

# Parallels® VDI Solution

## Customer Success Story

Western Forest Products, Inc. is an integrated Canadian forest product company and the largest coastal British Columbian woodland operator and lumber producer providing over 25M feet of timber. Over the past two years, the company has expanded through merger activity and as a result found themselves with 100 servers over 26 sites. The majority of the servers were running a single application. Corporate goals were to consolidate servers resulting in reducing the foot print in the Vancouver data center and better utilization of resources.

Western Forest's infrastructure group contains 3 IT administrators and 2 dedicated HelpDesk staff. Will Chaster is an IT administrator responsible for managing the VDI/Virtuozzo environment.

### Parallels VDI and Implementation

Western Forest started their server consolidation with Parallels Virtuozzo Containers. They were already familiar with the VDI concept utilizing Citrix Presentation Server for applications and desktops. Citrix hosted the data center, which was specified by job roles such as engineer or road engineer. Pleased with the reduction in physical servers utilizing Virtuozzo Containers, Parallels VDI seemed to be the natural next step.

Currently, Western Forest has eight VDI containers on two production servers. Using Wyse thin terminals, customers are assigned by user to their virtual environments allowing for rotation of users to the thin client. The thin terminals also store the container mapping.

Western Forest experienced further cost containment by leveraging surplus servers, minimizing the capital expenditure of an upgrade to 4-way licensing.

### Results

Parallels VDI and Virtuozzo Containers helped Western Forest reach their goal of decreasing data center costs by one-third with the added benefit of removing a server closet. But this effort is not complete as maximum server consolidation has not been reached.

Recently, Western Forest needed to transfer files between their headquarters and data center. While the distance is only 50 miles, transfer rates have been slow in the past and corporate policies provide for a 2-hour change window. Using Quick Migration, file transfer was planned between a 3rd development server and the Dell server with VDI containers. Some pre-staging preparation at headquarters was completed to accommodate changes in subnets and IP addresses, but the quick migration process enabled Western Forest to move the data within the two hour window and no outage for the customer.

### Overall VDI Experience

"VDI was simple – very easy to do," says Chaster. "My basic problem was setting up the Windows XP template to work to our satisfaction." Will utilizes both management tools, PIM and PMC. PMC is installed locally on a desktop and he enjoys being able to connect and manage three nodes independently.

Usability of Parallels VDI is "great" and Chaster is very happy with Parallels IT Technical Support. "I call them my Russian friends," says Chaster. "They helped me a great deal over many weekends and their expertise was greatly appreciated."



### Fast Facts

**Industry:** Wood Products

**Location:** Canada

**Website:** [www.westernforest.com](http://www.westernforest.com)

### Server #1

IBM Blade, 2.2 GHz, 4 GB RAM

Dual CPU, Dual Core

15 containers: 7 VDI & 8 servers

### Server #2

Dell 4UR900, 4-way CPU

2.2 GHz, 16 GB RAM

7 containers: 6 users

"VDI setup was simple and very easy to do."

— Will Chaster,  
Western Forest IT administrator



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