With the impending end-of-support of Microsoft Windows 7 coming on January 14 of 2020, many IT teams are coming to terms with the fact that they need to take action, if they haven’t already, in order to keep their workers productive. And for these organizations, what may appear as an upcoming dilemma may in fact be a great opportunity to streamline their end user computing environment while vastly simplifying the everyday tasks of offering secure, high-quality application and desktop services to their users.

The “hidden” opportunity is quite clear: simply move your Windows desktops from your organization’s endpoint devices into your data center or cloud. The result is a desktop environment that not only makes endpoint management simpler, but also provides users with the high-performance desktop experience they demand. In addition, it can render any organization already prepped and poised to take full advantage of public cloud desktop-as-a-service (DaaS) from the Microsoft Azure cloud in the form of Windows Virtual Desktops (WVD). Especially notable is the new multi-session Windows 10 entitlement which marks the first time a multi-session Windows 10 instance is available for easy and cost-effective delivery of cloud-hosted virtual desktops.

As leaders in the delivery of virtualized apps, virtual desktops, and cloud workspaces, Citrix and IGEL have joined forces with Ingram Micro to offer a combined, comprehensive solution for simple, secure delivery of high-performance end user computing experiences that is extremely easy for IT teams to manage and control – regardless of where your users may be located. Supporting “anywhere access” to needed computing resources, the solution consists of the following components:

**From Citrix**

Citrix Managed Desktops service, a simple, turnkey Desktop-as-a-service (DaaS) solution that enables you to quickly deliver desktops and apps to any device, from anywhere.

This service includes:

- Citrix high-definition (HDX) technology that provides a brilliant virtual desktop experience on any device, over any network
- Fully integrated DaaS solution where you can decide if you want Citrix to manage your Azure capacity for you or if you want to “bring your own”
- Monitoring and provisioning guidance that makes managing your virtual desktops a snap
• Full integration with the new Windows 10 multi-session and FSLogix entitlements of Windows Virtual Desktop, as well as traditional server-based virtual desktops
• Simplified configuration that makes it easy for anyone with any level of IT expertise to provision a virtual desktop
• Broad regional support that empowers the customer to intelligently select the best Azure region based on their business needs

From IGEL
IGEL Workspace Edition software, which is a perpetual software license, per endpoint device, that includes:
- IGEL OS, the next-gen edge OS for cloud workspaces
- Universal Management Suite (UMS), the server-based software that manages and controls all IGEL-powered endpoints, known for its ease-of-use
- Multimedia CODEC pack for a high-fidelity multimedia user experience
- High availability option for non-stop UMS management and control
- REST API for communication to/from existing management and trouble-ticketing systems

Win 7 refresh using IGEL and Citrix Managed Desktops

These powerful technologies, combined as a single offer from Ingram Micro, represent the easiest way to implement a Citrix/IGEL solution that brings a secure, high-performance virtual desktop experience to your users with all essential elements of complete endpoint management. Notably, the following benefits can be immediately observed:

- **Make Windows 10 migration easy** by simply dropping the Citrix Workspace app and IGEL OS on your endpoints and moving to Windows, in this case Windows 10, in Azure leveraging the new benefits of Windows Virtual Desktop.
- **Trying to get to Windows 10, but not sure where to start?** Try leveraging a Citrix pre-configured Windows 10 EVD instance on Azure – likely included with your existing Microsoft license – to get you up and running quickly.
- **Significant cost savings:** Reduce both CapEx & OpEx – since this is a completely platform-independent software solution, leverage your existing endpoint hardware and either delay or completely bypass the costly and disruptive “endpoint hardware refresh” cycle!
Save more money: By using the new multi-session capabilities of Windows 10 on Azure, you can get more users per server thereby driving down cloud costs. With Citrix and Azure, DaaS has now emerged as a viable cloud-based service for any organization, not unlike how Office 365 has taken off since its inception.

Security: Citrix and IGEL enable secure connections to your Windows 10 cloud desktops every time using highly secure IGEL OS (non-Windows) endpoints. Plus, by repurposing any x86 hardware from multiple vendors, unified central management is now feasible.

Simplicity: Simplify IT with fast and easy administration of workloads, apps, desktops, and endpoints from the cloud. The combined offer from Ingram Micro is simple to implement. With easy delivery of active desktops from the cloud. No need to be an IT/ Azure “guru”!

Flexible: The solution easily and economically grows with you, always with the latest technology with the flexibility of pay-as-you-go pricing.

Forward and backward compatible: If you still have some dependencies on Windows 7 desktops, this solution also enables you to run those desktop instances on Azure for another 3 years without paying for extended security updates.

High fidelity user experiences: Citrix HDX high definition experience combined with IGEL OS multimedia CODECs and drivers delivers a high-performance experience every time. Rich, immersive voice and video from the cloud has never been better or easier.

Cloud ready: Simplified administration and configuration for domain-joined and non-domain joined desktops makes it easy to add any user, while in-depth performance and monitoring visibility ensures they have the best-possible user experience.

For organizations still running Windows 7, the time to move to Windows 10 is now. And the quickest, easiest way to do that is to move your Windows desktops onto Azure, and make that migration in one place instead of on hundreds or thousands of endpoints. Ingram Micro, Citrix and IGEL can make that process surprisingly easy, with the result being significant cost savings, improved security, and much easier ongoing management and delivery of Windows 10 desktops from Azure. And with the new multi-session Windows 10 on Azure and Windows 7 Extended Security Updates on Azure from Windows Virtual Desktops, you can turn the entire delivery of secure, productive desktops to nothing more than a monthly service.

Fearing the upcoming end-of-support of Windows 7? Let Ingram Micro, Citrix, and IGEL turn that fear into a simple, more secure and productive delivery of all workloads, apps, and desktops from the cloud. You’ll finally have time to focus on more strategic initiatives while sleeping better at night!