



Leveraging the Hybrid Cloud to Unlock Key Use Cases with VMware Horizon

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The Rise of Cloud Services

It is no surprise. The growth of cloud usage and public cloud services is on the rise due to the need for organizations to easily scale infrastructure and meet their changing business demands. According to Gartner, “Worldwide end-user spending on public cloud services is forecast to grow 23.1% in 2021.”¹ Further, “Software as a service (SaaS) remains the largest market segment and is forecast to reach \$122.6 billion in 2021 as the demand for composable applications requires a different type of SaaS experience. Infrastructure as a service (IaaS) and desktop as a service (DaaS) will see the highest growth in 2021, 38.5% and 67.7% respectively.”² Based on this projected spend, it is easy to see why organizations are leveraging the cloud as a means to accelerate the delivery of services and unlock new use cases.

1. Gartner, Inc. “Gartner Forecasts Worldwide Public Cloud End-User Spending to Grow 23% in 2021.” Gartner Press Release. April 21, 2021.

2. Ibid.

Having the right solutions in place, especially cloud-based ones, becomes even more important to ensure that IT organizations can respond to market disruption and business change. One of these solutions is VMware Horizon®, which enables a digital workspace with the efficient delivery of virtual desktops and applications and an unmatched end-user experience that keeps employees securely connected to corporate resources wherever they work and on any device. While many are familiar with desktop and app virtualization as an on-premises-only solution, VMware Horizon also offers hybrid cloud delivery, which includes key SaaS-based management and monitoring services, and provides a cloud-ready foundation.

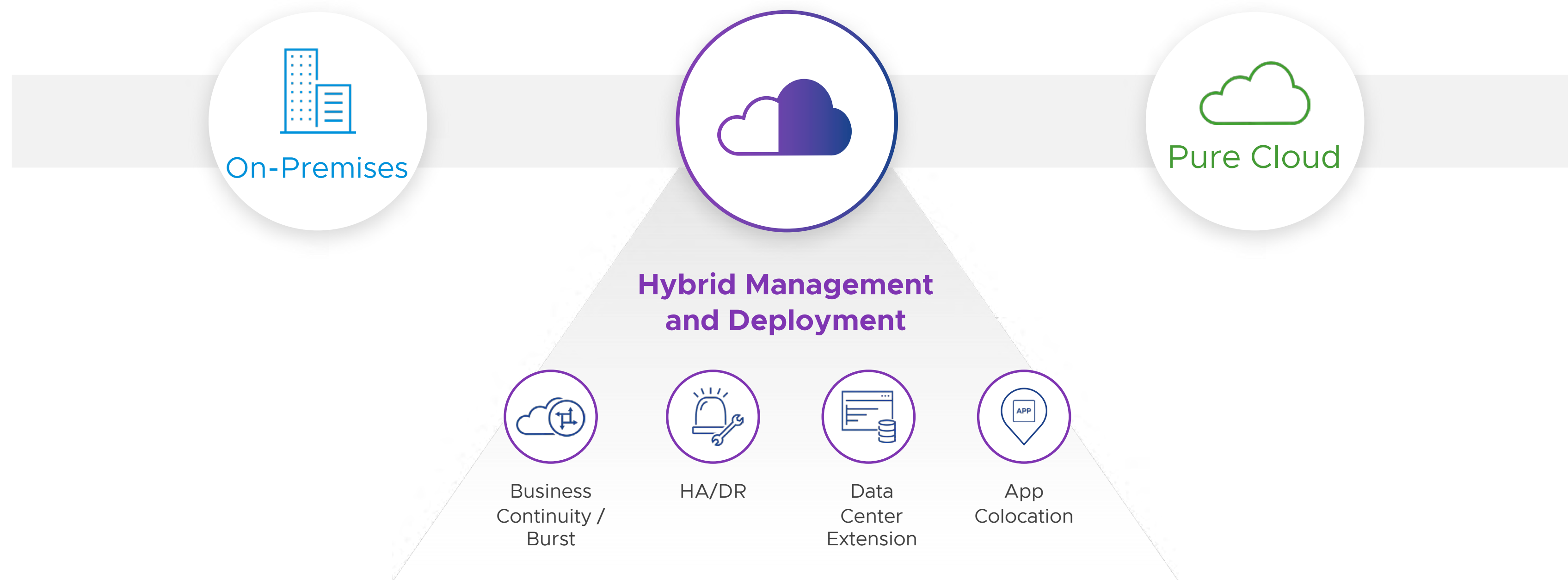


FIGURE 1: Leveraging the cloud opens up key virtual desktop and app use cases.

Build Resiliency with an Agile Cloud-Based Infrastructure

VMware Horizon is a scalable, flexible platform that offers the resiliency needed to meet change head on. Horizon, with its SaaS offering, delivers a cloud-ready infrastructure that can be deployed and managed on-premises and easily extended to hybrid or multi-cloud deployments. As part of the solution, the Horizon Control Plane delivers modern cloud management services to optimize on-premises and cloud-hosted desktops and apps. As business requirements change, Horizon can leverage the cloud to unlock key use cases, such as disaster recovery, data center expansion and app colocation. Let us take a deeper look at each of these use cases and how Horizon enables organizations to transparently provide the same levels of service, no matter the situation.



Keep Business Moving Forward

One of the key use cases of implementing Horizon in a hybrid cloud and SaaS delivery model is business continuity, enabling end users to access their data and applications from any device, anytime, anywhere in the case of a disruption. A disruption can come in any form—weather, pandemic, or other environmental problems—and can limit the ability for end users to access their corporate resources and applications. But the one item that disruptions have in common is that they are unexpected and can quickly derail an organization, immediately halting work. The assumption that users can access an office location no longer holds true.

Today, organizations must focus on how to provide business continuity for end users, IT systems, and in essence, for the business itself. When planning for business continuity and disaster recovery, organizations must think through how to keep systems available and let end users securely access their desktops and applications to avoid costly downtime or loss of productivity.

Many organizations will replicate their primary data center to ensure business continuity and disaster recovery. However, building and managing a secondary site can be costly in terms of the capital, hardware, software and expertise needed to build and maintain the site. A more cost-effective option is to create a hybrid cloud deployment in which the primary site is run on-premises, and the secondary site is run in the cloud of your choice. You have the flexibility to work with your cloud provider to build a solution using the resources that you choose to meet your needs and budget. More importantly, you can spin up additional resources when needed without investing more CapEx.

Having a unified Horizon architecture across the primary site on-premises and the disaster recovery site in the cloud makes the failover process simple. The secondary cloud-based location provides end users accessibility when the primary site is down or they cannot access their physical devices. The end user's desktop and applications are replicated to the alternative site and accessible with a URL using the Universal Broker from any device.



During COVID-19, Clal Insurance accelerated its VMware Horizon implementation by installing VDI in the homes of 3,700 of its 4,300 employees.

“VMware’s solution allows us to embrace a sustainable work-from-home strategy, while consistently providing exceptional user experiences and maintaining an all-encompassing security. It does this by scaling access to vital applications and data, managing and securing endpoints, and optimizing the network edge to every employee.”

– HAIM INGER, CTO, CLAL INSURANCE

Extend the Power of Horizon from the Data Center to the Cloud

Horizon enables IT to add and extend desktop and application workloads to the cloud without investing time or capital in additional data center resources by offering flexible deployment options across private and public clouds. Horizon can be deployed on any VMware vSphere® or VMware Cloud™ certified partner, such as Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud, Dell EMC and Oracle Cloud. You can leverage the cloud or clouds of your choice to cost-effectively deliver desktop and app capabilities on a managed infrastructure, quickly scaling and provisioning workloads with the feature-rich Horizon platform.

The solution leverages a unified architecture and lets IT teams use their expertise to manage their cloud-based resources with familiar vSphere and Horizon tools—no need to learn new skills or acquire new tools. With the same architecture and operational experience on-premises and in the cloud, IT teams can derive instant business value without climbing a steep learning curve. Additionally, you do not need to invest in additional hardware—you pay only for the resources you consume. You can decrease CapEx costs by alleviating the need to purchase infrastructure when more capacity is needed and minimize the hardware refresh cycle by offloading workloads to the cloud.

Data center extension is especially effective at supporting cloud bursting, when additional capacity is temporarily required to support remote staff, contractors or seasonal workers. You can scale resources up and down as needed and keep costs under control by paying only for what you use.

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JWS leveraged VMware solutions to convert legacy and on-premises infrastructure to a cloud-centric approach while securely migrating communications and workflow to the cloud, all while ensuring that data stewardship adheres to the solicitor's code of conduct.

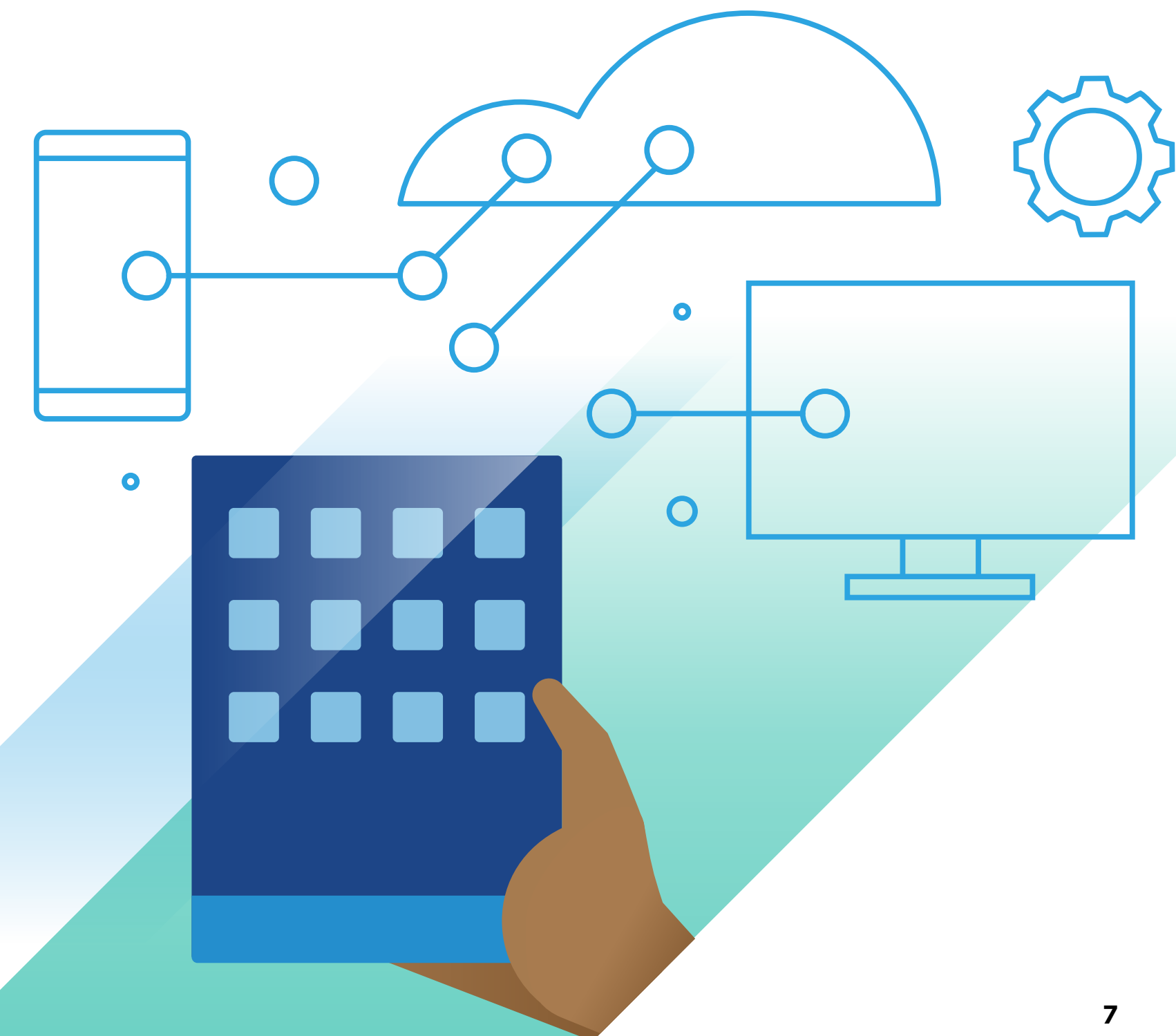
“When lockdown occurred, people simply worked remotely without change to workflows or processes. We migrated large chunks of our central processing, our servers, databases, and front-end servers, and we didn't skip a beat, not even behind the scenes. Nobody was the wiser.”

– ROSS FORGIONE, CIO,
JOHNSON WINTER & SLATTERY

Improve Performance and Compliance with App Colocation

As applications move to the cloud, it makes sense to move your virtual desktops and virtual apps there, too. Keeping apps that are hosted in the cloud and the access interface, in the form of virtual apps or desktops, close together minimizes network traffic and reduces latency because the access point is nearest the hosted app. Now IT can co-locate apps and desktops in the same cloud, whether the application is on-premises or in the public cloud, improving the overall employee experience.

Another key benefit of app colocation is compliance. For organizations in highly regulated industries that are moving applications from on-premises to the cloud, access points must be located in the same cloud. Colocation provides organizations the flexibility they need as they evaluate which workloads to move to the cloud.



Make the Move to VMware Horizon with SaaS

VMware Horizon offers more than delivering virtualized desktops and apps to end users. With its cloud-ready infrastructure, you can realize all the benefits of leveraging the cloud and its services to build a more agile and resilient infrastructure that can quickly adapt to business demands.

Take the next step and learn about the latest virtual desktop and app trends from Horizon and its control plane services by watching the *VDI and App Trends 2021: Leveraging SaaS Services* webinar and demo.

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