



Altiris® 6

Software Virtualization Solution™

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SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT SIMPLIFIED

Altiris® Software Virtualization Solution™ is a revolutionary approach to software management. By placing applications and data into managed units called Virtual Software Packages, Software Virtualization Solution allows you to instantly activate, deactivate or reset applications and completely avoid conflicts between applications, without altering the base Windows installation.

BENEFITS

- > Eliminate application conflicts
- > Instantly repair damaged applications
- > Significantly reduce testing time for application rollouts
- > On-demand application provisioning

ELIMINATE APPLICATION CONFLICTS

Software Virtualization Solution ensures applications use the correct files and registry settings, without modifying the operating system and without interfering with other applications. This provides numerous benefits, including improved reliability and flexibility. For example, when installing new software or application updates, administrators might inadvertently replace newer .DLLs with older .DLLs, which can cause immediate problems between applications that share those .DLLs. The results vary from application failure to the reintroduction of security holes that previously were patched. With Software Virtualization Solution, you can stop worrying about “.DLL hell.”

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE TESTING TIME FOR APPLICATION ROLLOUTS

Rolling out new versions of an application requires significant time to test for conflicts and reprovision lab testing computers. Software Virtualization Solution simplifies pre-deployment testing, accelerates the deployment cycle, and reduces post-deployment support costs. With Software Virtualization Solution, you can host multiple versions of an application on the same system without conflicts between older and newer files. Even phased rollouts are greatly accelerated because rollback can occur immediately at any time. Once the transition from an older application to a newer application is complete, simply deactivate and remove the older version.

ON-DEMAND APPLICATION PROVISIONING

You can easily activate or deactivate your applications based on need with Software Virtualization Solution by sending a single command to the client system. The solution can also register any services that the application installed with the Windows Service Control Manager, which then

loads the service so that the application is fully functional. Application availability is instantaneous. The user is not required to have system rights to run an installation, and you don't have to worry about rebooting when you activate or deactivate an application.

INTEGRATES WITH ALTIRIS EXTENSIBLE MANAGEMENT ARCHITECTURE™

Software Virtualization Solution integrates with Altiris Extensible Management Architecture™ (EMA™), so you benefit from native integration with Altiris service management, asset management, and systems management solutions. Take advantage of reports and policies that allow you to quickly troubleshoot and better forecast potential system problems. For example, Altiris pre-packaged Web Reports™ allow you to drill down for detailed information about your environment. And not only does EMA allow you to leverage your existing investment in Altiris solutions, it also makes it easy to extend capabilities as your business grows and your business needs change.

SUPPORTS ANY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Software Virtualization Solution is designed to work independently of the Altiris framework, if desired. API, WMI, and command-line interfaces are supported. This means Software Virtualization Solution client-side operations can be managed with any desktop management product.

LOW OVERHEAD THAT DOESN'T COMPROMISE APPLICATION PERFORMANCE

Other vendors run virtualized applications inside a proprietary isolation wrapper, which introduces more performance overhead. Software Virtualization Solution incurs negligible overhead; the core of the system is a filter driver that is less than 150 KB.

“Our help desk technicians spend a great deal of time diagnosing and fixing application-related problems. Software Virtualization Solution will allow us to significantly reduce this effort by allowing technicians to instantly reset applications back to their original state.”

—STEPHEN TANGALIN
Network Specialist
Kaua'i Island Utility
Cooperative

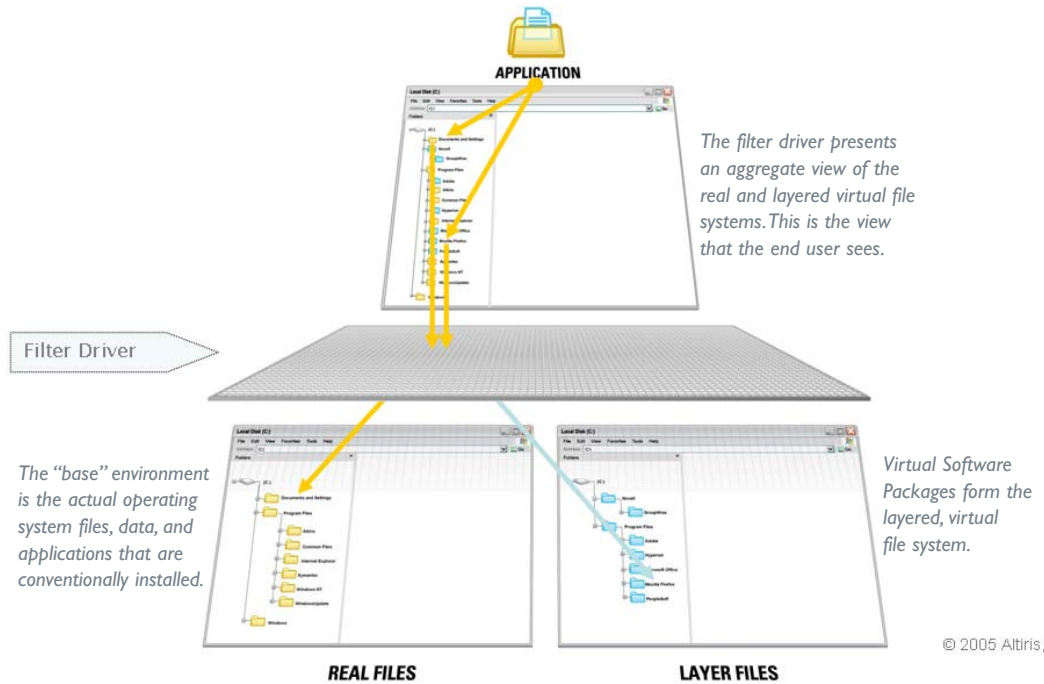


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HOW DOES IT WORK?

An application is virtualized using a capture process that creates a Virtual Software Package (VSP). A VSP is delivered to the client computer by simply copying it to the target machine. At this point, the VSP is not active, meaning it is invisible to the end user. Once the VSP is activated, the application becomes visible along with its files, folders, and settings. Even though it is a “virtual” application, it looks and behaves like any other application to the end user.

Each VSP is managed by Software Virtualization Solution as a distinct entity. These VSPs are “layered” at runtime with the base Windows system so the system appears to contain the aggregate contents of the VSPs and the base OS. Software Virtualization Solution accomplishes this by using file system and registry redirection to intercept requests to the system and return results based on which VSPs are active. Each VSP can be manipulated as an entity, including being instantly turned on, turned off, reset, deleted, or compressed to be moved to another computer.



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Altiris Software Virtualization Solution aggregates the real and virtual file systems into one view for the end user.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Software Virtualization Solution supports these client operating systems:

- > Windows XP
- > Windows 2003
- > Windows 2000

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