

TM03 From Zero to Hero:

Build and Manage an Azure Virtual Desktop Environment Marcel Meurer

MVP – Microsoft Azure Sepago GmbH, ITProCloud GmbH

Level: Advanced

Session Survey

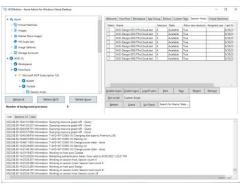
- Your feedback is very important to us
- Please take a moment to complete the session survey found in the mobile app
- Use the QR code or search for "Converge360 Events" in your app store
- Find this session on the Agenda tab
- Click "Session Evaluation"
- Thank you!







- Focus
 - Azure Virtual Desktop & Log Analytics
 - WVDAdmin & Hydra for AVD
- Blog: blog.ITProCloud.de
- Contact
 - @MarcelMeurer
 - https://www.linkedin.com/in/marcelmeurer/











ITProCloud



20015

Topics for today

Poh

How to use the golden master approach without destroying the master

Operating Azure Virtual Desktop with PowerShell

 Monitoring and debugging of Azure Virtual Desktop



Golden Master Approach

- How to use the golden master approach without destroying the master
 - Sysprep
 - Optimization
 - Imaging
 - •



Operation of AVD with PowerShell

- Deployment of session hosts
- Secure boot
- Disk size
- Other options
- •



Monitoring and Debugging

- Configure the diagnostic logging
- Create advanced monitoring with Azure Function
- Work with the logs in Log Analytics
- Create workbooks and alerts
- ...



Timing

9:00am Start (2h)

11:00 – 11:15am Morning Coffee Break (1:45h)

1:00 – 2:00pm Lunch Break (Mixer)

3:30 – 3:45pm Afternoon Break (1:30h)

5:00pm End (1:15h)

~6h



Azure Virtual Desktop

Multi-Session

VDI



Windows Server RD Session Host

Scalable multi-session legacy
Windows environment

Windows Server

Multiple sessions

Win32

Office 2019 Perpetual

Long-Term Servicing Channel



Azure Virtual Desktop Multi-session

Scalable multi-session modern Windows user experience with Windows 10 Enterprise security

Windows 10/11

Multiple sessions

Win32, UWP

Microsoft 365 Apps for enterprise

Semi-Annual Channel

Windows 10 / 11 Enterprise

Native single-session modern Windows experience

Windows 10/11

Single session

Win32, UWP

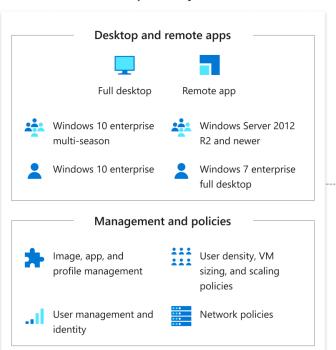
Microsoft 365 Apps for enterprise

Semi-Annual Chann

1998 - 202

- Microsoft's Virtual Desktop environment running only in Azure
- All necessary infrastructure around is operated by Microsoft, compared to RDS
 - RD Gateway
 - RD Web
 - RD Broker
 - Licensing
 - **–** ...
- Necessary infrastructure is
 - Free of charge, if you have M365 / W10E / RDS Cal https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/pricing/details/virtual-desktop/
 - Platform services invisible for admins and users.
- To be clear
 - Customer have to pay for VMs, storage, network and need the right licenses (M365 or RDS va)

Your subscription—your control



Managed by Microsoft

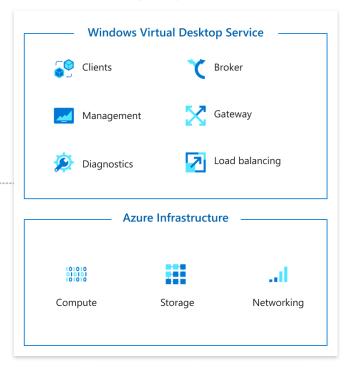
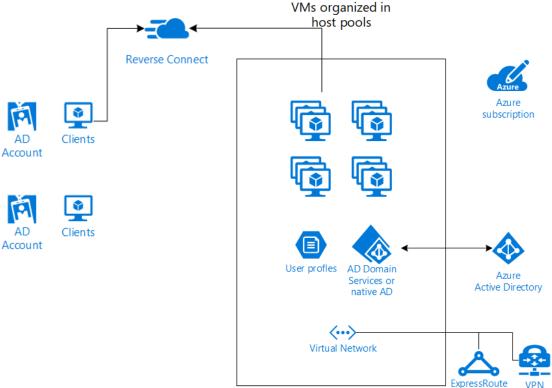


Image source:

https://azure.microsoft.c om/dede/services/virtualdesktop/#festured

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What to you need at least:

- Classic AD environment
- Synced directories (AD->AAD; AADDS)
- Azure subscription
- Virtual Machines
- Storage for profiles and other stuff
- Clients

Good to have

- VPN/Express route to local data center if needed
- Monitoring, scaling, etc.



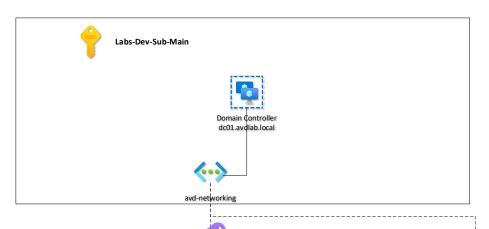
Feel free to use your own tenant and subscription



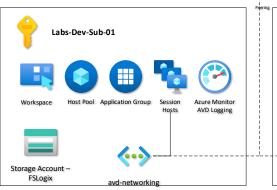
- Azure Tenant: goavdlab.onMicrosoft.com
- Several subscriptions and prepared resource groups
- Native Active Directory domain: avdlab.local with synchronized users
- Everybody gets a couple of accounts for:
 - Administration (AD synchronized, permissions in several resourcegroups)
 - Test users (AD synchronized and AAD only)
 - Service account (for adding a computer to a domain)
 - Service principal for automated administrations

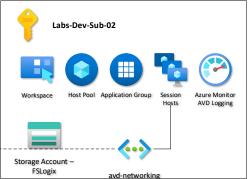


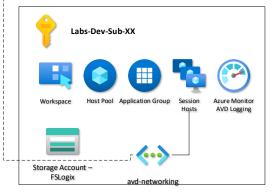




Hub-Spoke topology











Labs-Dev-Sub-##

Resource groups in subscriptions





avd-networking

avd-networking













Azure Monitor

AVD Logging

avd-resources-##

Workspace









avd-templates-##

Golden Master

Compute Gallery

Virtual Machine **Images**



avd-vms-##



avd-automation-##



VM -> Session Hosts



Function



Please use your account only (counted by two-digit numbers = ##)

Use the piece of paper in front of you - it contains the accounts and passwords

Accounts:

- Administration (AD synchronized, permissions in several resource groups):
 LabAdmin##@goavdlab.onMicrosoft.com
- Test users (AD synchronized and AAD only):
 <u>LabUser##-01@goavdlab.onMicrosoft.com</u> <u>LabUser##-10@goavdlab.onMicrosoft.com</u>
 (Member of group S-G-LabUsers-##)
- Test users (ADD-only):
 <u>LabUserAad##-01@goavdlab.onMicrosoft.com</u> <u>LabUserAad##-10@goavdlab.onMicrosoft.com</u>
 (Member of group S-G-LabUsersAad-##)
- Service account (for adding a computer to a domain) svc-add-host@avdlab.local
- Service principal for automated administrations (created later) svc-avd-automation-##



Additional data and step-by-step instructions

https://bit.ly/techmentor-tm03 - PW: TechMentor2023@Seattle





#1 – Azure Portal

Let's get started

Login to Azure

(labadmin## ->https://portal.azure.com)

Discover the environment: Resource Groups



#1 – Azure Portal

Existing resource groups:

- avd-networking
 - Contains a vnet connected to the internal network and to the domain controller of avdlab.local
- avd-resources-##
 - The target for the AVD platform resources, like host pools, app groups, and workspaces. Also, log analytics and storage accounts if needed.
- avd-vms-##
 - For all the session hosts' virtual machines.
- avd-templates-##
 - For all Golden Master VMs and images, computes galleries, etc.
- avd-automation-##
 - For own automation, like Azure function



#2 – Create basic resources

Create AVD Resources in the correct resource groups (avd-resources-##) — West US 3

- Log Analytics workspace (for logging and monitoring)
 - Name: la-avd-monitoring
- Host pool with desktop application group and workspace
 - Name: hp-lab-windows11Pooled (multi-session)
 - Session limit: 4
 - No virtual machine
 - Register desktop app group
 - With a new workspace: ws-lab-company-portal
 - Enable diagnostic settings and send data to Log Analytics
 - Select your log analytics workspace from the step before
- Assign your user and group to the desktop application group (S-G-LabUsers-## and : LabAdmin##@goavdlab.onmicrosoft.com)
- Open the Remote Desktop app with one of your users (https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=2139369)

▲ ● Host Pools Microsoft MVP Subscription BioPAT D Canada Default-Production-WUS2-A ■ Design ■ Session hosts AVD-Design-001.ITProCloud.test AVD-Design-002.ITProCloud.test ■ App Groups Desktop Application Group Microsoft MVP Subscription

Description Company-Store

Designer Workspace

Desktop Application Group

Monitor-DAG

Standard Apps

⊕ WestEU

Workspace for Engineers



Use your 2-digit number for '##' - Azure region: "US West 3"

Imaging and Deployment

What do we need first? Mostly, a custom image – Golden Master Approach Default



Master VM

Windows 11, domain-joined (opt.)

Preparation

Windows Update, FS-Logix, Application installation, 3rd party tools, optimizations

Sysprep + Generalize

Generalize Windows, often more difficult than expected

Image

Generate an image



Imaging and Deployment

What do we need first? Mostly, a custom image – Golden Master Approach with WVDAdmin or PowerShell



Master VM

Windows 11, domain-joined (opt.)

Preparation

Windows Update, FS-Logix,
Application installation, 3rd party
tools, optimizations

Temporary VM

Exact copy of the Golden Master

Sysprep + Generalize

Generalize Windows, often more difficult than expected

Image

Generate an image

- Makes a copy from the Golden Master
- Works with the copy (temporary VM)
 - Sysprep
 - · Generalization & grab the image

- Remove temporary VM
- The Golden Master can be reused



#3 – Golden Master VM

Create your first Golden Master

Create a new Azure VM

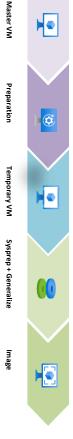
Basic

- Resource group: avd-templates-##
- Name: T-AVD-##-A (please use your ##)
- No infrastructure redundancy
- Security Type: Standard (important)
- Image: Windows 11 Enterprise multi-session, version 22H2 x64 Gen2
- Size: D2as_v4
- Username: avdLocalAdmin Password: your choice (same as the other passwords)
- Confirm

Networking

- Existing virtual network and subnet: avd-networking
- With public IP (not recommended at all, use the internal network in production or bastion host)

Create the VM





Use your 2-digit number for '##' - Azure region: "US West 3"

#3 – Create a Golden Master VM

Create your first Golden Master

- Logon to the VM via RDP* (should be possible from the network – otherwise, use jump hosts)

Preparation

- Install Windows update if needed
 - Reboot, if needed
- Install applications
 - Windows features: RSAT tools for administration (Group Policy Management and Active Directory Management)
 - E.g., 7Zip, Notepad++, Filezilla, Chrome, etc.
 - You can use https://ninite.com/
- Optimize the VM
- https://github.com/The-Virtual-Desktop-Team/Virtual-Desktop-Optimization-Tool
- Configure AppxPackages.json, and Services.json before you run the script
- Restart the virtual machine on Windows
- Shutdown the virtual machine in Windows
- Deallocate in the Azure Portal





Use your 2-digit number for '##' – Azure region: "US West 3"

#4 - Create an image with PowerShell

Imaging with PowerShell

- Our helper scripts
 - Download: https:\\bit.ly\tobedefine
 - Create-MagicImageFromVM
 - Creates an image without destroying the Master
 - Create-SessionHostFromImage
 - Creates a session host from an image
 - ITPC-WVD-Image-Processing.ps1 used by the other scripts
 - Runs inside of a VM
 - Prepares, runs, and monitors Sysprep
 - Can be used for the domain- and AVD-join of VMs
 - And some other features

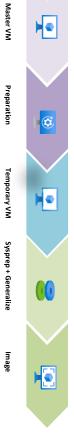




#4 – Create an image with PowerShell

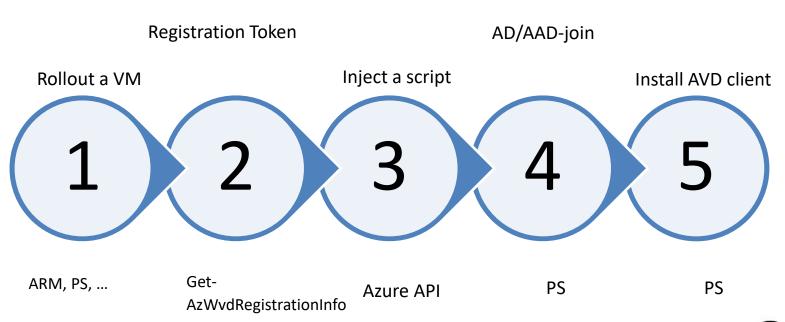
Imaging with PowerShell – the Golden Master stays untouched

- Open PowerShell on your device and connect to Azure:
 - Use: LabAdmin##@goavdlab.onmicrosoft.com
 - Connect-AzAccount -TenantId "c79b2f74-6012-46c3-ad68-326cca9c012e"
 - Modify the script Create-MagicImageFromVM to fit your needs
 - The variables in the first lines to match your
 - Golden Master VM
 - Set an image name
 - Run the script step-by-step and check the Azure Portal to figure out what happens:
 - A new NIC for the temporary VM
 - Snapshot of the disk of the Golden Master
 - Disk from snapshot
 - New VM with NIC and disk (from snapshot)
 - Runs ITPC-WVD-Image-Processing.ps1 on the temporary VM with a parameter to do the preparation and sysprep
 - Generalize the VM and capture an image
 - Clean-up





Host Deployment

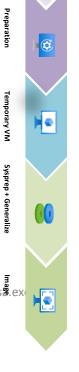




#5 – Create a session host with PowerShell

Imaging with PowerShell

- Open PowerShell on your device and connect to Azure:
 - Use: LabAdmin##@goavdlab.onmicrosoft.com
 - Connect-AzAccount -Tenantid "c79b2f74-6012-46c3-ad68-326cca9c012e"
 - Modify the script Create-SessionHostFromImage to fit your needs (\$ImageName and \$myld)
 - The variables in the first lines to match your
 - Image and image resource group
 - Host pool & host pool resource group
 - VM name and VM resource group
 - Id of your subnet (check and correct the subscription ID)
 - The target OU in Active Directory (fit to your ##)
 - Run the script step-by-step and check the Azure Portal to figure out what happens:
 - A new NIC for the host
 - Create VM from the image
 - Get the token of the host pool
 - Runs ITPC-WVD-Image-Processing.ps1 on the temporary VM with parameters to do the preparation and joint to the domain and host pool
 - Use the remote desktop app to logon as LabAdmin##@goavdlab.onmicrosoft.com and validate if the VM is in the right OU (ds .ex





Use your 2-digit number for '##' – Azure region: "US West 3"

We can use Group Policies for domain-joined hosts

- Use the remote desktop app to logon as LabAdmin##@goavdlab.onmicrosoft.com
- Open Group Policy Management Console (gpmc.msc)
- Edit your prepared GPO: Lab -> Systems -> Azure -> AVD -> Hosts -> ## -> GPO-M-ComputerPolicy-##

Configuration:

- FSLogix
- Remote Desktop Session Hosts
- Desktop behavior

.



FSLogix

- Computer Configuration -> Administrative Settings -> FSLogix -> Profile Containers
 - Enabled: Enabled
 - Delete Local Profile When VHD Should Apply
 - VHD Locations: \\ads01.avdlab.local\profiles
- Computer Configuration -> Administrative Settings -> FSLogix -> Profile Containers -> Advanced
 - Redirections XML ...: \\ads01.avdlab.local\profiles

Note: There are a lot more option to configure the behavior of the session hosts



Remote Desktop Session Hosts

- Computer Configuration -> Administrative Settings -> Windows Components -> Remote Desktop Session Hosts -> Device and Resource Redirection
 - Allow time zone redirection



Desktop behavior

- Computer Configuration -> Administrative Settings -> Start Menu and Taskbar
 - Remove and prevent access to the shut down, restart, ...



Reboot

- Reboot your session host and login again to validate FSLogix
 - E.g., from the Azure Portal
- Check FSLogix state
 - "C:\Program Files\FSLogix\Apps\frxtray.exe"



#7 – Using a free community Tool

WVDAdmin is a license-free community tool for managing AVD, including imaging

- It's available in our lab (check the AVD Client with your admin account
 Connect to WVDAdmin or the desktop
 (Alternatively: Download WVDAdmin from: https://blog.itprocloud.de/Windows-Virtual-Desktop-Admin/)
- Remote Desktop

 Peedback Settings Tile ...

 AVD Hands-on-Workshop

 LabAdmin90@goavdla... AVD ...

 Active Group Windows Directory... Policy Ma... PowerSh... Admin

- Configuration:

- WVDAdmin needs a service account to work with the Azure APIs
- The service account (service principal) can be create in the Azure Portal (AAD->App registration)
- The service account needs permission in the subscription
- DEMO
- Create a service principal (app registration) for WVDAdmin and give permission to your resource groups (svd-avd-wvdadmin-##)
- Configure WVDAdmin and click on Reload All
- Overview over WVDAdmin



Use your 2-digit number for '##' – Azure region: "US West 3"

#8 – Capturing an image with WVDAdmin

In WVDAdmin

- Select your Golden Master
 - Azure -> Virtual Machines -> avd-templates-## -> Please click on your VM
 - Right click -> Create a template image
 - Give the new image a name (not a name from an existing image)
- Finish the process



#9 – Rollout an image with WVDAdmin

In WVDAdmin

- Select your image
 - Azure -> Images -> avd-templates-## -> Please click on your image
 - Right click -> Create a session host from image
 - Fill out the rollout to fit your environment
 - Hostpool, subnet, resource group
 - Size of VM: D2as v5
 - Domain user: svc-add-host@avdlab.local and passwort
 - OU: OU=##,OU=Hosts,OU=AVD,OU=Azure,OU=Systems,OU=Lab,DC=avdlab,DC=local
 - Domain FQDN: avdlab.local
 - Local Admin & password: avdLocalAdmin / avdLocalAdmin123---###
- Finish the process
- Remove the older host: WVD V2 -> Host Pools -> resource group -> Your host pool -> Session hosts -> Select -> Remove
- Logon to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join



Use your 2-digit number for '##' – Azure region: "US West 3"

#10a – Rollout secure boot enabled hosts

In the Azure Portal

- Create an Azure Compute Gallery

```
Basic
```

- Resource group: avd-templates-##
- Name: acg avd images ## (please use your ##)

Sharing

Role-based access control (RBAC)

Create

- Add a VM Image Definition in the gallery

Basic

- VM image definition name: imd-lab-windows11-EVD
- Name: acd-avd-secboot ## (please use your ##)
- Security Type: Trusted launch
- Publisher/Offer/SKU: -

Create

- https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security/fundamentals/secure-boot



Use your 2-digit number for '##' – Azure region: "US West 3"

#10a - Rollout secure boot enabled hosts

In WVDAdmin

- Click Reload all
- Copy the image to compute the gallery
 - Go to your last created image: Azure -> Images -> Resource group -> Select your image
 - Right-click -> Copy to shared image gallery
 - Select the gallery
 - Select the gallery definition
 - Enter a version x.y.z
 - Select your replication targets (only West US 3 is fine)
- Copying the image takes a while
- Time for a break
- Note: Compute Gallery images can be used cross-region and cross-subscriptions



Use your 2-digit number for '##' - Azure region: "US West 3"

#10a – Rollout secure boot enabled hosts

In WVDAdmin

- Select your image version
 - Azure -> Image Galleries -> Please click on your image version
 - Right-click -> Create a session host from gallery image
 - Fill out the rollout to fit your environment
 - Hostpool, subnet, resource group
 - Size of VM: D2as v5
 - Domain user: svc-add-host@avdlab.local and passwort
 - OU: OU=##,OU=Hosts,OU=AVD,OU=Azure,OU=Systems,OU=Lab,DC=avdlab,DC=local
 - Domain FQDN: avdlab.local
 - Local Admin & password: avdLocalAdmin / avdLocalAdmin123---###
 - Disk size: 256 GByte
 - Tick: Secure Boot
- Finish the process
- Remove the older host: WVD V2 -> Host Pools -> resource group -> Your host pool -> Session hosts -> Select -> Remove
- Logon to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and verify AD-join and the disk is around 256 Gbyte in significant to the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the other host with the Remote Desktop Client and the Other Desktop C

Use your 2-digit number for '##' – Azure region: "US West 3"

#10b – Optional: Secure boot with ADE Disk

In WVDAdmin

- Create a Key Vault
 - Access configuration to the service account and your admin account
 - Enable ADE on the Vault
 - Create a key (ADE)
 - Copy key resource id and resource id of the vault to notepad
- Modify the host pool
 - Add two new tags to the host pool with the values from notepad
 - Name: WVD.Default.KevVault.Id
 - Value: subscriptions/8c548bd3-06d3-4b10-838a-67a4cd58524d/resourceGroups/avd-resources-90/providers/Microsoft.KeyVault/vaults/kv-lab-techmentor2023-##
 - Name: WVD.Default.KevVault.KevUri
 - Value: https://kv-lab-techmentor2023-99.vault.azure.net/keys/ADE/b3d6c4d6e39b43e9b05a853ecb7def36
- Rollout a new session host
 - In WVDAdmin click: Reload all
 - Fill out the rollout to fit your environment
 - Hostpool, subnet, resource group
 - Size of VM: D2as v5
 - Domain user: svc-add-host@avdlab.local and passwort
 - OU: OU=##,OU=Hosts,OU=AVD,OU=Azure,OU=Systems,OU=Lab,DC=avdlab,DC=local
 - Domain FODN: avdlab.local
 - Local Admin & password: avdLocalAdmin / avdLocalAdmin123---###
 - Disk size: 256 GByte



#11 – Updates and app install with WVDAdmin

In WVDAdmin

- Select your virtual machines
 - Azure -> Click on virtual machines -> Refresh
 - You can see all VMs on the right site
 - Select all
 - Start the VMs and wait
 - Select the script "Run Windows Updates"
 - Click on the run script button
 - Wait to finish (Note: If updates are installed, a reboot is mostly needed)
- Installing apps with the package Manager from Microsoft on the Golden Master
 - Select only the Golden Master
 - out the rollout to fit your environment
 - Select the script "Microsoft Package Manger"
 - Click on the run script button
 - Select some software. E.g., Greenshot, Storage Explorer, Acrobat Reader
 - Click OK to install the apps
 - Optional: Capture a new image from master and rollout a new VM with the updated software
- Optionally, you can grab a new image and deploy a new host directly from the image (without using the gallery)
- Delete the older hosts

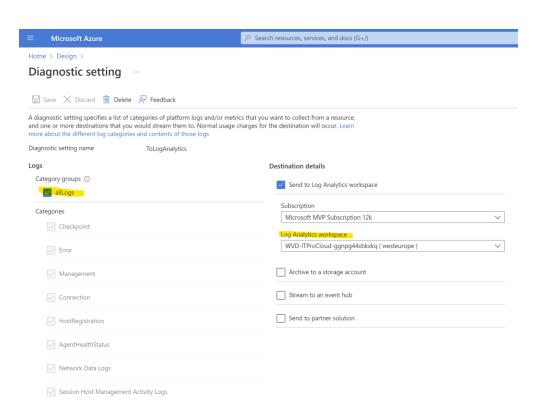


MONITORING



Monitoring

Validate Diagnostic Logging

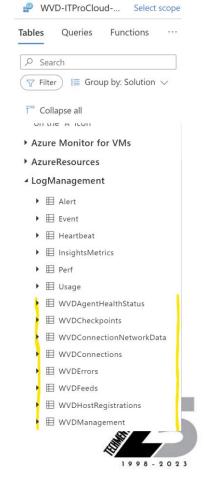


Monitoring

- Enjoy the Diagnostic Logging
- Key: CorrelationId

Log Type	Note
WVDAgentHealthStatus	Details about the session hosts
WVDConnections	All about connections from a user to a session host
WVDErrors	Error message from different sources (client, RDGateway, Loadbalancer,)
WVDFeeds	Log about clients downloading information about the AVD resources
WVDHostRegistrations	Logs if a host tries to register to a host pool
WVDManagement	Log about administrative tasks
WVDCheckpoints	Detailed information related to logins, errors,
WVDConnectionNetworkData	Network information (bandwidth and RTT)

https://blog.itprocloud.de/AVD-Azure-Virtual-Desktop-Error-Drill-Down-Workbook/



#12 – Diagnostic logging

In the Azure Portal

- Open the log analytics workspace you have created before
 - Check out the different log in Logs -> LogManagement -> Starting with WVD....
 - Use the prepared KUSTO queries to get information about (run the queries one by one)
 - Logon
 - Errors
 - Connection
 - Etc.
 - Optionally: Create some error: Shutdown all hosts and try to connect
 - After a minute, an error event should be in the WVDErrors Log



Monitoring

Ready-to-use Workbook

https://bit.ly/avd-mon-1

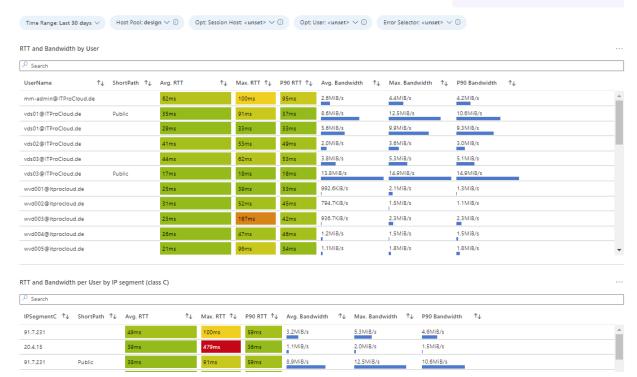


Azure Virtual Desktop - Deep-Insights

This workbook gives you an insight into the logs coming from the Azure Virtual Backplane. These data can be used to resolve issues while user connecting or running sessions.

Check for an update of this Workbook - Current version: v1.5

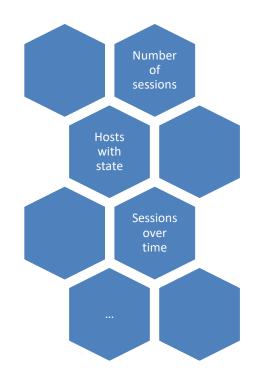
- Check-out the ITProCloud Bloa
 - blog.itprocloud.de
 - WVDAdmin



#13 – Install the ready to use workbook

- Got to this link and install the workbook in the avd-resources-## resource group
 - https://bit.ly/avd-mon-1
- Do prepare another issue: Delete a session host VM in the Azure Portal
- Explore the AVD Deep Insights workbook
 - Go to the log analytics workspace -> Workbooks -> AVD Deep Insights
 - Explorer the different part
 - Check for orphan resources







Challenge: Query data from Azure and store it to log analytics (each minute)

- Logic App
 - + modern, cloud service, easy to use
 - expensive (12 operations each 30 seconds > 120 Euro/month)



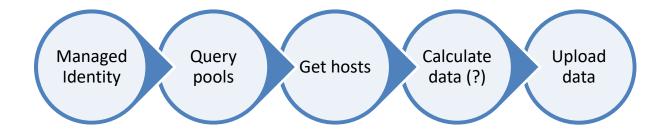
- Azure Functions
 - + modern, cloud service, mostly cheap
 - needs code



- Azure Automation
 - + cloud service, cheap
 - not so modern needs code and workarounds





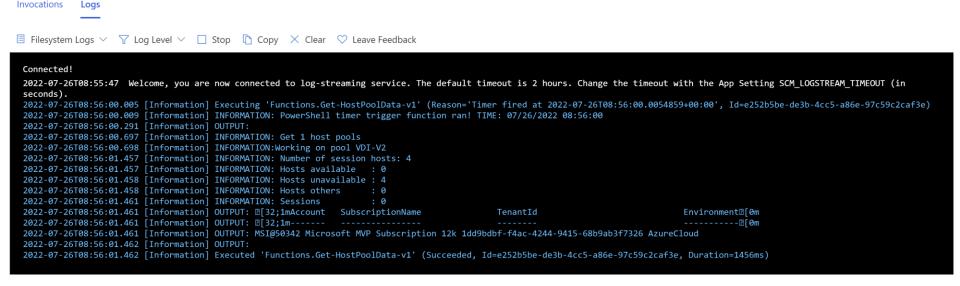




Challenge:

Query data from Azure and store it to log analytics (each minute)

(sessions, session host state, capacity)



#14 – Function App to collect and store data

In the Azure Portal

- Create a Function App
 - Resource group: avd-automation-##
 - Name: techmentor-avdlab-##
 - Runtime stack: PowerShell Core
 - All others: On default, including storage and application insights
 - Create
- Open the Function App
 - Enable identity of the function app
 - Give identity Read access to resource group (avd-resources-##)
 - Configure: App files -> requirements.psd1 (add Az.Accounts and Az.DesktopVirtualization)
 - Overview -> Create in Azure Portal -> Name: AVDCollector -> Time trigger -> "*/60 * * * * * "
 - => Code + Test
 - Copy the PowerShell script content: AzureFunctionMonitoring.ps1 into script field
 - Modify the variables to fit your needs:
 - \$WorkspaceId and \$WorkspaceKey from your log analytics workspace => Agents => Workspace Id and Key
- Open log analytics and wait for the first data (also check monitoring on the function app)
 - Note: It could take a while before the first data are visible in log analytics



If we have time left...

Questions and discussion Let's do some load tests



Thank you so much!

Enjoy TechMentor





Session Survey

- Your feedback is very important to us
- Please take a moment to complete the session survey found in the mobile app
- Use the QR code or search for "Converge360 Events" in your app store
- Find this session on the Agenda tab
- Click "Session Evaluation"
- Thank you!



