



An Analysis of Propalms TSE and Microsoft Remote Desktop Services









This document illustrates how Propalms TSE can extend your Microsoft Windows Remote Desktop Services environment providing you with the simplified and consolidated management platform required to enable you to meet the challenges of your application delivery infrastructure.

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System Administration

Propalms TSE provides a simple, intuitive web based interface for managing your Remote Desktop Services (RDS) environment. This simplifies the administrative experience while adding additional capabilities not available in native Window RDS.






Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
Web-based Management	Single Web Based Management Console to centrally manage servers, applications and users.				
One-Click Load Balancing	Enable Application Load balancing easily with a single click in the central management console.				
Delegated Administration	Create delegated administrators that have restricted administration rights to the Terminal Services Management tasks.		Partial	Partial	
One-Click Diagnostics	Integrated diagnostics to test for problems on the Terminal Services environment.				
Graphical Dashboard	Graphical Dashboard showing critical metrics for the environment.				
Connection Policies	Apply environment policies to users sessions based on IP address, client name, client operating system or organizational unit.				
Session Recorder	Administrator can choose to record and playback user sessions for Compliance, Security and Support capabilities.				

Server Management

Propalms TSE provides the concept of a server 'team' allowing administration of multiple servers and their daily management to be performed from within a simple, easy to use centralized console.


Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
Resource Based Load-Balancing	Distributes connections across a team of load balanced Applications Servers based on CPU, Memory and by configuration, further performance counters.	Windows NLB	Session Count Only (only designed for up to 5 RDS Servers)	Session Count Only (more advanced options available separately using WSRM)	✓
"Silo" Application Servers	Load Balance specific applications across isolated groups of servers.				✓
One-Click scalability of software and roles to multiple servers	Add/remove server roles dynamically within the central management console allowing increased scalability and redundancy.				✓
Built-in redundancy	Redundancy of server roles configurable within the central management console.				✓
Real-time Health Monitoring	Real-time health monitoring of server health from the management console.				✓
Server Diagnostics	Use the management console to diagnose potential server problems in the team.				✓
Automated reboot schedule	Centralized task to reboot Terminal Servers automatically at a specified time.				✓
Database Configuration	Stores all published application, user and session information in central database.				✓

Server Management (Continued)


Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
Disaster Recovery	Restore all settings from central database				
Enterprise Scalability	Supports large server teams for enterprise deployments.		Recommended for low complexity environments only.	Recommended for low complexity environments only.	
Server Resource Monitor	Monitor available server resources such as available CPU and Memory on each Terminal Server.	Performance Monitor	Performance Monitor	Performance Monitor	
Jobs Framework	The system assigns a Job ID to the all admin jobs and puts them in a queue from where the Jobs Framework picks up the job and completes it. An administrator can monitor the jobs submitted to the system by all administrators.				

Application Management

Propalms TSE enhances RDS Application Management providing an easy to use interface for administrators and adding vital additional capabilities not available under native RDS.


Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	Propalms TSE 6.5 
Seamless Published Applications	Applications running on Terminal Services look and feel as though they are running locally.		✓	✓	✓
Publish Applications to Active Directory Groups, OUs and Users	Applications can be secured against a specific user account, group or organizational unit so only authorized users can see applications.		With TS Web Access, all applications seen by all users	✓	✓
Centralized Application Management	Simply publish your application once and choose which server/s will run the application		Applications must be published on each and every server independently. Configuration can be exported.		✓
Content Publishing	Allows for the publishing of content such as files, folders or websites and have them automatically integrated into the web portal environment.				✓
Desktop / Start Menu Integration	Application shortcuts can be automatically made available on user's local start menu and desktop.		Requires distribution of MSI packages	Requires Win7 or distribution of MSI packages	✓
Publish Applications to all Windows clients	Allow older versions of windows clients to run published applications.		Windows XP SP2 or above	Windows XP SP2 or above	✓
Application Instance Limits	Allows control over number of instances of an application across a server or multiple servers.				✓

Application Management (Continued)

Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
Disable Application capability	Temporarily disable access to published application.				✓
Remove Application	Ability to dynamically remove application from a user, group or OU.		TS Web Access removes application for everyone	✓	✓
Content Redirection	Allows certain content such as http or media to be redirected to the local client's player rather than launched on the Terminal Server.				✓
Publish in Folders	Allow applications to be organized into folders for easier user navigation.		Requires distribution of MSI packages		✓
Publish to Web Portal	Make applications available in web browser		Configuration must be identical on all servers		✓
Virtual IP Address	Provides a virtual IP address to an application session. Some applications will not run on Terminal Services without this feature.			✓	✓


Security

Propalms TSE adds extra security to RDS Infrastructures.

Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
SSL Gateway	Software based SSL gateway service providing secure authentication and server based application access to authorised users.		TS Gateway must be member of Active Directory Domain		✓
Remote Single Sign-on	Users only authenticate to the gateway once and no additional passwords are required for application launch.			RDC 7.0 only	✓
DMZ Traversal	Provide secure authentication and application access to authorised users, traversing firewalls without opening any additional ports. Only single SSL port required.				✓
Location Based Security Policies	Control access to resources such as applications, printers, local drives etc. based on client location.				✓
Terminal Server Lockdown	Simple server lockdown to stop malicious use increasing stability.		With Active Directory Group Policies		✓
Web Based Password Change	Provides users with an easy, quick way to change their domain password whether local or remote.				✓
Full SSL VPN	Hardened Linux based VPN providing secure remote access to all applications and protocols.				Propalms VPN available as Add-on to TSE

End User Experience






Propalms TSE assists the user to access their applications in a familiar, easy-to-use manner.

Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
User Environment Management	Allow the user to choose a connection policy that suits their connection type, improving performance and reliability.				✓
Policy Controlled Client Drives	Policy based control of access to client drives including removable, fixed, network and CD-ROMs.		Domain joined clients		✓
USB Printer support	Enable access to client USB attached printers.	✓	✓	✓	✓
USB Drive Support	Enable access to USB storage devices connected to client.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Session Sharing	After the user launches the first session all subsequent sessions run within this existing session providing performance and integration benefits.		✓	✓	✓ TSE can be configured to turn this off for true application load balancing
Desktop Composition	Provides the user with Windows Aero desktop experience.		✓ Vista	✓ Windows 7	✓ Same as Native RDS
Client Platforms	Support for Windows CE, Linux, MAC OS and Java clients.	Windows and Mac only	Windows and Mac only	Windows and Mac only	✓
Reconnect to Disconnected Sessions	Allows user to reconnect to previously disconnected sessions.	Enterprise Edition	✓	✓	✓

Active Session Control	Allows users to manage their active sessions as well as disconnected sessions and roam with them from device to device.					✓
Multiple Monitor Support	Allows applications running from the server to be displayed across multiple client connected monitors.	✓	✓	✓		✓
Audio Playback	Support audio playback on client from server session.		✓	✓		✓
Auto-Client Installation	A web wizard detects the presence of client software and offers to install if necessary.					✓


Monitoring and Reporting

Propalms TSE includes extensive Reporting capabilities allowing an administrator to analyse and/or extract extensive information from the TSE system.

Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
Metering and Reporting	Metering and reporting of application usage by users, client machines, servers.				
Peak Usage	Monitor peak concurrent usage of servers and applications.				
Download Reports	Exports reports into csv format for archiving and further reporting use.				
Audit Logging	Comprehensive auditing of system events and changes for change control and root cause analysis.				

Print Management

Propalms TSE provides a number of printing features that help an administrator solve the problem of print management in a RDS environment.

Feature	Description	Microsoft Windows Server 2003	Microsoft Windows Server 2008	Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2	 Propalms TSE 6.5
Client Printer Auto-creation	Auto-create client side printers inside server sessions.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Universal Print Driver	Print driver that supports all printers with full functionality so no need to install vendor drivers on Terminal Services.				XP client requires: TS client 6.1 and .NET Framework 3.0 SP1 Vista client requires: SP2 with RDC 7.0 and KB971644 ✓
PDF Print Solution	PDF based print management and delivery.				✓
Printer Management	Centralized interface for installing and managing print drivers across all Remote Desktop Services servers.				✓
Policy Based Printing	Client printers assigned based on policies such as IP address, client name, client operating system or organizational unit.				✓
Printer Naming Scheme	Customize client printer name format to suit application requirements.				✓
Proximity Printing	Add network printers automatically based on client's IP address.				✓
Failback Driver	In case the vendor driver is not available provides a driver with basic printing support.	✓	✓	✓	✓



Propalms Ltd is a global provider of application delivery and secure remote access solutions for Terminal Services and Virtual Desktop Infrastructures. Delivering to Enterprises of all sizes we offer reliable, scalable and affordable solutions that simply work. Our belief is that application delivery solutions should be flexible, dynamic and above all, simple to use.

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