**Amazon WorkSpaces**

1. **Overview**

Amazon WorkSpaces is a managed, secure cloud desktop service. You can use Amazon WorkSpaces to provision either Windows or Linux desktops in just a few minutes and quickly scale to provide thousands of desktops to workers across the globe. You can pay either monthly or hourly, just for the WorkSpaces you launch, which helps you save money when compared to traditional desktops and on-premises VDI solutions. Amazon WorkSpaces helps you eliminate the complexity in managing hardware inventory, OS versions and patches, and Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI), which helps simplify your desktop delivery strategy. With Amazon WorkSpaces, your users get a fast, responsive desktop of their choice that they can access anywhere, anytime, from any supported device.

Amazon WorkSpaces is a managed desktop virtualization service provided by Amazon Web Services (AWS). In a nutshell, this is a service that allows you to manipulate computers on any terminal on the cloud.

In fact, the "cloud" is exactly the same, but in this case it also means "cloud storage". Amazon WorkSpaces puts desktops on the cloud and connects to other virtual desktops from iPad, Mac, Kindle Fire, and more.

1. **Benefits**

***Simplify desktop delivery***

Amazon WorkSpaces helps you eliminate many administrative tasks associated with managing your desktop lifecycle including provisioning, deploying, maintaining, and recycling desktops. There is less hardware inventory to manage and no need for complex virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) deployments that don’t scale.

***Control your desktop resources***

Amazon WorkSpaces offers a range of CPU, memory, and solid-state storage bundle configurations that can be dynamically modified so you have the right resources for your applications. You don’t have to waste time trying to predict how many desktops you need or what configuration those desktops should be, helping you reduce costs and eliminate the need to over-buy hardware.

***Flexible desktop os deployment***

Amazon WorkSpaces comes with a Windows 7, Windows 10, or Amazon Linux 2 desktop experience. Or you can bring your own Windows 7 or Windows 10 desktops and run them on Amazon WorkSpaces, and remain license compliant. In addition, you can choose from a number of productivity application bundles with your WorkSpaces.

***Centrally manage and scale your global desktop development***

Amazon WorkSpaces is available in 11 AWS Regions and provides access to high performance cloud desktops wherever your teams get work done. You can manage a global deployment of many thousands of WorkSpaces from the AWS console. And you can rapidly provision and de-provision desktops as the needs of your workforce change.

***Reduce cost***

Amazon WorkSpaces eliminates the need to over-buy desktop and laptop resources by providing on-demand access to cloud desktops that include a range of compute, memory, and storage resources to meet your users' performance needs.

***Keep your data secure***

Amazon WorkSpaces is deployed within an Amazon Virtual Private Network (VPC), provide each user with access to persistent, encrypted storage volumes in the AWS Cloud, and integrate with AWS Key Management Service (KMS). No user data is stored on the local device. This helps improve the security of user data and reduces your overall risk surface area*.*

***Delivery desktop to multiple devices***

Your users can access their Amazon WorkSpaces from any supported device, including Windows and Mac computers, Chromebooks, iPads, Fire tablets, Android tablets and through Chrome or Firefox web browsers. Once your WorkSpace is provisioned just download the client to access it from the device of your choice*.*

***Use your existing directory***

Amazon WorkSpaces securely integrates with your existing corporate directory, including Microsoft Active Directory, as well as multi-factor authentication tools so that your users can easily access company resources. You can manage user access control through the use of IP access control groups, which makes it easy to control and manage user access to their WorkSpaces using your existing tools.

1. **Use cases**

***Provide secure cloud desktops for remote, mobile, and contract employees***

The rapid growth of remote and mobile workers is placing pressure on IT to provide fast, easy access to corporate applications and data from the device of their choice. Amazon WorkSpaces helps mobile and remote employees access the applications users need by delivering a cloud desktop accessible anywhere with an internet connection using any supported device.

***Enable bring your own device***

To deliver on the promise of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiatives, IT must ensure employees can easily and securely access their applications and data across a large and constantly changing number of devices. Amazon WorkSpaces lets you run a cloud desktop directly on a wide range of devices like PC, Mac, iPad, Kindle Fire, Android tablet, Chromebook, and web browsers like Firefox, and Chrome. This gives you the tools to deliver a secure, responsive desktop experience that will delight your users and help make your BYOD initiative a reality.

***Rapidly provision and scale desktops for software test and development***

Developers and test teams need access to a secure, high-performance WorkSpace for completing tasks without the expense and inventory that comes with a lot of over-provisioned physical hardware. You can provision Amazon WorkSpaces that includes all the tools your developers need to build applications quickly. Your source code is not stored on developers’ devices helping ensure the safety of your intellectual property.

***Quickly provision persistent desktops for classroom and lab settings***

Amazon WorkSpaces provides a full, persistent desktop that students can use throughout their education while Amazon AppStream 2.0 lets course instructors quickly deliver specific applications for the unique needs for their class. Used together, you can easily build the learning environment your students need and ensure students have what they need for your class from day one.

***Rapid integration during mergers and acquisitions***

Companies going through M&A activity must support quickly on-boarding or off-loading large numbers of employees with fast, easy, secure access to company applications and data. They must do so across a diverse set of devices without spending much money or going through lengthy complex integrations. With Amazon WorkSpaces, IT teams quickly can provision and decommission secure WorkSpaces to keep up with changing organizational structures.