

# Enhancing Microsoft's Virtual Environment

Some of Ivanti's User Workspace Management solutions overlap with or enhances those of Microsoft. Specifically, the following technologies:

- Microsoft User Experience Virtualization (UE-V)
- Microsoft Group Policy Objects (GPOs)
- Microsoft AppLocker

So, when speaking with a prospect, especially the CIO of a company, and they tell you "We don't need Ivanti solutions. Microsoft does everything we need" here's what you can respond with.

## Expanding upon a Microsoft base

Below is a list detailing the key areas where Ivanti and Microsoft could be seen to offer similar solutions to common endpoint management problems. The red and yellow areas represent value Ivanti offers over and above Microsoft's technology.

- Does provide this capability
- Partially provides this capability
- Does **not** provide this capability

**Note:** This is not about disparaging Microsoft, who remain a valued partner.

IT Director's Pain Points	Technology		CTO Business Drivers			
	Ivanti	Microsoft	Automation	Compliance	Cost Avoidance	DR / Continuity
Use Cases						
Reduced logon times	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✗
Location-based printing	■	■	✓	✓	✗	✓
Fewer gold images to manage	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✗
Smarter licensing costs	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✗
Desktop lockdown	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✗
Application control	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✗
Consistent end-user experience	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✓
GPO replacement: ADM, ADMx	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✗
Privilege management	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✗
Network access control	■	■	✓	✓	✗	✗
Elimination of user profile issues	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✓
Intelligent package management	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✗
Zero day & ransomware prevention	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✗

Use cases	Ivanti	Microsoft	Automation	Compliance	Cost Avoidance	DR / Continuity
Self-healing features	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✓
Self-service rollback (personalization)	■	■	✗	✓	✓	✓
User productivity: personalized applications	■	■	✓	✗	✗	✗
Fast recovery for lost devices	■	■	✗	✓	✓	✓
Local cache for offline users	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✓
Application-level personalization	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✗
Improved os migration	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✓
Personal data recovery	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lockdown down kiosk style controls	■	■	✓	✓	✗	✗
Compliance enforcement	■	■	✗	✓	✗	✗
Script & batch file management	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✗
Context aware policies	■	■	✓	✓	✗	✓
Increased app performance/ server density	■	■	✓	✗	✓	✓
Fault tolerant environment	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✓

The following is a list of use cases that Ivanti has in common with Microsoft. Where Microsoft has no solution, it can be assumed that Ivanti is the desired partner. However, where both vendors offer some sort of solution (either green – full, or yellow - partial) the following explains where Ivanti adds value.

Ivanti	Microsoft
<b>■ Reduced Logon Times</b>	
Ivanti Environment Manager's dynamic, granular and on-demand personalization only loads and saves profile settings required by the user as and when they are needed  In addition, logon actions can be applied simultaneously, unlike GPOs and logon scripts, to dramatically speed up the logon process.	Microsoft UE-V attempts to address the personalization problem, yet relies on XML scripting, isn't automated and requires extensive administration.  In addition, Microsoft GPOs apply actions sequentially, making the logon process longer.
<b>■ Location-Based Printing</b>	
Context aware conditions allow printers, drivers and other settings to be controlled based on where from and how a user connects. Conditions can be combined using AND or OR commands.	Group Policy settings offer static conditions; however, combinations of these conditions are not easy to achieve.
<b>■ Desktop Lockdown</b>	
Fine grained control of what a user can and cannot change, effectively enforcing settings to ensure it remains in a known good state.	Group Policy settings can be utilized to lock parts of the desktop workspace down, however it lacks comprehensive context-aware settings
<b>■ Consistent End User Experience</b>	
Abstracting users' personalization settings from the OS and apps delivers a familiar user experience to any device, irrespective of how it has been delivered to the end user.	Microsoft UE-V does provide cross-platform personalization; However, it requires extensive admin overhead.

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<b>■ Privilege Management</b>	
Ivanti Application Control can be used to dynamically elevate or revoke privileges based on context aware policies.	Microsoft's built-in User Account Control (UAC) does not allow elevation of rights on a per application basis.
<b>■ Eliminate User Profile Issues</b>	
On-demand, per user, per application snapshotting and rollback of personalization settings, including self-service rollback.	Microsoft UE-V does include rollback of personalization, but only to its initial state and is driven by WMI or PowerShell scripts
<b>■ Zero day &amp; ransomware prevention</b>	
With Ivanti Application Control, only trusted applications installed by named accounts can execute, whilst all other user introduced applications are prevented	Microsoft AppLocker provides a whitelist model that can easily be circumvented by renaming applications to known, allowed apps. Digital hashing can be applied but this results in end-user experience issues.
<b>■ Self-Service Rollback (Personalization)</b>	
Ivanti provides IT admins with access to a granular, web-based portal for rollback of individual user or bulk personalization settings. A self-service endpoint tool allows users to rollback their own personalization settings to reduce support calls.	Microsoft UE-V relies on manual WMI or PowerShell commands to rollback personalization settings – there are no self-service tools or IT admin consoles for bulk operations.
<b>■ User Productivity: Personalized Apps</b>	
Ivanti Environment Manager abstracts user customization and dynamically applies it each time an application is launched, irrespective of operating system or delivery mechanism.	Microsoft UE-V provides personalized applications; However, it struggles with cross-application versions and requires separate settings for different operating systems.
<b>■ Fast Recovery of Lost Devices</b>	
Ivanti Environment Manager offers a complete reconstruction of a lost device maximizing productivity. It is also possible to wipe corporate data remotely on a missing or lost device for added security using File Director.	Microsoft UE-V can provide restoration of personalization settings and Intune can be used to wipe data on lost or stolen devices.
<b>■ Local cache for offline users</b>	
Ivanti Environment Manager supports both online and offline personalization, ensuring that offline files are synced when the user reconnects to the network.	Microsoft UE-V offers similar offline support
<b>■ Application Level Personalization</b>	
Ivanti Environment Manager abstracts user customization and dynamically applies it each time an application is launched, irrespective of operating system or delivery mechanism.	Microsoft UE-V provides personalized applications; However, it struggles with cross-application versions and requires separate settings for different operating systems.
<b>■ Improved OS Migration</b>	
Ivanti Environment Manager allows users to freely migrate application and OS settings between any version of Windows. In addition, File Director, effortlessly migrates users' data.	Microsoft UE-V offers no support for moving between a 32-bit and 64-bit platform – settings must be managed separately.

Ivanti	Microsoft
<p>■ <b>Personal Data Recovery</b></p>	
<p>Using a combination of Ivanti Environment Manager and File Director it is possible to instantly recreate a user's last known good working state, ensuring minimal downtime.</p>	<p>Microsoft offers data recovery via OneDrive or folder redirection. Desktop settings can be restored via GPOs. Personalization can be restored via UE-V.</p>
<p>■ <b>Compliance Enforcement</b></p>	
<p>Ivanti offers application control, privilege management and lockdown of application and OS content. Self-Healing of registry, files and processes is also available. Granular auditing assist with compliance assessments.</p>	<p>Event activity is raised to Windows log files. AppLocker restricts application access but can be easily bypassed and contains no privilege management capabilities.</p>
<p>■ <b>Fault Tolerant Environment</b></p>	
<p>Ivanti offers a multi-tier architecture, based on proven, industry standard solutions, designed to outperform DR expectations. Load-balancing, Mirroring and Replication is available to ensure highly-redundant servers and ensure business continuity.</p>	<p>Microsoft UE-V includes limited redundancy capabilities based on NTFS file system and distributed file system (DFS) replication along with file server clustering.</p>

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