



Organisations worldwide are updating their business continuity plans to deal with rapidly-emerging environmental challenges. Within the last 12 months we've seen the impact of wild bush fires in the US and Australia, while the UK has been battered by a succession of storms and severe floods, bringing local businesses and communities to their knees. A business continuity strategy must also encompass rises in terror-related activities and infectious diseases, as witnessed with Swine Flu, Bird Flu and SARS.

Turning to today, COVID-19 has brought the need for a fully mobile workforce into sharper focus. That's okay if your company's already setup for home working en masse. Technology enablement isn't the issue we've all being doing business virtually for years for some workers, but how do you get a true CAD experience from home to actually work?

For AEC companies it's a huge challenge, primarily because off-the-shelf remote working solutions weren't ever designed for heavy graphics users handling large-scale applications like CAD, Revit, Photoshop and InDesign.

As a result architects, engineers, project managers and construction professionals struggle to effectively control data and exchange large files.

CREATIVE'S VDIPOD – PURPOSE BUILT FOR AEC

To address this gap, in 2017 Creative leveraged some of the best tech experts in the business and built a fully managed, hosted VDI platform specifically for BIM applications – saving our clients the time and expense of building their own. Fully secure and fine-tuned for optimal performance it's specifically designed to ensure AEC applications aren't degraded at the virtualisation layer. Or by latency, frame-buffer or bandwidth barriers.

Many of our AEC clients are also using Creative's VDIPOD as a ready-made business continuity solution. VDIPOD does that by unshackling people from their desks providing a fully fledged CAD experience on any device, regardless of the device specification running the virtual client. **Unlike RDS solutions, VDIPOD** from Creative provides a true user experince for large-scale applications like CAD, Revit, Photoshop and InDesign.



FEATURES AND BENEFITS INCLUDE:



CUSTOMISED VDI PROFILES

Whether you need a spec for a graphics heavy applicaton or a knowledge worker that simply needs to view drawings



RAPID SCALING ACROSS THE BUSINESS

100's of users can be deployed within minutes



SHORT ON-BOARDING TIME

Typically up-and running in three weeks or less.



Ensuring people suffer less downtime and know they're always working with the latest plans and designs



TIGHTER COST CONTROL

Saving money on PC and laptop refreshes, and IT support contracts

GETTING THE RIGHT FINANCIAL MODEL

The business case is simple starting at £150 per user, per month for a full CAD user profile, and no stipulation of minimum user numbers. The following table shows how the numbers typically stack up:

User Type	No. of Users	Cost (per user, per month)	Optional Storage-as-a-Service
BIM / Heavy Graphics Users	1 - 200	£150.00	Tier 1 Flash based storage @ £0.125 per GB
BIM / Heavy Graphics Users	201 - 500	£145.00	
BIM / Heavy Graphics Users	501 +	£140.00	
Knowledge Worker	Pricing on request		Tier 3 Array based storage @ £0.06 per GB

Users Definition - BIM / Heavy Graphics:

A BIM user is someone who collaborates with other people from different design disciplines to model all aspects of a building throughout the lifecycle of the structure. They typically use one of more graphics intensive applications like Revit Autodesk, Bentley Microstation, InDesign, Adobe Suite and others.

Users Definition - Knowledge Worker:

A knowledge worker is someone who collaborates with other people from different design disciplines to review all aspects of a building throughout the lifecycle of the structure. They typically view drawings and models but don't need to actually work on the documents, thefore speed of viewing is critical.



"Management of our high-end CAD systems is costly, and the collaboration of files between UK, Canada and India creates challenges. We needed a platform that solved all these problems. VDIPOD solution from Creative was the only fit for purpose platform with exceptional references, industry credentials and critically, our heavy graphic users receive a full CAD experience. As a bi-product, it has also allowed us to operate a much more flexible working environment with an anywhere, any device methodology."

Steven Capper, Chief Information Officer



A selection of our AEC clients using Creative's VDIPOD Platform:



ATKINS





BroadwayMalyan[™]

SHEPPARD ROBSON

If you would like to learn more about VDIPOD and set up a webex with one of our consultants, please contact

marketing@creative-itc.com

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ABOUT CREATIVE ITC

Creative is a £30 million global entity with 11 offices spanning five continents. The company was founded in 2006 by Chairman Eamon Murchan with Keith Ali joining as Managing Director in 2013. Both bring vast experience gained from senior roles within the AEC industry. Today Creative work with 60% of the top ten UK architects and some of the largest construction companies in the world.

Our portfolio covers everything from VDI for data-intensive users of Revit 4D modelling tools and CAD applications, to global IT support, collaboration and cloud security solutions. We have end-to-end, industry-leading expertise across all core VDI pillars – from devices, connectivity and cloud through to storage, security, management and user experience.

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