

# Guide to Next Generation Host Access



## Host Access with Terminal Servers

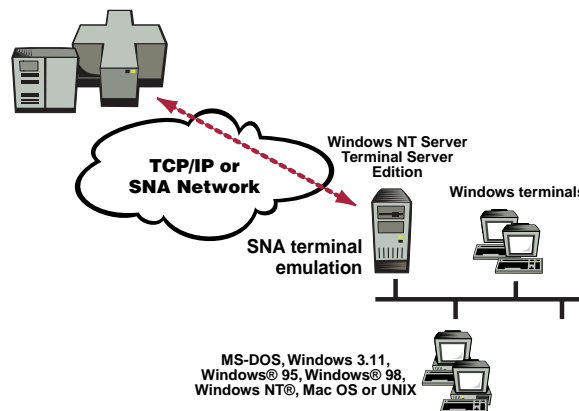
### What is Microsoft® Windows NT® Server, Terminal Server Edition?

Microsoft Windows Terminal Server delivers the power and capabilities of Windows 32-bit applications to diverse desktop hardware through terminal emulation. In a terminal server-based environment, an application need only be installed once on the server, and can then be used by each server client. All the features and functionality of the application are equally available to all users whether they are using Windows-based terminals, existing Windows 32-bit computers, older 16-bit Windows-based desktops, Mac OS, MS-DOS®, and UNIX-based desktops (non-Windows-based devices are supported by Citrix). The Microsoft Terminal Server technology eliminates the need to install, maintain and manage application software on each desktop.

### How Does it Work?

The first requirement is a true multi-user operating system allowing multiple users to run applications in separate, protected sessions on a single server. The second requirement is a "remote presentation services protocol," capable of separating application logic from its user interface. Only the screen changes, keystrokes and mouse events travel the network. The third requirement is a centralized application and client management system. Finally, a secure, 3270/5250 emulator is deployed on the server offering complete SNA application access to all users. In contrast to other "thin-client" solutions, there is no loss of functionality whatsoever; each user has complete access to all of the customization, automation, and programmatic capabilities of the emulation. You get the best of both worlds: the cost-savings and convenience of a "thin-client/server" solution, along with the power, capabilities, and flexibility of a 32-bit emulator.

Thin clients working in conjunction with Terminal Servers do not require the presence of a browser. They complement other contemporary "thin-client" solutions like Java applets featuring TN3270(E) connectivity or 3270-to-HTML conversion gateways that both provide browser-based access to SNA.



## Advantages

- ◆ True, "thin-client/server" solution that dramatically minimizes your cost of software ownership - without in any way compromising functionality and performance.
- ◆ Any OS -- including Windows 3.11, Windows 95/98/NT, Mac OS, UNIX, MS-DOS.
- ◆ SNA access software is not required on client machines.
- ◆ Centralized software installation simplifies maintenance and administration. The Terminal Server plays the role of the SNA gateway.
- ◆ Complements browser-based host access "thin-client" solutions.



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## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: How does this thin-client/server solution really work?**

A: With Microsoft® Windows NT® Server, Terminal Server Edition, multiple users can log onto the server and simultaneously use application software. All that is required on the client workstation is a Microsoft-supplied software called "Windows Terminal Server Client". A Microsoft-defined protocol called **Remote Display Protocol (RDP)** (ICA protocol is used by Citrix clients), is used between the client and the server to enable users to access applications running on the server. RDP makes it appear to users that the full function application is running on their workstations.

**Q: Why is there so much interest and strategic value placed on Terminal Server based-solutions?**

A: Two very important reasons. First is that it is a true "thin-client/server" solution that eliminates the cost of installing, maintaining and administering application software on hundreds, or thousands of individual desktops. Another important reason is that a terminal server solution enables users still running older PCs and platforms (e.g. Windows 3.11) to gain the power, functionality and speed of 32-bit applications.

**Q: Do I need a terminal server at each remote location, or can I access the server across a Wide Area Network (WAN)?**

A: Terminal Server clients can be used with a local LAN-attached NT Server or with a remote NT Server accessed via a WAN. However, in the case of a WAN-oriented configuration, the performance experienced by users will vary according to congestion and available WAN bandwidth.

**Q: How do I decide between using a Terminal Server client and other SNA access "thin-client" solutions such as Java applets or SNA-to-HTML conversion gateways?**

A: Java applets and SNA-to-HTML conversion gateways are both cutting-edge Web-to-SNA solutions. In order to use these, an enterprise needs to have an Internet technology-based infrastructure in place with at least one Web server, and each user desktop requires a Web browser. On the other hand, Terminal Server clients will work in traditional non-Internet as well as Internet-type environments.

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Aviva for Terminal Servers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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