

Region 7 ESC Uses Parallels RAS to Deliver Homegrown Applications on the Public Cloud



The Results



LOWERED TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP

Integration of a simple wizard to manage application publication from a centralized location.



SEAMLESS IT INFRASTRUCTURE

Streamlined, easy-to-use and simple-to-install virtual application publishing solution for Region 7 ESC employees.



INCREASED REMOTE ACCESSIBILITY

HTML5 web portal for flexibility in the office and at offsite locations; full support of Microsoft Azure and AWS public cloud infrastructure.



ADVANCED APPLICATION PUBLISHING

Auto-configured load balancing, Universal Printing and scanning options at no extra cost.

“We utilized Parallels Remote Application Server to provide access to time accounting software at 60+ remote sites as well as to offsite users.”

Ben Warriner
WAN Specialist
Region 7 ESC

About Region 7 Education Service Center (ESC)

- Region 7 Education Service Center (ESC) is one of 20 regional education service centers in Texas. The organization participates in the planning, development, coordination, implementation, and evaluation of innovative educational programs.
- Created in 1967, education service centers (ESCs) do not have tax levying or bonding authority; they rely on grants and contracts for funding. Revenues are received from three primary sources: federal, state and local funds.
- Region 7 currently serves seven charters and 95 school districts, the largest number of school districts of any ESC.



Parallels® is a global leader in cross-platform solutions, enabling businesses and individuals to access and use the applications and files they need on any device or operating system. Parallels helps customers leverage the best technology available, whether it's Windows, Linux, macOS, iOS, Android or the cloud.

The company's solution portfolio includes the award-winning Parallels Remote Application Server (RAS), an all-in-one application delivery and virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) solution that enables users to work remotely from anywhere, on any device, at any time.

The Challenge

In the past, Region 7 ESC had published its time-accounting software to remote sites and employee end users by using the Citrix Virtual Apps (formerly Citrix XenApp) virtualization solution. Unfortunately, Citrix Virtual Apps created high costs that drove up the organization's IT budget. In addition, Region 7 found that technical support at Citrix provided an inadequate service to the customer.

The educational service center needed to switch out complex, costly Citrix with an affordable application publishing solution. Accordingly, Region 7 went on the market to find a comprehensive application publishing solution with public cloud support features and a user-friendly HTML5 Client portal.

The Solution

To replace Citrix, Region 7 ESC decided to test the comprehensive application delivery solution, Parallels® Remote Application Server (RAS). The organization was pleased to find that Parallels RAS was straightforward to test and install. Furthermore, Parallels RAS offered vastly more affordable licensing options than Citrix. With Parallels RAS, Region 7 ESC was able to provide user-friendly remote application access to its employees working on PCs, Mac devices or any other device with an HTML5 web browser. Parallels RAS also fully supported Microsoft Azure and Amazon Web Services (AWS) public cloud infrastructure.

The educational organization was able to implement an HTML5 web portal that created further flexibility for its workers in the office and at offsite locations. Additionally, Parallels RAS offered advanced application publishing features in its standard edition. This meant that Region 7 ESC was able to leverage auto-configured load balancing, Universal Printing and scanning options at no extra cost.

The Results

Region 7 ESC was instantly able to dramatically lower its total cost of ownership (TCO) for their application publishing solution by implementing Parallels RAS. Not only was Parallels RAS easy to install and use, but IT management also improved through the use of a simple wizard to manage application publication from a centralized location.

Parallels RAS generated important cost reductions with lowered licensing costs. Compared to Citrix, Parallels RAS was much easier to set up and use. As a result, the IT team was able to build and maintain the system in a much shorter time, without needing specialized virtualization certifications, training or expensive consultants.

Parallels RAS offers comprehensive application publishing features in a single package and an easy-to-understand licensing model. In fact, the award-winning virtualization tool by Parallels reduces licensing costs by 60% when compared to other solutions such as Citrix, all while improving the speed and reliability of remote application access.

The Parallels RAS comprehensive desktop and application delivery solution provided Region 7 ESC with a seamless, straightforward virtual application publishing environment for its employees to leverage. The greatest advantage for Region 7 ESC was a more affordable, user-friendly IT infrastructure, enabling the educational organization to do more with less. Overall, IT network administrators and employee end users were extremely satisfied with the virtualization solution provided by Parallels RAS.