



A short guide to

# Desktop Virtualisation for SMCs

Future-Proofing Your Workforce with Azure Virtual Desktop



# Introduction

Flexibility, security, and efficiency are the keys to success in today's fast-paced business environment, particularly for small and medium-sized corporations (SMCs).

With the emerging trend of more and more people working using a hybrid workforce model and increasing IT complexity, you'll want a secure, seamless, and scalable way to enable your people with control and cost optimisation.

Here are some statistics that encapsulate the challenge:

98%

of workers report they want to work remotely at least some of the time.<sup>1</sup>

78%

of executives believe remote workers are a significant security risk.<sup>1</sup>

49%

of small business owners haven't invested much in data security, hoping to avoid a potential breach.<sup>2</sup>

1. "Remote Work Statistics and Trends in 2024", Forbes, 2024

2. "Microsoft study: Small businesses intrigued by AI and the opportunity it brings", Microsoft, 2023



# The Modern Workplace Challenge & The Virtualisation Solution



Virtualisation, particularly virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI), provides a centralised, secure, and scalable way for businesses to manage desktops and applications efficiently.

The shift to hybrid work and heightened security concerns has made cloud-based Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) essential for many SMCs. Traditional desktops struggle with the demands of managing dispersed devices, securing remote access, and ensuring consistency, which are straining lean IT teams and budgets.

This presents key challenges:

## Security

Protecting sensitive data across diverse devices and networks.

## IT Complexity

Managing infrastructure for a dispersed workforce.

## Cost Constraints

Balancing IT overhead with the need for seamless modern tools.

## Business Continuity

Ensuring uninterrupted operations regardless of location or disruption.

Modern cloud-based VDI solutions like Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) directly address these challenges by offering empowered flexibility for users, simplified centralised control for IT, and enhanced business resilience. AVD is a leading solution for service delivery, scalability, and performance, helping businesses optimise their IT infrastructure.

As a Microsoft partner, Syntura enables SMCs to leverage AVD for streamlined IT operations, strengthened security with Zero Trust, and optimised costs. This e-book explores the benefits of Azure Virtual Desktop for your business and how Syntura supports your migration and implementation journey.



# What is Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) and How Does It Address My Concerns?

Azure Virtual Desktop is a cloud-based solution that delivers virtual desktops and apps to workers from anywhere, on any device. It's more than just remote access; it's a strategic platform designed for the modern era, offering a flexible, reliable, and cost-effective way to securely support remote/hybrid work and ensure business continuity. It provides enterprise-grade technology without the enterprise complexity, making it ideal for SMCs.

## Addressing Your Key Concerns—How AVD Helps SMCs Thrive!

“We don’t have IT staff to manage something complex.”

AVD simplifies desktop management as Microsoft handles the underlying infrastructure. Syntura further reduces IT workload, making it ideal for lean teams.

“We can’t afford downtime.”

With AVD, employees can access secure desktops from anywhere, minimising disruptions—even during outages or hardware failures. Business continuity is built-in.

“Our business is growing—can this scale with us?”

AVD scales effortlessly as your team grows—only pay for what you use, adapting quickly to changing needs.

“We’re worried about security.”

Built on Microsoft Azure’s Zero Trust foundation, AVD protects your data without added overhead.



# Full Control: Configuration & Management Simplified



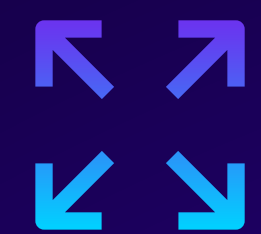
Many SMCs don't have the luxury of large IT departments. AVD empowers your IT team — no matter the size—with robust management capabilities, without the burden of managing complex infrastructure.

Syntura helps you harness AVD for:



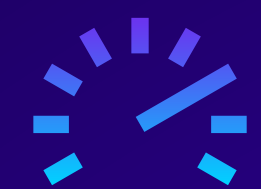
## Unified Management

Control virtual desktops and apps through the central Azure portal.



## Flexible Deployment

Choose pooled multi-session resources for cost savings or personal desktops for specific user needs.



## Streamlined Operations

Leverage tools like Azure Monitor for proactive monitoring, performance optimisation, and simplified patching.

We ensure your AVD environment is configured for optimal performance and ease of management.





# Security Built-In: Protecting Your Users and Data



Security is paramount. AVD incorporates multi-layered security features, providing peace of mind. Key advantages include:



## Reduced Attack Surface

Features like Reverse Connect minimise external exposure.



## Identity-Powered Protection

Leverage Microsoft Entra ID for robust authentication (MFA, Conditional Access).



## Comprehensive Threat Defence

Integrate seamlessly with Microsoft Defender for Cloud and other Azure security services.

Syntura ensures these security controls are implemented according to best practices.





# Streamlined Integration: Maximising Your Cloud Investments

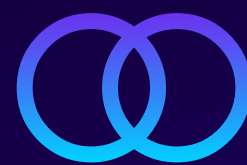


AVD integrates seamlessly with the Microsoft ecosystem and your broader cloud strategy, letting you experience the benefits of:



## Optimised Microsoft 365

Superior experience for apps like Teams, Outlook, and OneDrive. Leverage existing eligible licences.



## Azure Synergy

Integrates naturally with Azure Backup, Azure Site Recovery, Azure Firewall, etc.



## Legacy Application Support

Provide secure access to essential legacy applications.

Syntura helps maximise the value of your existing licenses and integrate AVD seamlessly.





# Cost-Effective VDI: Smart Pricing for Smart Businesses

AVD offers flexible pricing models ideal for SMCs, letting you cut costs by:



## Leveraging Existing Licenses

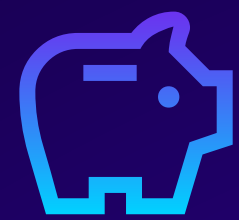
Utilise eligible Microsoft 365 or Windows licences you may already own.



## Pay-As-You-Go Infrastructure

Pay only for Azure resources consumed (compute, storage, networking).

Utilise cost-saving multi-session Windows 11/10.



## Reserved Instances & Savings Plans

Optimise further for predictable workloads with Azure Reservations or Savings Plans.





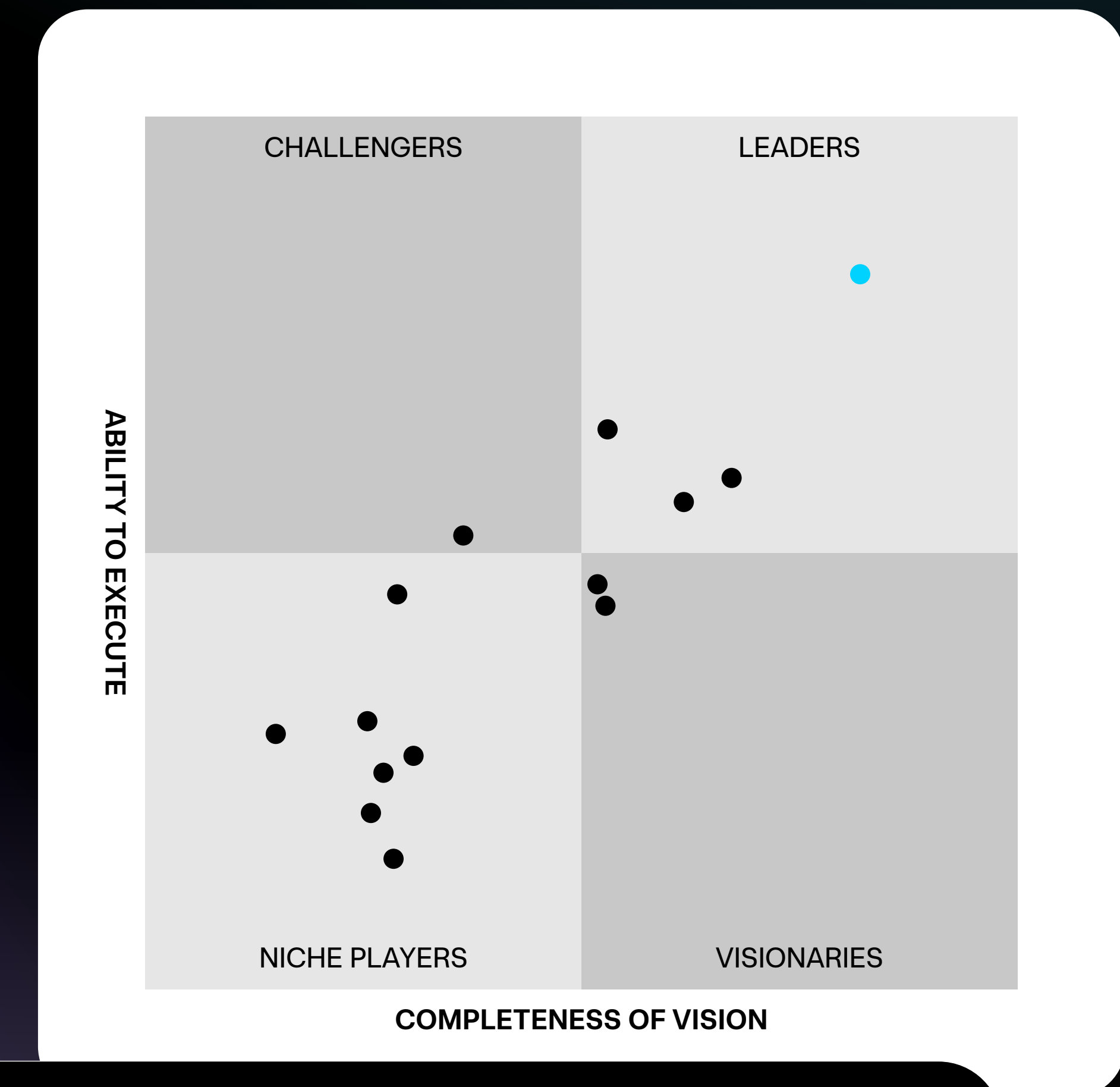
# Why Choose Azure Virtual Desktop?

## A Summary of Benefits

AVD brings transformative advantages, solidifying its position as a leading solution:

- 01 **Seamless User Experience**  
Deliver the full Windows 10/11 experience, optimised for Microsoft 365 Apps and Teams.
- 02 **Unmatched Scalability**  
Effortlessly scale your desktop environment up or down based on real-time business needs.
- 03 **Enhanced Security Posture**  
Utilise built-in, intelligent security features integrated deeply within the Microsoft ecosystem.

Syntura helps businesses like yours deploy or extend VDI environments globally or locally, leveraging AVD's capabilities for simplified management and enhanced security through Microsoft Entra ID and the Azure Portal.



Microsoft leads the 2024 Gartner® Magic Quadrant for Desktop as a Service. Microsoft has been named a Leader in the inaugural 2023 Gartner® Magic Quadrant™ for Desktop as a Service (DaaS).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> "Magic Quadrant for Desktop as a Service", Gartner, 2024



# Why Syntura?

## Your Trusted Partner for AVD Success

Syntura brings deep expertise in cloud transformation, security, and managed IT services tailored for SMCs. Our proven approach ensures a smooth and effective AVD deployment:

### Strategic Assessment & Planning

We analyse your environment and objectives to design a tailored AVD plan.

### Ongoing Management & Optimisation

We provide continuous monitoring, performance tuning, security updates, and cost optimisation guidance, plus training and support.



### Seamless Deployment & Integration

Our experts configure and deploy AVD with minimal disruption, integrating it with Microsoft 365 and security frameworks.



# Ready to Future-Proof Your Workforce?



With Azure Virtual Desktop and Syntura's expert guidance, your business gains the agility, security, and efficiency needed to thrive. Address your key challenges, empower your team, simplify IT, and optimise costs.

Let's discuss a personalised assessment, including potential TCO benefits for your specific situation.

Contact Syntura today.  
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