



1.0 OVERVIEW

As a tested and proven software technology, virtualization continues to overhaul the IT landscape within many organizations and effectively changes the way people compute. Virtualization enables a single server/computer to do the job of multiple computers, whereby the resources of a single physical server are shared across multiple environments. As a result, a new infrastructure based on the concept of “virtual” machines is born where each virtual machine is able to host its own operating system and software applications. In this regard, software-only applications such as XMediusFAX play nicely into any organization’s strategy for migrating to a virtualized IT infrastructure, and in doing so, deliver economic and “green” benefits.

2.0 VIRTUAL MACHINE SUPPORT

Many companies have embraced virtualization as the ideal way to consolidate and administer their network and IP telephony physical resources regardless of vendor or operating system. This makes a great deal of administration and business sense: managing numerous physical resources virtually and often remotely from a single console means highly efficient network management plus cost and resource savings.

Consequently, virtualization software vendors such as VMware, Microsoft, and Citrix have revolutionized how IT staff manage disparate network and telephony resources, including fax servers. Since 2003, Sagemcom has developed, tested and most importantly supported its software only XMediusFAX editions (Express, Enterprise and Service Provider) in a virtual machine environment. Having no hardware dependencies, XMediusFAX has proven to be ideally suited for companies of all sizes looking to deploy an eco-friendly and innovative IP fax server solution that can seamlessly integrate into their existing virtualized environment to help save money on infrastructure and management costs and streamline resource requirements.

Figure 1 below provides an illustration of a typical XMediusFAX Enterprise edition implementation, where the XMediusFAX software is installed on a Windows® based virtualized server running on top of an actual physical server. The XMediusFAX fax server solution may be one of several applications made to run on its own “virtualized machine”. By easily virtualizing the XMediusFAX fax server solution and allowing it to share the resources of the underlying physical server, XMediusFAX is regarded as an eco-friendly “green” solution.

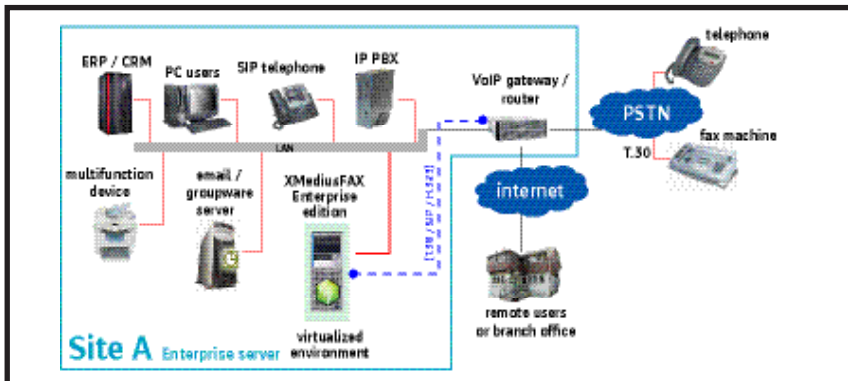


Figure 1: XMediusFAX Enterprise Edition Typical Implementation - Virtualized Environment



ISV/Software Solutions



Figure 2 on the following page provides an illustration of a typical XMediusFAX AXP edition implementation, where the XMediusFAX software is installed into a Cisco Integrated Service Router (ISR) and operates natively as a pre-packaged application on the Cisco® Application eXtention Platform (AXP). The AXP platform features a standards based hosting infrastructure with a hardened Cisco Linux OS with virtualization and enables a wide gamut of vertical and horizontal (e.g., XMediusFAX AXP edition) based software solutions from 3rd party application providers to operate into a tightly bound integrated ecosystem.



Do not overlook FAX as a strategic component in your UC & converged IP solution.



Within the ISR, the XMediusFAX AXP edition is provided with dedicated CPU, memory and disk resources, while the application itself is separated from the core router functionality. Ideally suited for branch office applications, the XMediusFAX AXP edition plays into Cisco's virtual service delivery model where virtualized services can be deployed and managed remotely, thereby avoiding costly and time consuming truck rolls.

By deploying the XMediusFAX AXP edition on a variety of services engines residing within the ISR, organizations who are using an ISR based IT infrastructure can leverage their existing hardware to benefit from the only Cisco/ISR AXP optimized global fax solution on the market.

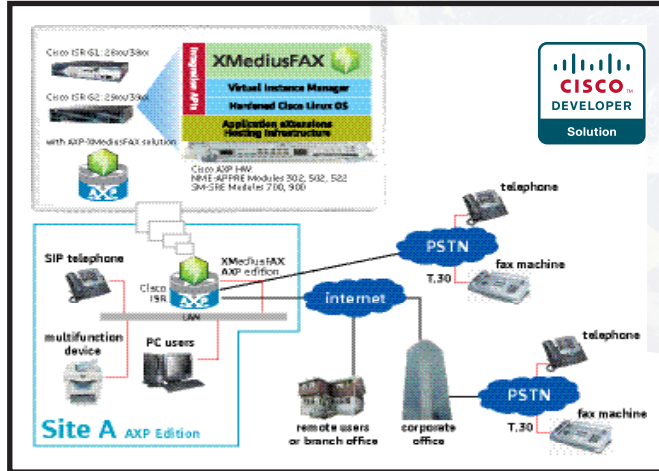


Figure 2: XMediusFAX AXP Edition Typical Implementation

3.0 BENEFITS

Table 1 below highlights key benefits gained by deploying Sagemcom's XMediusFAX software solutions within a virtualized environment.

XMEDIUSFAX BENEFIT	VIRTUALIZED ENVIRONMENT APPLICABILITY
Saves Time and Money	XMediusFAX is boardless (software-only), hence, no extra time is required to purchase, install and maintain fax boards. As a software-only solution, it can be deployed and administered in any virtual machine environment.
Is Easily Scalable	The XMediusFAX architecture easily scales both vertically and horizontally; additional system resources (CPU, memory) can be dynamically added as demand grows and additional virtual servers can be quickly provisioned to extend the number of XMediusFAX hosts.
Accelerates Installation, Upgrades and Development	All installations and development done in the virtual machine environment can quickly be rolled out to users regardless of where they are or what platform they are on (i.e., Windows based server or Cisco's Linux based AXP).
Fits Perfectly Into Existing IT Strategies	Since XMediusFAX is virtual-machine ready, it integrates quickly into backup, data replication, and disaster recovery scenarios. No hardware maintenance or time-wasting non-standard administration routines required.
Simplifies Redundancy	XMediusFAX and its built-in replication, coupled with solutions from leading virtualization software manufacturers, creates the perfect redundant solution. Requiring no specialized hardware or software, any two virtual machines can be used to create a replicated and redundant XMediusFAX system.
Prevents Multi-Vendor and Maintenance Headaches	Fax servers based on software/hardware hybrids require multi-vendor support and dedicated VPN connections for maintenance. They cannot be virtualized because they are hardware dependent.

Table 1: XMediusFAX Benefits and its Applicability Within a Virtualized Environment

4.0 CONCLUSION

Organizations deploying virtualization technologies are reaping economic as well as the eco-friendly benefits. Business applications such as the XMediusFAX fax server solution with its software-only (boardless) technology, seamlessly integrate into virtualized infrastructures and interoperate with platforms offered by VMware, Microsoft, and Citrix. Furthermore, by collaborating with a key technology partner such as Cisco, and integrating its branch optimized AXP edition into the Cisco ISR, XMediusFAX enjoys symbiotic benefits such as high availability, scalability, reliability, and manageability afforded by the Cisco hardware.

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