Username Persistence for VMware Horizon with View Deployments

F5 and VMware offerings

- BIG-IP® Local Traffic Manager™
- BIG-IP® Access Policy Manager®
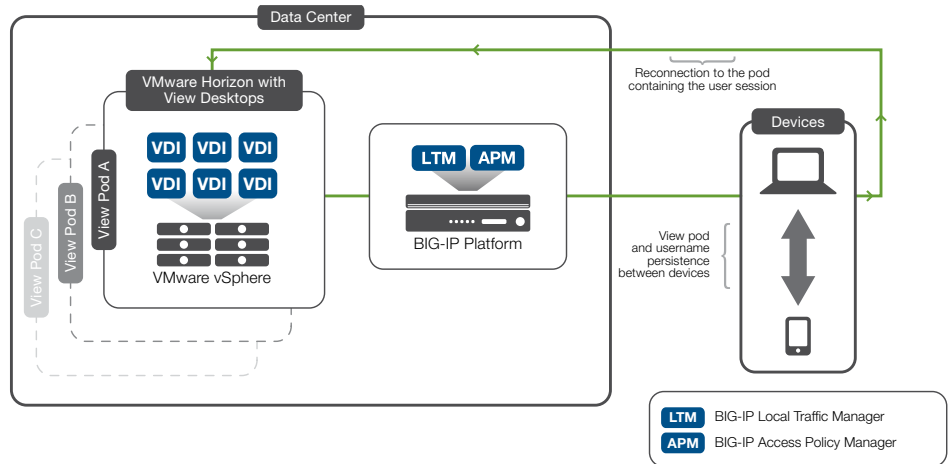- VMware Horizon with View

A successful VMware Horizon with View implementation often depends on providing virtual desktops that are as easy and convenient to use as physical desktops. This objective can be difficult to achieve in large organizations, which may segregate their hundreds of users into several View pods to reflect multiple office locations, reflect business continuity plans, or accommodate the scalability limits of a single View pod. For organizations deploying multiple View pods, F5 products can do more than enhance scalability, availability, and security. They can also help improve the user experience by delivering username persistence, and thus desktop consistency, that's not otherwise available.

Improve the User Experience

Users frequently disconnect from View sessions—when they log off for lunch, switch from a laptop to an iPad, move between terminals on different office floors, or lose the connection on congested networks. In a multi-pod deployment, disconnected users who subsequently reconnect are not guaranteed to be sent back to their original View pod. When they are reconnected, they must re-open all previously running desktop applications. This time-consuming and frustrating process does not match their previous experiences with physical laptops, since users almost always prefer to leave applications running during the disconnect/reconnect process. F5 products offer an innovative new method for maintaining the state of an individual's View desktop to meet that expectation and improve the user experience, which in turn helps to ensure the organization captures the benefits of a successful virtual desktop implementation.

Solution Overview | F5 and VMware

Learn more

For more information about F5 solutions for VMware Horizon with View, visit f5.com/view.

A VMware Horizon with View architecture using BIG-IP LTM and BIG-IP APM is the only way to achieve username persistence across multiple pods. As users move from one terminal to the other, they are reconnected to the correct View pod.

Restore Previous Desktops to Users

F5 BIG-IP Local Traffic Manager (LTM) is an Application Delivery Networking solution that improves the availability and scalability of VMware Horizon with View. BIG-IP Access Policy Manager (APM) is a licensable module that provides access management and security controls for View. Deployed together, BIG-IP LTM and BIG-IP APM ensure that View users are reconnected to their original pod, thereby guaranteeing that the workspace appears like it did when they logged off.

BIG-IP LTM and BIG-IP APM work with the F5 iRules® scripting language, which allows administrators to configure custom traffic rules. F5 has tested and published an innovative iRule that maintains connection persistence based on the username, irrespective of the device or location. This means that a user can change devices or locations and log back in to be reconnected to a desktop identical to the one last used. This method of providing persistence across multiple View pods is available only as a feature of VMware Horizon with View when deployed with BIG-IP LTM and BIG-IP APM.

To learn more or download the iRule, search for "VMware View Persistence iRule" at devcentral.f5.com/vmware.

To find out more about how F5 and VMware solutions can help your business, visit f5.com/view or contact VMwarePartnership@f5.com.

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