

What is a Graphics Terminal Server and how could it benefit my organisation?

The use of highly graphical applications like CAD or photoshop is becoming more prevalent in all size businesses, but these applications can pose some unique computing challenges. The Logical Solutions Graphical Terminal server can help with these issues and make management simplistic.

So, what is a Terminal Server?

A terminal server is a service that runs on a high-powered server. Users connect to the server and are delivered a desktop experience like running a standard local workstation but utilising the power of the server rather than local resources.

How can a Graphical Terminal server help with our Graphics Applications?

We have found customers running highly graphical applications are looking for a solution to one of, if not all the following issues.

- Hardware capable of running these applications can be expensive, by using a graphical terminal server no longer do users of these applications require high powered computers.
- Graphical applications often require moving large drawing and image files around the network and if your users are working remotely, moving these files to and from the corporate network is slow and difficult. Because we have removed the limitation of individual users' VPN connections, this problem is no longer a limitation.
- Many graphical applications require complex Installation and licensing. By using a graphical terminal server, the installation and licenses are centralised. This means that users of these applications can be truly mobile. In many cases, staff working from home may be connecting to these environments with personal hardware rather than company-owned devices.
- Security is a large consideration in our computing environments today. VPNs allow a remote computer to create a "tunnel" to your corporate network. By creating a tunnel from a remote network to your corporate network, you expose your corporate network to additional security flaws. Because the graphical terminal server does not require a VPN, no tunnel is formed to your corporate network.

How does a Graphical Terminal server differ from a standard Terminal server?

A standard terminal server is designed to deliver day to day office applications. When building a Graphical Terminal Server, special consideration needs to be made for high-end graphics and fast disk access. This is achieved by using special server hardware to configurations to accommodate these services.

How much does a Graphical Terminal Server Cost?

There are two parts to this, firstly the ongoing monthly cost. These terminal servers are sold in blocks of ten concurrent users. If more than ten concurrent users are required. The second part is the upfront installation, and this depends on the work required to install your required applications and get them working. As an option, we offer to amortise the installation costs over 13 months. The Graphical Terminal Service (GTS) is a cloud-based service that is made available in blocks of ten users per server.

How can we test to see if a Graphical Terminal Server works for us?

In many cases, we have other customers using the same software that you are, but where this is not the case, we are happy to commit time based on an intention to purchase the service should testing be successful. We have found in most cases working with customers and suppliers of software we have found very few applications that we can't make work.