



Virtualization and Optimization Program Overview

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Program Overview

The TAG Solutions Virtualization and Optimization program will provide the solutions necessary to maximize the return on clients' technology infrastructure through consolidation, operating system, application and server virtualization, cost containment, "green"-ing and automation. The program will include technical services and consultation regarding planning, migration and lifecycle management.

The Virtualization and Optimization program is designed to work with the Security and Compliance program to ensure that all virtualized environments comply with security policies and regulatory, commercial and other mandates.

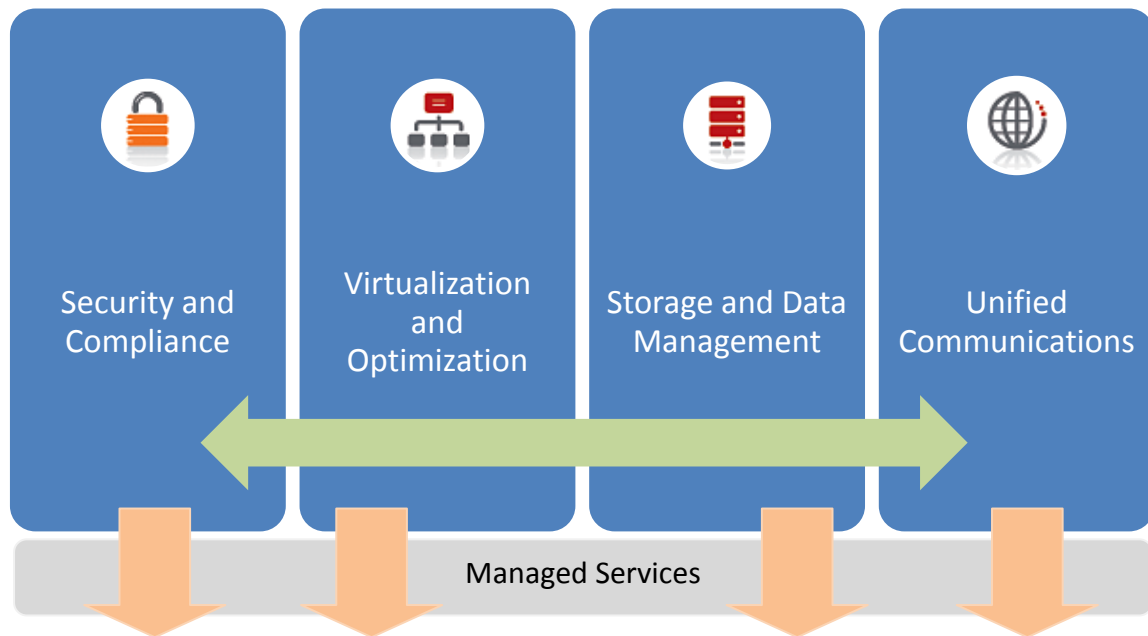
The program will employ standards and best practices from the following sources:

- VMware Best Practices - VMware ESX Server has been shipping since 2001. During that time, VMware and its customers have developed significant operational experience with ESX Server software and have documented a number of techniques that are most likely to result in a highly successful deployment. These techniques are called best practices, and this document describes them.
(http://www.vmware.com/pdf/esx3_best_practices.pdf)
- Microsoft Assessment and Planning Toolkit - The Microsoft® Assessment and Planning Toolkit (MAP) makes it easy for you to assess your current IT infrastructure and determine the right Microsoft technologies for your IT needs. This tool can help identify the servers that are candidates for virtualization.
(<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb977556.aspx>)

The TAG Solutions Virtualization and Optimization program is:

- **Comprehensive** – Reducing costs, optimizing resources and doing more with less has become a goal for organizations of all sizes. The TAG Solutions Virtualization and Optimization program is a comprehensive solution that addresses the planning, design, implementation and support activities that accompany a successful transition to a virtualized infrastructure.
- **Integrated** – In addition to optimizing clients’ information assets, the TAG Solutions Virtualization and Optimization program is tightly integrated with TAG Solutions’ other programs – Security and Compliance, Storage and Data Management and Unified Communications (see Figure 1). This merging of practice areas ensures that best practices are applied across disciplines, and efficiencies are realized throughout the implementation.
- **Standardized** – The TAG Solutions Virtualization and Optimization program is based on proven industry standards – the same technologies and techniques recommended by VMware, Microsoft, Dell and others. This philosophy ensures that TAG Solutions clients receive the most widely-established, highly-tested practices available.
- **Proactive** – In many areas, Virtualization and Optimization program services are delivered cyclically, on a regular basis. Services are delivered proactively, which means that benefits are identified and realized as early as possible.
- **Managed** – Wherever possible, Virtualization and Optimization program services and devices are managed by TAG Solutions, ensuring the highest level of availability, performance and security.

Figure 1



Program Methodology

The Virtualization and Optimization methodology applies the following Microsoft-endorsed plan:

- Step 1: Determine the Virtualization Scope
- Step 2: Create the List of Workloads
- Step 3: Select the Backup and Fault-Tolerance Approaches for Each Workload
- Step 4: Summarize and Analyze the Workload Requirements
- Step 5: Design and Place Virtualization Host Hardware
- Step 6: Map Workloads to Hosts
- Step 7: Design Backup and Fault Tolerance
- Step 8: Design the Storage Infrastructure
- Step 9: Design the Network Infrastructure

Program Description

The Virtualization and Optimization program provides the following solutions:

- Virtualization
 - Server Virtualization – Increasing of server utilization and application availability and reduction of hardware costs, lifecycle management and infrastructure footprint through aggregation, abstraction and logical re-distribution of server resources, including hardware procurement and provisioning, hypervisor configuration, virtual machine provisioning and management, physical to virtual migration and testing
 - Desktop Virtualization – Improvement of desktop performance and lifespan, increasing of desktop security and reduction of desktop administration effort through delivery of managed desktop environments and applications from centralized servers
 - Consolidation – Reduction of current infrastructure footprint through infrastructure planning and design and virtualization
 - Infrastructure Planning and Design – Aligning of physical and logical infrastructure resources with business objectives through assessment, architecture and capacity planning
 - Lifecycle Management – Managing the lifespan of virtual machines, from request and provisioning, through termination using standard, proceduralized and automated mechanisms
- Optimization
 - Data Center Automation – Increasing of IT efficiencies through implementation of processes and procedures and automated tools and technologies
 - Monitoring – Increasing of service levels, QoS, response time, customer satisfaction and regulatory compliance through monitoring of system activity, events and alerts
 - Green-ing – Reduction of IT carbon footprint through virtualization, consolidation, automation, optimization and policy and technology review

Certifications and Accreditations

TAG Solutions employs certified Information Technology professionals who are dedicated to providing the highest quality services.

The TAG Solutions professional Virtualization and Optimization team holds multiple certifications in the following:

- VMware Certified Professional (VCP)
- VMware Technical Sales Professional (VTSP)
- VMware Sales Professional (VSP)
- Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)
- Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE)
- Microsoft Certified Technical Specialist (MCTS)
- Microsoft Certified Information Technology Professional (MCITP)
- Citrix Certified Administrator (CCA)
- CompTIA A+

Partners

In addition to leveraging industry best practices and employing the highest caliber professionals, TAG Solutions partners with best-of-breed hardware and software vendors to ensure that clients receive comprehensive, yet cost-effective virtualization and optimization solutions.

The following is a sampling of TAG Solutions' Virtualization and Optimization partners:



VMware
www.vmware.com

VMware is the global leader in virtualization solutions from the desktop to the datacenter. Customers of all sizes rely on VMware to reduce capital and operating expenses, ensure business continuity, strengthen security and go green.



Microsoft
www.microsoft.com

Founded in 1975, Microsoft is the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential. Microsoft's ongoing commitment to enabling access to information where, when and how people need it is manifest in the wide range of systems, applications and tools they provide.



Dell
www.dell.com

Today's IT managers spend significant time and energy dealing with an unwieldy assortment of applications, operating systems and server environments. Dell is delivering enhanced virtualization solutions and services that re-engineer IT infrastructures — reducing operational complexity, increasing flexibility to address new business needs and significantly lowering costs.



SILVER
Solution Advisor

Citrix
www.citrix.com

Citrix's passion is to simplify information access for everyone. As the only enterprise software company 100% focused on access, this is also our unique passion. Citrix meets the productivity, cost-containment and business agility needs of over 180,000 organizations worldwide with an integrated, end-to-end system that seamlessly connects users, devices and networks to enterprise resources: the Citrix Access Platform.



Cisco
www.cisco.com

The Self-Defending Network is Cisco's long-term strategy to protect an organization's business processes by identifying, preventing, and adapting to threats from both internal and external sources. This protection helps organizations take better advantage of the intelligence in their network resources, thus improving business processes and cutting costs.