



Application Story



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Every day major companies become dead in the water because the computer systems that they have become so dependent on end up failing for one reason or the other. The most common reason? A virus takes hold of a single PC and then spreads to all computers on the network.

A failure like this is very damaging to any business, but when the same virus hits a power plant, a transportation center, a hospital or an emergency operations center the results can be particularly catastrophic. Not only can lives be in danger, but there is a huge expense associated with IT overtime and lost revenue, not to mention the public relations embarrassment and the challenges of dealing with the fallout.

Recovery from such a failure is always a gradual process. Systems can be brought online one by one after they are determined to be virus free. Unfortunately this can take days, and for any critical system there is really no need for such a major disruption in service.

How to Avoid a Service Disruption

To be as reliable as possible companies that provide critical services can simply replace aging Personal Computers with Thin Clients and ACP's ThinManager software. A property configured system is based on a handful of servers securely monitored and operated by IT staff with Thin Clients deployed everywhere a workstation is needed. Since physical PC access would be limited to the IT department the chances of a virus appearing on the servers is reduced to almost zero.

For the ultimate in reliability IT could have configured a second set of servers to be kept off the main network. If a virus were discovered on the primary servers ThinManager makes it very easy to isolate them and bring the clean backup servers online. All Thin Clients would then continue to operate as normal until the primary servers could be cleared. The end user would not even notice this background activity and would continue working in their normal environment with uninterrupted access to their files and applications.

Additional Benefits

The lower price tag and smaller size of a Thin Client when compared with a desktop PC are of vital interest in places like hospitals, where costs are closely watched and space is at a premium. Additional workstations are easy and inexpensive to install wherever access is desired.

ThinManager also gives all of the attached Thin Clients the ability to serve multiple users at the same time. An operator can log in to any Thin Client on the network with either a username and password or a 'smart' ID badge (or a combination of the two) and have their personal desktop delivered directly to them. Thin Clients running under ThinManager with TermSecure have no local storage so sensitive data and other confidential information remain in the IT department and cannot end up on a user workstation. The cost to support a Thin Client is almost nothing, and any Thin Client that fails can simply be swapped out with a replacement without the need for costly software installation and configuration. Remote data entry can easily be accomplished with an iPad (or similar tablet device) via the same interface that personnel already uses on a PC.

Critical industries that have made the switch to Thin Clients and ThinManager have already saved thousands of dollars and enjoy the peace of mind that comes with knowing they have a system that is more reliable, more secure, and significantly more flexible. ACP has been serving critical industries around the world for twelve years and is proud of the power plants, hospitals, nuclear weapons labs, offshore oil platforms, prisons and other demanding industries that rely on ThinManager to keep them operating 24 hours a day, every day.



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