



Thin Client vs. Desktop

Advantages and Disadvantages of
Operating System Environments

Definitions: Desktop \ Fat Client

- Desktop or Fat-client computing refers to a client/server environment where the client part of the application executes on the desktop PC and the server part of the application reside on a single server.



Definitions: Thin Client

- Thin-client computing refers to a client\server environment where the client programs display in a browser but the execution of programs takes place on a central web server, not at the desktop PC.



Examples of Thin Client

- Citrix Win-frame
- Citrix Meta-frame
- Microsoft Terminal Services
- Web server \ web browser based



Benefits/Challenges - Desktop

- **Benefits:**
 - Familiar environment
 - Customization of workstation
 - Ability to work off-line when server is down
- **Challenges:**
 - Higher TCO - Total Cost of Ownership
 - Requires more management
 - no central administration

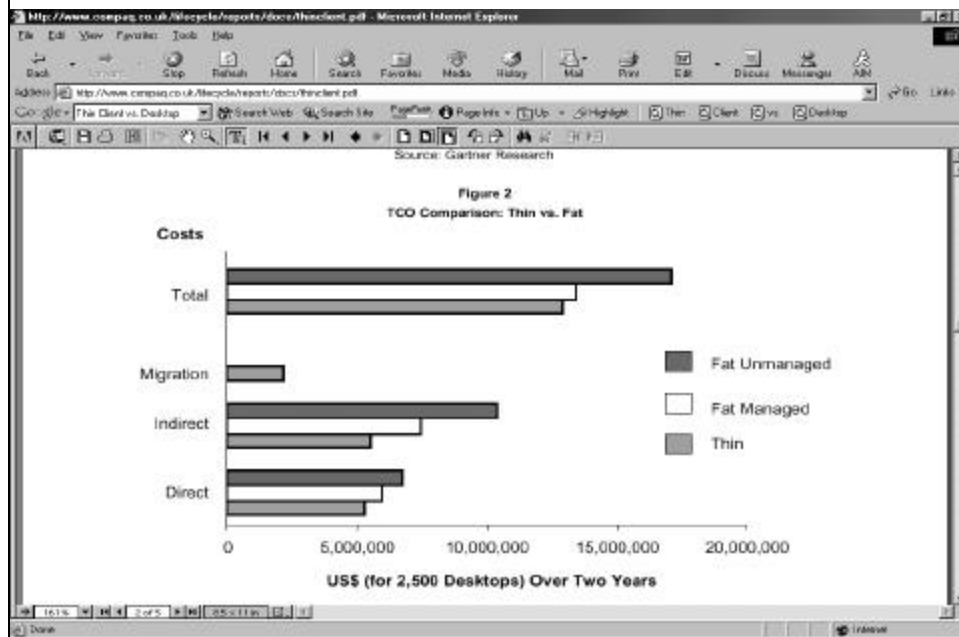


Benefits/Challenges - Thin Client

- **Benefits:**
 - lower TCO - Total Cost of Ownership
 - Central desktop administration
 - Roaming access
 - More effective backups - only back up server
- **Challenges:**
 - No offline work
 - No mobility
 - No local storage
 - Desktop PC users will resist the move to thin clients
 - Printing issues



TCO = Total Cost of Ownership



Demonstration - Not to be displayed

- Desktop in background
- Thin client session in window
- Connect via Internet to public IP or DNS name
- Demonstrate speed even over slow connections.
- Demonstrate user profiles and document storage
- Demonstrate software installation procedure
- Demonstrate log off



Bottom Line

- Thin-client deployment will offer substantial savings for enterprises without best practices for managing fat-client desktops.
- Larger companies benefit more from thin client.
- Desktop PC's are more useful in smaller networks.
- New, start up companies should consider low TCO of thin client in today's slow economy.



The End