



## Tech Note

### PC-Duo® Private Cloud Edition Deployment for VDI Environments

#### VDI SUPPORT OVERVIEW

We have noticed an increased adoption over the last several years in the deployment of Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) within our customer base. End-users benefit from gaining access to their desktop from any location, without being tied to a single client device or work locations. For IT administrators, this can mean a more centralized, efficient client environment that is easier to maintain and that enables a quick response to the changing needs of the user and business.

To assist our customers, we have evolved the PC-Duo Host and this document covers the deployment of PC-Duo in an environment using VDI in non-persistent mode. The changes in the Host enable the PC-Duo Enterprise Gateway and Web Console to distinguish between a traditional PC-Duo Host machines, and a VDI-based PC-Duo Host machine. They also ensure that the base golden image that each user's VDI machine ultimately receives has a PC-Duo Host installed on it with the special VDI Host key.

#### PC-Duo HOST CONFIGURATION STEPS

##### Configure the PC-Duo Host on an image to be cloned for VDI Usage:

- 1) Install the v12.1 PC-Duo Host and input the special VDI Host license key.
  - Note that production VDI PC-Duo Host keys start with "4060"; trial VDI keys start with "3040".
  - PC-Duo Host keys that start with "4020" or "4030" are for traditional PC-Duo Hosts only.
- 2) Reboot to complete the installation.
- 3) Open the PC-Duo Host Control Panel to configure your desired settings.
- 4) Download the PC-Duo Utilities zip file and extract HostPrep.exe.
  - The Utilities zip file can be downloaded here:  
<http://www.vector-networks.com/downloads/pcduo/Tools/PcDuoUtilities.zip> (case sensitive)
- 5) Open a command prompt, navigate to the directory where you've extracted HostPrep and type: `hostprep -y`
- 6) Right after running HostPrep, take the image snapshot using SysPrep or your preferred imaging utility.

HostPrep stops the PC-Duo Host Service and deletes the existing Host GUID from the registry. When the image snapshot is taken in this state, this allows the resulting machines to generate unique GUIDs the moment their PC-Duo Host Service(s) start up for the first time.

#### EXPECTED BEHAVIOR: PC-Duo GATEWAY ADMIN & WEB CONSOLE

Once an end-user logs into Windows to effectively launch their VDI machine (or simply when the PC-Duo Host Service starts, whichever comes first) you will notice that machine appearing in your PC-Duo Gateway Administrator and/or PC-Duo Web Console's "All Hosts" group as well as a group labeled "Transient VDI Hosts", a group that is automatically created the first time a VDI Host reports in.

Additionally, if you've created custom grouping rules within the Gateway Administrator or PC-Duo Web Console that apply to your VDI Hosts, they will also enter and leave those groups as well. The moment a VDI Host stops reporting into your Gateway, it will be removed from all groups. And due to the transient nature of VDI Hosts, PC-Duo lists only the active VDI Hosts at any given time.

#### EXPECTED BEHAVIOR: PC-Duo MASTER

The PC-Duo Master receives the listing of Hosts directly from the PC-Duo Gateway & Web Console, so you will see all the active VDI Hosts at any given time.

**For immediate assistance:**  
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