Accelerating the Citrix Presentation Server

Solving the Problem Instead of Treating the Symptoms

Citrix® enables the processing of applications to be moved from desktop clients to centralized devices through the use of their Independent Computing Architecture (ICA). Citrix Presentation Server™ enables these applications to be accessed remotely from any device.

Citrix Presentation Server simplifies the deployment and maintenance of applications and information to branch offices. In addition, it offers a secure way for enterprises to access key resources. In this respect, it is an important tool in the move towards branch office server centralization.

THE NEED FOR ACCELERATION

Citrix is an interactive application that sends screen updates and mouse movements over the WAN. As a result, it is sensitive to latency, jitter, and bandwidth availability.

Most current acceleration appliances simply attempt to compress all other traffic in order to "make more room" for Citrix. Many of these solutions actually hurt Citrix performance by adding additional latency.

SILVER PEAK – IMPROVING CITRIX PERFORMANCE OVER THE WAN

Silver Peak NX Series appliances were designed to improve the delivery of interactive applications, like Citrix Presentation Server. This is achieved via the following:

- **Data reduction.** Network Memory™ and cross-flow compression reduce the amount of actual data that traverses the WAN. This enables Citrix to be deployed in environments that are bandwidth-constrained.
- **Minimize latency.** NX Series appliances are finely tuned with interactive applications in mind, minimizing latency and jitter when processing Citrix traffic.
- **Application-specific QoS.** Silver Peak can properly enforce QoS to ensure that Citrix traffic is properly prioritized and has sufficient bandwidth allocated.
- **Offload Citrix server.** Silver Peak can perform compression on Citrix traffic, enabling this feature to be turned off in the

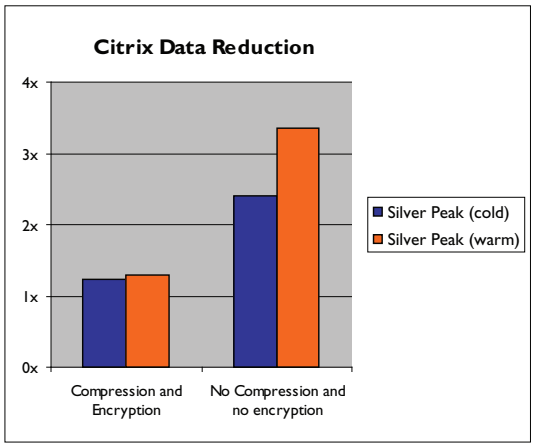
Citrix server. As compression is processor-intensive, this can dramatically improve performance within the application.

FIgure 1 shows the Citrix performance increase that is achieved when compression is performed within the Silver Peak appliance instead of in the Citrix Presentation Server.

- **Printing.** When a file is printed, the entire print job must be pulled across the network. Network Memory and compression reduce the amount of information traversing the WAN, reducing print time. Future print jobs using the same document, or similar revisions, will print at local printing speeds.

The net benefit is that Silver Peak improves Citrix performance across the WAN, and frees up processing power within the Citrix Presentation Server for more efficient and cost-effective operations.

Figure 1.



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