Organizations of all sizes are moving to the cloud to save on capital and operational expenses, accelerate adoption of new technologies, and to streamline their IT processes. Many are moving their users’ desktops to the data center or cloud as well to gain greater management and control of people’s access to applications and data. This is especially true in highly regulated industries like healthcare, finance, and retail, and where security and control are paramount. Public sector government, education and manufacturing organizations can also benefit where protecting key information is mission critical.

To facilitate this move to the cloud, IGEL offers IGEL OS, the next-gen edge operating system for cloud workspaces that runs on any x86 compatible device. By moving Windows off endpoint devices and into the cloud, and replacing it with lightweight, secure IGEL OS, enterprises can make their hundreds, thousands, or tens of thousands of endpoints more secure and much easier to stand up, image, update, and patch. IGEL OS offers the following advantages for accessing cloud workspaces:

- Latest virtual desktop client software from Citrix, Microsoft, Amazon, and VMware, with the latest multimedia codecs and drivers included in each version of IGEL OS to help ensure a great hi-fidelity user experience
- Extremely lightweight OS based on Linux (hardware requirements: 1GHz 64-bit, x86 processor and 2GB RAM) can repurpose most existing endpoints to improve performance while extending the useful life of existing devices
- REST API included with each software release for integration with existing workflow management, trouble-ticketing, and reporting systems
- High availability (HA) option included for non-stop management and control of all endpoints
- IGEL Cloud Gateway function enables full management and control of devices off the corporate network, including secure shadowing of any device, for in-depth troubleshooting and support
- Shared workplace capability enables any device to support multiple user profiles and permissions for the right experience based on function/role (e.g., call centers, university labs and lecture halls)
- 85+ partner technologies integrated with IGEL OS allows for connectivity to a vast range of peripherals and software solutions
- IGEL UMS software makes it super-easy to configure, stand up, and manage from just a few to many thousands (up to 100K) of endpoints from a single console
- IGEL OS is already verified for direct endpoint device connectivity with the AWS and Azure clouds, including Microsoft’s newly announced Windows Virtual Desktop (WVD)

A major challenge that has emerged with the recent migration of desktops to the cloud is that of fully understanding and maintaining the quality and productivity of user experiences when using this computing model. It is in this area of user experience analysis, feedback, and optimization that Liquidware excels to allow organizations to maintain rich, fulfilling, and productive user experiences no matter how Windows desktops and applications are delivered.

Liquidware offers its Adaptive Workspace Management suite that works across all Windows delivery methods. The suite includes Stratusphere UX monitoring and diagnostics, ProfileUnity user environment management, and FlexApp dynamic application delivery. These Liquidware solutions are fully compatible when accessing Windows workspaces with IGEL OS.

IGEL and Liquidware have worked closely to develop a custom monitoring agent that is purpose-built for IGEL OS and gathers user experience metrics from the IGEL-powered endpoint, be it any x86 compatible repurposed PC or thin client.
With comprehensive monitoring of the endpoint, joint IGEL/Liquidware customers get a complete end-to-end user experience score with Stratusphere UX and IGEL. Select capabilities of Stratusphere UX running on IGEL OS include:

- Verify IGEL client user experience meets organization SLAs (i.e., performing to or better than expectations or requirements.)
- View latency between IGEL OS powered endpoint and remote systems
- Monitor applications & processes
  - excessive utilization
  - runaway processes
  - non-responding applications
  - rogue processes
- Verify user experience before and after IGEL OS upgrades/changes
- Inventory of users, machines, and applications processes
- Trace the route or the path from the endpoint to the virtual desktop server

Use of cloud-sourced desktops and workspaces is growing among enterprises and promises to only increase as organizations look to migrate to Windows 10 and continue to lower costs, move faster, and optimize their IT processes. Throughout this cloud migration process, one key requirement remains constant, which is to offer users a fulfilling, high-fidelity digital experience no matter how their desktops and applications are accessed. The combination of IGEL and Liquidware can make the adoption of cloud-sourced user workspaces not just easy for IT, but seamless and “invisible” to users. IGEL makes it easy to convert existing Windows endpoint devices to IGEL OS, and Liquidware gives IT staff a clear understanding of user experiences across the enterprise with quick feedback to enhance those experiences. With IGEL and Liquidware, your move to cloud workspaces will reap positive rewards not just for your IT team, but for your end-users as well.

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