex set-up tasks or undergo lengthy training before getting started. All you need are your company-assigned credentials, and you're ready to log in using a Web browser or Inuvika's Desktop or Mobile client.



Deploys Quickly and Easy to Manage

Inuvika makes deployment and management of OVD fast and easy. OVD integrates with today's IT standards and deploys in minutes, not days, on private or public clouds. It is also available as a service through a network of regional managed service providers.

IT administrators manage every aspect of OVD – tenants, users, servers, and applications – from a single Web-based console. Apps can be instantly published to users remotely, eliminating the need for manual helpdesk intervention and costly support resources. With a host of integrated features, including multi-tenancy, a secure remote access gateway, reporting, and user profile management, Inuvika lets you quickly deliver services that support remote productivity. And, it doesn't require troublesome VPNs.

Conclusion

Enabling employees to work remotely is an integral part of your business continuity plan. OVD Enterprise delivers a virtualized remote workspace that lets your employees reconnect to essential corporate resources and re-establish business productivity from anywhere.

OVD isolates corporate application and data within your private or public cloud datacenter, ensuring that no information is ever transmitted to end-user devices. At the same time, by centralizing your data and applications, users can easily connect to a familiar virtual workspace on any device without creating new security risks for the organization.

OVD Enterprise is available as both a self-hosted solution or as a service through Inuvika's global network of resellers and Hosted Services Partners.

Additional Resources Available on Inuvika.com:

- ▶ [OVD Enterprise datasheet](#)
- ▶ [OVD Tech Specs datasheet](#)
- ▶ [OVD User Experience datasheet](#)

More Information

For more information, or to contact us, visit <https://www.inuvika.com/ovd>

References

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About Inuvika

Inuvika is a Canadian company with headquarters in Toronto, Ontario, and a development office in Caen, France. Our solution, OVD Enterprise, enables organizations to deliver virtualized Linux and Windows applications and desktops to any device, without the cost and complexity of VDI or other solutions.

OVD delivers apps through private or public clouds, is fast and easy to deploy, and can be managed from a single Web console. Our global partner network of Resellers and Hosted Service Partners deliver OVD Enterprise on-premise or as a service to customers in 34 countries and growing.

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