

Perfect Integration with IGEL Technology

GEL Technology: What Exactly are Thin Clients?

The end user interaction with a thin client is a way to transfer commands to the server; no data is stored on the client and no computing operation is performed locally. These two factors make thin clients a secure and cost-effective way to create a company infrastructure, delivering all the advantages of virtualization at the client level.

Because of their lean structure, thin clients consume less energy; in fact, they do not need a cooling system or rotating hard drives to operate. Consequently, the risk of hardware failure is reduced, resulting in an increase in overall IT availability. With efficient remote administration and a flexible virtualization solution, return on investment (ROI) is rapid, allowing businesses of any size to enjoy the benefits of cloud computing without spending a fortune.

IGEL Technology: Hardware and Software

Hardware: IGEL Technology's product portfolio of Zero (Z) Clients and Universal Desktop (UD) Thin Clients includes both traditional desktop clients and integrated-LCD thin client units equipped with either Linux or Microsoft® Windows® operating systems. All of them support the RDP protocol and integrate perfectly with Parallels RDP Client (preinstalled on LX) for Parallels® Remote Application Server. The client can be easily installed on IGEL Windows systems.

Software: IGEL Technology® covers two main areas: a thin client management system for Linux and Windows and a solution to convert existing traditional desktops into thin clients. IGEL Linux and Microsoft Windows Embedded Standard comes with a broad set of software clients, tools, and protocols, giving the user the possibility to access the required application with the best protocol. The universal desktop converter allows conversion of any x86 desktop into a thin client, allowing companies to benefit from the advantages of a lean client environment immediately, without sustaining an initial hardware cost.

IGEL Technology: Advantages of Thin Clients

Any location can be a workplace. Thin client computing enables increased productivity by allowing workers to work from anywhere in the world, with worldwide access to files and enterprise applications. This is crucial, as in 2014 more than 60% of the workforce claimed to work from outside the office, and this percentage is growing year by year. Workers are guaranteed secure and instant access to enterprise applications and personal data from any device and over any network speed.

Reduced administration and end user support. Thin clients are far simpler to manage since the thin client OS is deployed centrally. Having a single point of administration reduces overall administration costs and saves on maintenance time. Administrators can perform upgrades and deploy patches, applications, and antivirus updates solely on the server, thereby supporting thousands of users without having to visit the individual workstations. If a thin client fails, the end user can be back online in a matter of seconds simply by changing machine.

Increased security. Thin clients reduce the risk of viruses and data theft. Administrators can restrict access to USB sticks, CD ROMs, and online storage in order to reduce the risk of infections. This in turn prevents users from loading foreign applications onto the devices, thus increasing security levels and virtually eliminating viruses. The risk of important company data falling into the wrong hands—as may occur when a fat client or notebook is lost or stolen—is eliminated by storing all data on central servers.

Business continuity and disaster recovery. Data is more secure and easier to back up. If a thin client fails, important data is not lost since it is stored on the server. Having a centralized storage system allows for faster and easier backups as well as efficient disaster recovery and better business continuity.

No shelfware and easy management of licensing. Due to centralization, software licensing becomes far easier to monitor and manage, and it is easier to conform to legal requirements. An inventory of the licenses owned can be generated very quickly, since all the instances are run in the server farm and it is easy to understand the usage of any software.

IGEL Technology and Parallels Remote Application Server.

Parallels Remote Application Server—with its flexibility to work simultaneously with VDI, remote desktops, and virtual applications—is the perfect match for a thin client infrastructure managed by IGEL. The Parallels Remote Application Server Client supports seamless RDP protocol with RemoteFX® for Linux and Windows, guaranteeing the best end user experience.

Parallels Remote Application Server is able to interact perfectly with the major hypervisors Citrix®, VMware®, and Hyper-V®, allowing businesses to choose the technology best suited for their environment. IGEL Technology and Parallels Remote Application Server guarantee fast ROI through easy implementation. Compared to other solutions, Parallels Remote Application Server can be up and running in less than five minutes; thanks to the Wizard setup, publishing any application is just a matter of a few clicks.

IGEL Technology and Parallels have been working together since 2002 to deliver a solution for fast and economical implementation of server-based computing and desktop virtualization. The combination of IZ/UD IGEL technology clients and Parallels Remote Application Server creates a particularly economical, secure, and environmentally friendly method of delivering virtual applications and desktops across many locations.

With Parallels printing and scanning redirection, an IT manager can avoid the complicated procedures that are normally required to allow an end user to print from an IGEL Technology thin client. Universal printing and scanning or redirection is embedded in Parallels Remote Application Server, and it is ready to use from the outset without any extra configuration.

Improved Performance with IGEL Technology Hardware and Software

The thin client solutions from IGEL increase efficiency and improve user experience. This is enabled by seamless integration of the Parallels client into the IGEL thin client OS, as well as broad and comprehensive support for the Microsoft RDP transmission protocol—including RemoteFX—used by Parallels. This means that IGEL hardware supports graphical rendering of the Parallels solution using local graphics capability and computing power, optimizing overall performance.

IGEL Technology and Parallels Remote Application Server Advantages

- **Compatibility:** Parallels Remote Application Server integrates seamlessly with IGEL devices. The Parallels RDP client is preinstalled on IGEL LX thin and software clients.
- **High-speed delivery protocol:** IGEL thin clients deploy Parallels-powered applications and virtual desktops quickly and efficiently, providing the best possible experience for end users.
- **Strong graphics performance:** For IGEL thin clients, a proportion of video computations are performed by the local machine, improving graphics rendering.
- **Total cost of ownership:** The use of IGEL thin clients, as opposed to traditional hardware, can lead to significant savings by deferring the need for additional hardware purchases.
- **Green IT:** The use of thin clients can reduce carbon emissions by 60% or more when compared to typical fat clients.
- **Easy delivery of executable files by drag-and-drop**
- **Isolated sessions:** Applications run in their own separate sessions without affecting other applications.
- **Seamless integration of applications in taskbars**
- **Different access rights based on user, group, IP address, and Mac address**
- **Intelligent, resource-based load balancing for two or more servers**
- **License management:** automatic tracking of all deployed instances of an application
- **Parallels Remote Application Server is preinstalled.**

As perfectly attuned end user devices for efficient, high performance cloud access, Parallels Remote Application Server and IGEL thin clients reduce the cost of IT workstations.

IT centralization and virtualization are usually accompanied by major server-side investments, allowing administrators to use their existing PCs or thin clients rather than purchase new hardware immediately. IGEL thin clients integrated with Parallels Remote Application Server benefit from Parallels features, such as application/desktop (VDI) delivery, universal printing, two-factor authentication, single sign on, and more. Management workloads can be reduced by up to 70%, and due to the significantly lower operating and management costs of an IGEL/Parallels joint solution, migration costs are swiftly recovered.

Conclusion

IGEL thin client solutions complement Parallels features, with the aim of IGEL's Universal Desktop Strategy being high customer performance with secure, yet flexible access to the private and public IT cloud.

With IGEL thin clients and Parallels, organizations can easily ensure maximum thin client efficiency and operability by adding the critical cloud computing functionality administrators need via Parallels Remote Application Server.