IGEL Technology and Parallels Remote Application Server (RAS)

Reduce the cost and complexity of virtual desktop and application workflows
Understanding Thin Clients

Thin clients are purpose-built, low-cost computers, with reduced on-board computing and storage requirements, that work through the cloud or an on-premise network and virtualization technology. In thin client environments, data is not stored on the device, and computing operations are performed remotely on the central server. The thin client device only functions to access shared resources, such as virtual applications, data, and desktops over the server. A few of the advantages of thin client deployments are hardware optimization, lowered software maintenance, and improved support options.

Benefiting from their reduced footprint, thin clients consume less energy and require less space than traditional computer hardware deployments. In fact, they do not need a cooling system or rotating hard drives to operate. As a result, the risk of hardware failure is reduced, resulting in an increase in overall IT availability. With efficient remote administration and a flexible virtualization solution, thin client deployments offer an excellent return on investment (ROI) opportunity, allowing businesses of any size to enjoy the benefits of cloud computing without breaking the IT budget.

Benefits of Thin Client Deployments

- **Lower hardware and maintenance costs** – Thin clients can be fully managed from a central management console. The centralization of virtual thin client devices makes updating applications and desktops more streamlined for the IT department.

- **Stronger security and virus protection** – The IT team has more control over an operating system and applications deployed on thin clients. They can easily restrict the rights of the end users, such as access to taskbars, application installations, Internet browsing, and system settings.

- **Streamlined local device support** – Thin clients enable instant, secure, and trouble-free connections between remote computers anywhere. Shadowing remote assistance allows technicians to offer assistance to any local device.

- **Business continuity and disaster recovery** – Data is more secure and easier to recover in the event of failure. Corporate data is not stored on the local machine but rather on the server. Having a centralized storage system allows for faster and easier backups, as well as efficient disaster recovery and better business continuity.
Parallels RAS and IGEL OS Powered Thin Clients

A global leader in thin client technology, IGEL OS powered Universal Desktop (UD) thin client and endpoint devices complement the Parallels® Remote Application Server (RAS) virtual application and desktop delivery solution by enhancing application performance and reducing overall cost and complexity. IGEL thin clients deployed in virtualization environments through Parallels RAS deliver a straightforward, highly accessible virtual application and desktop delivery solution for organizations of any size.

The following IGEL OS powered conversion software and Universal Desktop thin clients have been tested with Parallels RAS.

IGEL UNIVERSAL DESKTOP CONVERTER (UDC)

The UDC software repurposes existing hardware by converting a x86, 64 bit device to an IGEL thin client, complemented by Parallels RAS and managed by Universal Management Suite (UMS). Regardless of form factor or manufacturer, UDC permanently replaces the local operating system on compatible devices to IGEL OS. The UMS simplifies endpoint management through zero-touch deployment, remote support and granular control from a single central console.

IGEL UD2

IGEL offers an attractive option for thin client machines with the UD2. For businesses that are using virtualization solutions, the space-efficient, highly affordable UD2 thin clients run streamlined and locked-down IGEL OS. Moreover, these Universal Desktop Thin Clients offer high-level performance and can be used for basic multimedia applications. Each UD2 thin client machine comes equipped with four USB ports and two digital monitor connections to ensure an excellent desktop experience.

Importantly, the UD2 includes IGEL Universal Management Suite (UMS) endpoint management software, offering excellent price performance and a slim design to easily fit within any budget or physical space constraint.
IGEL UD3

The UD3 series is available with an optional integrated smart card reader and a Connectivity Bar, which offers two additional serial ports for legacy peripherals and wireless network connectivity or an anti-theft USB port. Furthermore, two display ports allow users to operate two digital monitors at once. With no moving parts, the devices are nearly silent when in operation and are more fail-safe. In contrast to traditional hardware deployments, the machines use less energy and produce less heat.

UD3 includes IGEL Universal Management Suite (UMS) endpoint management software for excellent price performance and a slim vesa mountable design for physical space constraints.

IGEL UD Pocket

The IGEL UD Pocket micro thin client offers a high-performance solution that enables the remote and mobile workforce, home office and freelance workers, educators and students to access cloud services, server-based computing applications, or virtual desktops. UD Pocket is automatically integrated into the IGEL Universal Management Suite (UMS) for remote support, deployment, and management. With IGEL Cloud Gateway, the UMS can manage the UD Pocket beyond the company network without VPN. UD Pocket extends the functionality of existing hardware by enabling a second operating systems on one endpoint. Once the user has finished accessing IGEL OS through the UD Pocket, they can simply reboot from the local operating system and return to the local desktop.

Revolutionary in its Simplicity
Parallels RAS Advantages on IGEL Thin Clients

Parallels RAS offers businesses all the necessary virtual application and virtual desktop infrastructure delivery features they require to manage thin client deployments right out of the box—including server and gateway load balancing, a terminal server configuration wizard, application publishing, printing redirection, flexible device options, and intuitive software tools.

Additionally, Parallels RAS provides IT administrators with an outstanding virtual application delivery experience. The industry-leading VDI solution streamlines IT network operations, allowing the IT team to cut back on the costs and time expenditures they would otherwise be expected to dedicate to managing application delivery over a remote network.

- Lightning-fast connection speeds – Endpoint users sustain excellent, native desktop-like experiences on IGEL UD2, UD3 thin clients and UD Pocket or UDC converted endpoints with the Parallels RAS automated, out-of-the-box load-balancing features that ensure server resources are used to the fullest.

- Lower total cost of ownership (TCO) – As opposed to traditional hardware, the use of Parallels RAS virtualization and IGEL OS powered endpoints can lead to significant savings by deferring the need for additional hardware purchases, as well as lower licensing costs.

- Increased security – Thin clients deployed with a virtualization solution reduce the risk of viruses and data theft. Instead of storing sensitive data on individual machines where it can easily be compromised, the endpoint user only manipulates desktop and application images, while all the information stays safe on the server.

- Streamlined administration – Parallels RAS/IGEL UD deployments are easy to manage on the fly through the centralized administration dashboard that is accessible over a remote connection.

- Save on space and energy – The slim design and energy-efficiency features of IGEL UD thin clients mean that organizations can save on a host of additional business costs, including electricity bills and office space.
Business Enterprise

Businesses using Parallels RAS deployed on IGEL OS powered endpoints benefit from streamlined administration, fast connections, and secure zero-touch deployments. IT teams can easily build out a robust, high-availability remote delivery solution with the Parallels RAS automated load-balancing features and easy-to-understand installation wizards. Users of IGEL OS powered endpoints enjoy outstanding native desktop-like experiences when connecting to shared desktops, applications, and data through the Parallels RAS virtualization solution. Importantly, Parallels RAS licensing is affordable and straightforward with no hidden costs, which makes it agreeable with the IT budget of any size organization.

Healthcare

Using UD thin clients deployed over Parallels RAS, healthcare providers are equipped to access medical applications and patient information on their virtual workstation in a highly secure way. Parallels RAS and IGEL OS powered endpoints empower healthcare IT professionals to improve patient-care experience while saving time, enhancing security, and reducing TCO by using thin client, endpoint management software and virtualization technology.

Education

Staff, students, and faculty using IGEL OS via UD Pocket or UDC deployed through Parallels RAS achieve high-availability access to learning applications, student data, and virtual teaching desktops at an affordable rate. Parallels RAS with IGEL OS including Universal Management Suite saves on the academic budget for institutions of all sizes, allowing them to reduce their capital expenses by repurposing existing hardware and operating expenses with a software license subscription while building a more adaptive and innovative learning experience.

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