






Application Layering technology cheat sheet 2.0

Vendors:	Citrix App Disks 	VMware App Volumes 	Liquidwarelabs FlexApps 	Unidesk App Layering 	Fslogix App Containers 
Company Core business:	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Write (mini) Filter Driver:	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	AD driver filter (patented)
Supported Hypervisors:	XenServer & ESXi	ESXi, Hyper-V & in-guest*	ESXi, Acropolis & in-guest*	ESXi & Hyper-V, Acropolis (soon)	In-guest Windows*
Persistent & non-persistent:	Both	Both	Both	Both	Both
Support for VHD & VMDK's:	Both	Both	Both	Both	Both
Personal (data / app) disk:	Yes / PvD	Yes / Writeable Volumes*	Yes / Flex Disk	Yes / Personal Apps & Data	No
User profile management:	Yes / CTX Profile Mgmt.	Yes / Immidio Flex+	Yes / Profile Unity	Yes / Session containers	Yes / Profile container
Virtual & physical machines:	Virtual only	Virtual & physical (non-persistent)	Virtual & physical	Virtual & physical (soon)	Virtual & physical
Assign to users & machines:	Machines only	Machines & users	Machines & users	Machines & users	Machines & users
License types:	Part of all XA & XD edt. by default	Concurrent user	Concurrent / named user	Per desktop / concurrent user	Concurrent / named user / MSP
Agent install needed:	Receiver / VDA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alongside App-V & ThinApp:	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Separate mgnt. Console:	No. CTX Studio integration	Yes. Web based	Yes. Web based	Yes. Web based	Yes. Application rule editor
Lifecycle mgnt. Options:	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Various, misc.	Citrix AppDNA	Multiple writable vols. p/u / RES partnership	Nutanix integration and partnership / Micro isolation	PVS and Azure integration / RES and Nutanix partnership	Project FLUX - Office 365 containers
Platform support:	XenApp, XenDesktop & the Citrix Cloud	XenApp & XenDesktop, View, Horizon & RDSH	XenApp & XenDesktop, View, Horizon & RDSH	XenApp & XenDesktop, View, Horizon, RDSH.	XenApp & XenDesktop, View, Horizon & RDSH
Other tooling & services:	Yes. Citrix XenApp, XenDesktop, XenMobile, NetScaler etc.	Yes. vSphere, ESXi, vCenter, VMware View, Horizon, NSX, Virtual SAN etc.	Yes. Stratusphere FIT & UX (assessment, monitoring, diagnostics) Flex IO (storage acceleration for VDI) Profile Unity.	Yes. Next to App layering they also provide OS layering, Personalization layering, VM provisioning and lifecycle management capabilities.	Yes. App Containers have been recently added. Their main focus is on AD based filters (image masking) to expose only what each user is allowed to see.

* In-guest Windows refers to mounting a VHD and/or VMDK file directly into the Windows file / operating system. When using Fslogix's App Containers it will mount all virtual files (disks) directly into the Windows OS exclusively. With Liquidware Labs Flex Apps it will mount the VHD files in-guest as well but it will mount all VMDK files, when using VMware, on the Hypervisor level. In-guest mounting makes it possible to support physical machines as well. App Volumes also uses the VHD file format to mount in-guest. * Writeable Volumes can be used to store user profile data, user installed applications only or both. Due note that Writeable Volumes do not work on RDSH deployments.