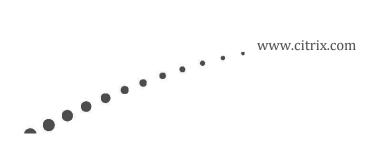
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Windows 2008 R2 Optimization Guide

For Desktop Virtualization with XenApp 6 / 6.5





Contents

Overview	3
Windows 2008 R2 Configuration	4
User Settings	
Revision History	

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Overview

When considering desktop virtualization with Citrix FlexCast technologies, one method for delivering services to end-users is through the use of hosted shared desktops using Citrix XenApp. Hosted shared desktops can deliver a locked down, streamlined and standardized environment ideally suited for task workers where personalization is not required. Delivering hosted shared virtual desktop requires proper planning and configuration to maximize the scalability of server resources while providing users with an optimized and functional desktop environment. This document outlines optimizations for XenApp 6 on Windows Server 2008 R2 to meet these goals.

These configurations typically add value by enhancing the user experience and increasing system performance. For example, some of the changes optimize the user experience by enabling faster logons, reducing unnecessary prompts, and quicker screen updates. Others optimize performance and increase scalability by reducing unnecessary processor, memory, disk and network usage.

However, certain modifications allow for greater scalability but at the cost of the user experience. As many organizations will demand a user experience similar to the traditional desktop, care must be taken when applying optimization settings. Many of these settings are identified within the remainder of the document.

A note on Registry Settings:

Many of the configurations recommended in this document are changes to the registry. Registry changes can be implemented in a number of ways and there is not necessarily one way that is best for all deployments. The simplest way to implement many of these is to modify the registry manually using "regedit.exe" or creating and executing a ".REG" file. Automated ways of modifying the registry, including Group Policy or other third-party tools, are also possible. All registry modifications listed in this document use the ".REG" file syntax so that they can be easily copied and pasted into a customized ".REG" file.

Caution: All of the registry settings mentioned in this document must be analyzed for benefit and risk to your environment. Modifying the registry incorrectly can cause serious problems that may require you to reinstall the operating system. Citrix cannot guarantee that problems resulting from incorrectly modifying the registry can be solved. Modify the registry at your own risk. Backup the registry or disk image before making changes.

Windows 2008 R2 Configuration

General

The following items, which are configurable by means of Group Policies, are recommended for all deployment scenarios and would almost always be desirable in a XenApp hosted shared desktop implementation:

Item	Path (Computer Configuration)	Justification
Error Reporting	Administrative Templates – Windows Components –	Generates application crash dumps to be sent to Microsoft.
	Windows Error Reporting	Should be safe to disable unless troubleshooting application.
	Disable Windows Error Reporting: Enabled	
Disable Customer	Administrative Templates – System – Internet	Minimize background traffic by opting out of diagnostics
Experience	Communication Management – Internet	feedback programs.
Improvement	Communication Settings	
Program (CEIP)	Turn off Windows Customer Experience Improvement	
	Program: Enabled	
Windows Update	Administrative Templates – Windows Components –	Windows updates should only be done on the base desktop
	Windows Updates	image and not by users.
	Configure Automatic Updates: Disabled	
System Restore	Administrative templates – System – System Restore	Not needed due to the nature of desktop virtualization and
	Turn off System Restore: Enabled	single image management.
RDP Listener –	Disable printer mapping for RDP sessions.	Mapping printers in administrative RDP sessions can cause
Printer mapping	Administrative Templates – Windows Components –	printer drivers to be installed. This can cause heterogeneous
	Remote Desktop Services – Remote Desktop Session	server configurations and increase complexity for
	Host – Printer Redirection	troubleshooting.
	Do not allow client printer redirection: Enabled	
	-	

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The following registry changes and manual configurations are recommended for all deployment scenarios and would almost always be desirable in a XenApp hosted shared desktop implementation:

Note: Windows Group Policy Preferences are a very elegant way of applying registry changes.

Configuration	Optimizer*	Recommendation / Registry Key	Justification
Hide System	No	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Windows	When Windows or an application generates
Hard Error		"ErrorMode"=dword:0000002	a hard error message, a dialog with the error
Messages			usually appears with an "OK" or
			"Continue" button.
			These messages are usually cryptic for the
			end user and they can cause a session to
			hang if the user gets disconnected, but there
			is an error awaiting response. The system
			can be configured to suppress these
			messages by writing them to the Event Log
			and automatically selecting "OK" for the
			user.
Spooler Warning	No	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Print\Provi	The Spooler service can quickly fill up the
Events		ders	System Event Log with useless warning
		"EventLog"=dword:00000001	events. These happen whenever an ICA
			Auto Created Printer is created or deleted,
			which can generate thousands of events per
			day.
			The Spooler should be configured to write
			only errors.
Paging of the	No	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session	In order to increase performance, kernel
Executive		Manager\Memory Management	mode drivers and other system components
		"DisablePagingExecutive"=dword:00000001	can be configured to that they are not paged
			to disk. However, there must be enough

Edit Run and RunOnce Registry keys	No	HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\ Run HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\ RunOnce HKLM\Software\Wow6432Node\Microsoft\Windows\ CurrentVersion\Run	memory available to hold these items or else the system will experience performance and stability issues. The Run and RunOnce registry keys define programs that run in each users' context at login. In a multi-user system, these can contribute significantly to processor utilization and therefore reduce scalability.
		HKLM\Software\Wow6432Node\Microsoft\Windows\ CurrentVersion\RunOnce	It is recommended that any programs that can run once within a system context, such as Java scheduler and antivirus modules, be removed from these keys.
Windows Power Plans	No	High Performance Power Plan Power Options Image: Control Panel Home Choose what the power buttons do Create a power plan Choose when to turn off the display Choose when to turn off the display Constrol Panel Home Preferred plans Choose when to turn off the display See also </td <td>Processors are always locked at the highest performance state.</td>	Processors are always locked at the highest performance state.
BIOS Power Schemes	No	Choose maximum performance scheme when possible.	Recent server hardware often includes BIOS level power savings settings, which can cause the CPUs of a server to be clocked with a frequency lower than maximum. It is recommended to select the maximum performance scheme for Citrix

			related servers.
Scheduled Tasks	No	 Verify the scheduled tasks and randomize execution time. Typically the following scheduled tasks can be disabled: Application Experience → AitAgent Application Experience → ProgramDataUpdater Autochk → Proxy Customer Experience Improvement Program → everything under this node (Consolidator, KernelCeipTask, UsbCeip, ServerCeipAssistant, ServerRoleCollector, ServerRoleUsageCollector) DiskDiagnostic → Microsoft-Windows- DiskDiagnosticDataCollector Power Efficiency Diagnostics → AnalyzeSystem Server Manager → ServerManager Windows Error Reporting → QueueReporting 	Scheduled tasks should be used carefully only and the execution time should be randomized, to prevent any negative impact on central infrastructures such as storage or database systems.
Disable Logon Screensaver	No	HKEY_USERS\.DEFAULT\Control Panel\Desktop "ScreenSaveActive"="0"	Prevents a screensaver to be shown at the server console, which can improve performance.
Disabled Boot Animation	No	Disable bcdedit /set bootux disabled (need to be run from the Windows Command Prompt)	Disabling the animation, which no user will see, saves resources plus speeds up the entire boot process. Note: Disabling the boot animation disables all UI feedback until the Windows logon screen appears. This behavior can increase to complexity for troubleshooting.
Disable all application auto-	No	Java updates can be controlled via the Control Panel. SAP updates are disabled in the CCS ADM(X) template.	Auto-updates should be managed to prevent changes being made to the



updates			environment by end users.
Defragmentation	No	Run defragmentation	Disk defragmentation should be done before capturing the desktop image (in case Provisioning Services is used) or at regular intervals to ensure the disk is optimized. When a scheduled defragmentation is used, ensure that the schedule does not conflict with business times (default every Wednesday at 1am).
Antivirus	No	Optimize	Follow the Best Practices as outlined here.
Write Cache (Operating System)	No	Device Manager → Disk Drive Properties → Policies tab ISILOGIC Logical Volume SCSI Disk Device Properties Isit Conceller Image: The setting of the set of the s	For hardware on which write cache is unavailable, Windows write back caching can be enabled through Device Manager on the properties of the drive. RegistryLazyFlushInterval should also be configured especially if no hardware write cache is available.



		Additional settings: HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Configuration Manager\ "RegistryLazyFlushInterval"=dword:00000060 (dec)	
Write Cache (Hardware)	optimal fashio read, allowing	ve controllers can store device writes and reads in a cache so on. When enabled, the controller immediately informs the op it to continue normal operation.	perating system that data has been written or to 100% write.
Worker Threads	No	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Executive\ "AdditionalCriticalWorkerThreads"=dword:00000064 (dec)	This value affects the number of threads that the file system cache uses for read- ahead and write-behind requests. Raising this value can allow for more queued I/O in the storage subsystem and can improve I/O performance, particularly on systems with many processors and powerful storage hardware
Page File	No	My Computer properties → Advanced → Performance Settings → Advanced tab → Change Virtual Memory	 The page file is a physical file on the disk where virtual memory can be stored. This allows the system to allocate and commit more virtual memory than there is physical memory. The page file should be optimized as follows: Have the same min-max size to minimize fragmentation.



		Virtual Memory ? × Drive [Volume Label] Paging File Size (MB) C: 4092 - 4092 D: [WinData] Paging file size for selected drive Drive: C: Space available: 16739 MB Image: C: Space available: Initial size (MB): 4092 Maximum size (MB): 4092 Image: C: System managed size Image: No paging file Set Total paging file size for all drives Minimum allowed: Minimum allowed: 16 MB Recommended: 4990 MB Currently allocated: 4092 MB OK Cancel	Note: Further information about determining the appropriate size of the page file, can be found <u>here</u> .
SMB 1.0 Client	No	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lanman	File Sharing in a Microsoft Environment is
Optimization		workstation\Parameters	based on an application protocol called
		"MaxCmds"=dword:00002048 (dec)	Server Message Block (SMB). When a
Note: Tuning			device connects to a Microsoft file share on
SMB 1.0 is		HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\MRxSmb	another computer it is acting as an SMB
required in mixed		\Parameters	client.
(2003 / 2008 R2)		"MultiUserEnabled"=dword:00000001	
environments,			By default the SMB 1.0 Client network
where SMB 2.0		HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\	redirector can have only 50 outstanding



cannot be used.	CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer	SMB requests/commands open to a single
	NoRemoteRecursiveEvents"=dword:00000001	file server. This is controlled by the
		MaxCmds registry value.
	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\	
	Lanmanserver\Parameters	All connections to remote servers are per
	"MaxWorkItems"=dword:00008192 (dec)	computer not per user. This means all users
	"MaxMpxCt"=dword:00002048 (dec)	on a Terminal Server open files over the
	"MaxRawWorkItems"=dword:00000512 (dec)	same SMB session. A single SMB Client
	"MaxFreeConnections"=dword:00000100 (dec)	Session can only have 16383 open files.
	"MinFreeConnections"=dword:00000032 (dec)	This is controlled by the MultiUserEnabled
		registry value.
		When you map a drive to a UNC path and
		have Windows Explorer open to the
		network drive, Explorer submits an always
		open SMB command to request notification
		when a file changes anywhere on the
		network drive. These are called SMB
		Change Notify events. In order to reduce
		network traffic, resource utilization and
		SMB commands and to overcome a
		potential screen flicker issue for certain file
		sharing scenarios, the policy for
		NoRemoteRecursiveEvents should be
		enabled. This Prevents change notifications
		from being sent for anything other than the
		root folder.
		Note: Further information can be found
		within <u>this blog</u> .

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SMB 2.x Client	No	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\	By default, the SMB redirector throttles
Tuning		LanmanWorkstation\Parameters	throughput across high-latency network
0		"DisableBandwidthThrottling"=dword:00000001	connections in some cases to avoid
		"DisableLargeMtu"=dword:00000000	network-related timeouts. Setting the
			DisableBandwidthThrottling registry value
		HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\	to 1 disables this throttling, enabling higher
		CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer	file transfer throughput over high-latency
		NoRemoteRecursiveEvents"=dword:00000001	network connections.
			By default, the SMB redirector does not
			transfer payloads larger than approximately
			64 KB per request. Setting the
			DisableLargeMtu registry value to 0 enables
			larger request sizes, which can improve file
			transfer speed.
			-
			Note: Further information can be found
			within <u>this blog</u> .

*Note: The Optimizer column indicates whether this registry change is included in the XenConvert Optimizer tool that is installed with the Provisioning Services target device software.



Provisioning Services based servers

The next set of registry changes are recommended for images deployed using standard mode vDisk images with Citrix Provisioning services. Standard mode images are unique in that they are restored to the original state at each reboot, deleting any newly written or modified data. In this scenario, certain processes are no longer efficient. These configurations may also apply when deploying persistent images and in many cases should be implemented in addition to the changes recommended in the preceding section.

Configuration	Optimizer*	Recommendation / Registry Key	Justification
Disable Clear	Yes	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session	Clearing the Windows Pagefile at shutdown
Page File at		Manager\Memory Management]	can delay the shutdown procedure and
Shutdown		"ClearPageFileAtShutdown"=dword:00000000	therefore increase the time required for a
			complete reboot cycle.
Disable Offline	Yes	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\	The offline file feature is not required for
Files		CurrentVersion\NetCache	XenApp scenarios.
		"Enabled"=dword:00000000	
Disable	Yes	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Dfrg\	Defragmentation is not necessary for
Background		BootOptimizeFunction	Provisioning Services vDisks.
Defragmentation		"Enable"="N"	
Disable	Yes	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\	The Layout Service is responsible for
Background		CurrentVersion\OptimalLayout	rearranging files on the hard drive to
Layout Service		"EnableAutoLayout"=dword:00000000	increase performance. This does not apply
			to Provisioning Services vDisks.
Disable	Yes	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session	Hibernation is not required for XenApp
Hibernation		Manager\Power	scenarios.
		"Heuristics"=hex:05,00,00,00,00,01,00,00,00,00,00,00,00	
		0,00,00,3f,42,0f,00	
Disable Mach.	Yes	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Netlogon	Disabling the automatic machine account
Acct. Password		\Parameters	password change is required for the Active
Changes		"DisablePasswordChange"=dword:00000001	Directory integration of Provisioning
			Services Target Devices.



Redirect Event Logs	No	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Eventlog \Application "File"="D:\EventLogs\Application.evtx" HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Eventlog \Security "File"="D:\EventLogs\Security.evtx" HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Eventlog \System "File"="D:\EventLogs\System.evtx"	Redirecting Windows Eventlogs to a persistent drive (such as D:\) eases troubleshooting and satisfies certain security monitoring requirements.
Disable Large Send Offload	No	 Large Send Offload can be disabled in the following locations: Operating system: Netsh int tcp set global chimney=disabled Network adapter properties: Device Manager – Network Adapters – (select the adapter) – Advanced - Large Send Offload Version 2 (IPv4) → Disabled 	Disabling Large Send Offloads is required for Provisioning Services vDisk streaming.
Disable TCP/IP Offload	No	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\ Parameters "DisableTaskOffload"=dword:00000001	Disabling TCP/IP Offloads is required for Provisioning Services vDisk streaming.
Increase Service Startup Timeout	No	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control "ServicesPipeTimeout"=dword:00600000(dec)	In certain peak load scenarios Windows services might take longer than 30 seconds to start. This setting increases the timeout value to 10 minutes.
Scheduled Defrag	No	Disable the scheduled defragmentation of the hard disks. Task Scheduler - Defrag → ScheduledDefrag	Defragmenting the vDisks from a standard target device is not possible (disk is mapped read only), but can significantly increase to load on the PVS Server as well as the write cache.

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*Note: The Optimizer column indicates whether this registry change is included in the XenConvert Optimizer tool that is installed with the Provisioning Services target device software.



Services

Windows Server 2008 R2 includes a set of services, many of which are enabled as default. When using the system as Citrix XenApp server, some of these services provide little value increases but significantly increase the memory footprint of the OS. Therefore the following services could potentially be disabled.

Service	Recommendation	Justification	
Desktop	Potential	This service is responsible for Windows 7	
Windows		Aero theme. Organizations need to determine	
Manager Session		if Aero theme is something they wish to	
Manager		support at a later date.	
Network List	Disable	The network location of a XenApp Server is	
Service		unlikely to change over time. Thus automatic	
Network	Disable	network location detection is not required.	
Location			
Awareness		Please note that some 3rd party software	
		products, such as the AppSense User	
		Virtualization Platform, may require these	
		services.	
		Note: Disabling these services may cause an	
		initial delay of 15 seconds when visiting a	
		HTTPs web site.	
Themes	Potential	Allows users to manage the themes, which	
		includes backgrounds, sounds and visual	
		effects. Although this service does take	
		resources and will impact overall scalability,	
		each organization needs to determine if this	
		functionality should be supported. It does	
		allow the user to better personalize the	



		environment and helps improve acceptance.	
Windows	Disable	Most enterprise deployments will have their	
Defender		own anti-malware solutions. As the corporate	
		version will most likely be used, the integrated	
		service should be disabled.	
Windows Update	Potential	For XenApp servers based on a Provisioning	
		Services vDisk or in case an Enterprise	
		Software Deployment Systems is used to	
		deploy Windows hotfixes, the Windows	
		Update Service is not required.	



File Servers

The following registry changes are recommended for all Windows File Server deployment scenarios in order to enable the XenApp Server side SMB tuning parameters:

Configuration	Recommendation / Registry Key	Justification
SMB 1.0 Tuning Note: Tuning SMB 1.0 is required in mixed (2003 / 2008 R2) environments, where SMB 2.0 cannot be used.	HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lanmanserver\Parameters "MaxWorkItems"=dword:00008192 (dec) "MaxMpxCt"=dword:00002048 (dec) "MaxRawWorkItems"=dword:00000512 (dec) "MaxFreeConnections"=dword:00000100 (dec) "MinFreeConnections"=dword:0000032 (dec)	 File Sharing in a Microsoft Environment is based on an application protocol called Server Message Block (SMB). When a device connects to a Microsoft file share on another computer it is acting as an SMB client. The SMB client interacts with the network redirector, which is responsible for sending file requests to the proper location (local file system, CIFS/SMB, Netware, CDM, etc). The client sends SMB commands to the server for execution. These commands include requests to read, write or delete files and folders as well as commands to list directories and subscribe to change events (such as when someone else creates a new file and it automatically appears in your Explorer window). By default the SMB or CIFS service on the file server only allows 50 outstanding SMB requests/commands open from a single client at any given time. This is controlled by the MaxMpxCt registry value (by default, does not exist).

SMB 2.x Tuning	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\ LanmanServer\Parameters "TreatHostAsStableStorage"=dword:00000001 "MaxThreadsPerQueue"=dword:00000064 (dec)	The "TreatHostAsStableStorage" key controls the processing of write flush commands from clients. Disabling this functionality can improve client responsiveness.
	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Executive "AdditionalCiticalWorkerThreads"=dword:00000064 (dec)	The "MaxThreadsPerQueue" and "AdditionalCiticalWorkerThreads" keys control the number of threads allocated to file I/O requests. These are the values recommended by Microsoft for file servers with sufficient processing capabilities.
		Refer to <u>http://download.microsoft.com/download/3/2/A/32A</u> <u>70368-1457-4972-8CDD-08A496198361/Perf-tun-srv-</u> <u>R2.docx</u> for additional information.

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User Settings

Unlike machine settings, user settings must be applied to each user and typically cannot be applied as part of the base image. In addition, user settings typically do not depend on whether the image is deployed in private or standard mode; however, the method in which the settings should be applied can be influenced by the image mode. None of the configurations in this section are included in the XenConvert Optimizer tool. These factors make user settings more difficult to implement.

As a recommended approach for the application of the user settings is to utilize group policy settings and/or preferences, as they provide administrators a central site for configuration and allow for greater customization based on the desktop.

Recommended Configurations – Windows specific

The following registry changes and Group Policy based modifications should be evaluated for all deployment scenarios and would almost always be desirable in a XenApp hosted shared desktop implementation. As some of the settings will significantly impact the personalization capabilities for users it is highly recommended to perform user acceptance testing (in addition of general functionality testing) prior to production rollout. **Note:** Windows Group Policy Preferences are a very elegant way of applying registry changes.

Configuration	Optimizer*	Recommendation	Justification	
Internet Explorer	No	HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\	Overcomes a potential screen flicker issue	
– Force		Internet Explorer\Main	for certain websites.	
Offscreen		"Force Offscreen Composition"=dword:00000001		
Composition			Note: This setting applies to IE8 and earlier	
			only.	
Disable Recycle	No	User Configuration - Administrative Templates -	As the Recycle Bin is part of the user profile	
Bin		Windows Components – Windows Explorer	in Windows 2008 R2 it should be disabled	
		Do not move deleted files to the Recycle Bin: Enabled	in roaming profile scenarios, to prevent	
			profile bloat.	
Reduce Menu	No	HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Desktop	Reduces the delay Windows sets for menus.	
Show Delay		"MenuShowDelay"="150"	Provides better user experience.	

Disable all Visual Effects except "Use common tasks in folders" and "Use visual styles on windows and buttons"	No	HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\ Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\VisualEffects "VisualFXSetting"=dword:00000003 HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Desktop\WindowMetrics "MinAnimate"="0" HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windo	Provides a better user experience. Note: The UserPreferenceMask changes based on the settings selected in the System Properties – Performance Options configuration page.
		<pre>ws\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Advanced "ListviewAlphaSelect"=dword:00000000 "TaskbarAnimations"=dword:00000000 "ListviewWatermark"=dword:00000000 "ListviewShadow"=dword:00000000 HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Desktop "FontSmoothing"="0" "UserPreferencesMask"=binary:90,12,01,80 ,10,00,00,00</pre>	
Disable Screen Saver	No	User Configuration - Administrative Templates – Control Panel – Personalization Enable Screen Saver: Disable	Running a server side screen saver consumes resources on the XenApp servers. In case a screen saver is required, running it locally on the end point device would be a better option.
Documents History	No	 User Configuration - Administrative Templates – Start Menu and Taskbar Do not keep history of recently opened documents: Enable Remove Balloon Tips on Start Menu items: Enable Remove frequent program list from Start Menu: Enable 	Minimize the effect on CPU usage when you are running many XenApp sessions and to improve user logon times.



Auto End Tasks	No	HKCU\Control Panel\Desktop	Sometimes an application will hang or	
		"AutoEndTasks"=REG_SZ = "1"	become unresponsive. This often happens	
		"WaittoKillAppTimeout"=REG_SZ= "20000"	when closing applications or logging off.	
			The system will often present a dialog that	
			asks the user to "Wait" or "End Task."	
			This dialog can be suppressed and the "End	
			Task" automatically selected for the user.	
Background Spell	No	Disable using Group Policy	Background spell and grammar checking	
Checking			can cause significant CPU load.	
Sound Scheme	No	Disable Windows Logon / Logoff notification sounds	Playing a sound notification upon every	
			logon/logoff increases the bandwidth	
		HKCU\AppEvents\Schemes\Apps\.Default\	consumption and can also increase the	
		WindowsLogon\.Current	logon/logoff times.	
		"(Default)"=REG_SZ=""		
			Note: It might be desirable to disable	
		HKCU\AppEvents\Schemes\Apps\.Default\	further sounds.	
		WindowsLogoff\.Current		
		"(Default)"=REG_SZ=""		



Recommended Configurations – XenApp specific

The following performance related XenApp specific Group Policy based modifications should be evaluated for all deployment scenarios and would almost always be desirable in a XenApp hosted shared desktop implementation:

Category (within the	Setting	Justification	
XenApp Policy)			
Desktop UI	Desktop Wallpaper: Prohibited	By prohibiting these settings the server	
	Menu animation: Prohibited	memory footprint as well as the network	
	View window content while dragging: Prohibited	bandwidth utilization per user session will be	
		decreased.	
Visual Display\Moving Images	Progressive compression level: Low (min. setting)	By enabling the progressive display	
		compressing the network bandwidth	
		utilization per user is decreased significantly.	
Printing\Drivers	Automatic Installation of in-box drivers: Disabled	Although this setting is not performance	
		related, it is highly recommended, as it	
		prevent Windows from installing Printer	
		Drivers on demand. This can cause printing	
		related functionality and stability issues as	
		well as complicate the troubleshooting.	

Revision History

Revision	Change Description	Updated By	Date
1.0	Document created	Andy Baker – Architect	December 02, 2011
		Brendan Lin – Architect	
		Daniel Feller – Lead Architect	
		Rich Meesters – Architect	
		Thomas Berger – Architect	
1.1	Updated based on	Thomas Berger – Architect	March 02, 2012
	community feedback		
1.2	Updated based on	Thomas Berger – Architect	October 13, 2012
	community feedback		
1.3	Updated based on	Thomas Berger – Architect	December 10, 2012
	community feedback		
1.4	Updated Paging the	Daniel Feller – Lead Architect	June 28, 2013
	Executive to warm about		
	performance issues		
1.5	Updated steps to disable	Ed Duncan – Sr. Consultant	August 29, 2013
	Large Send Offload when		
	using Windows Server		
	2008 or higher		

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