

Effective remote learning environment for geospatial data analysts

The GXP™ Virtual Training Center featuring Nutanix Xi Frame

Challenge

As a result of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, working at home rapidly escalated from one of several remote options to the primary work environment for a significant portion of the population. Almost 90 percent* of organizations (guided by state orders) either encouraged or required their employees to work from home, including geospatial analysts who require specialized hardware and software for their tasking and training.

These analysts require complete access to the GXP™ software suite without the burden of having to install, configure or manage advanced geospatial software on their home computer. To ensure optimized performance, they require hands-on training and efficient application delivery despite unpredictable network performance due to bandwidth contention and latency.

Solution

Leveraging prior competencies in Amazon Web Services (AWS) and virtual software demonstration, GXP training materials were rapidly deployed into a web-based portal offering single sign-on capability within the cloud-hosted Nutanix Xi Frame environment, thereby creating a user-centric Virtual Training Center (VTC). The VTC provides a content rich, interactive experience including self-paced training courses, live instructor-led sessions, and hands-on software demonstration accessible from any connected device, regardless of location.

Complete functionality of the GXP desktop software suite is streamed from a virtual machine to a standard browser with minimal bandwidth requirements, similar to a streaming video, on an analyst's home desktop or device. However, unlike simple video content, users can also interact with and control this advanced geospatial software in order to effectively train on relevant workflows. By effectively leveraging the Nutanix Xi Frame environment, the VTC provides:

- » Common environment for a consistent user experience
- » Automated elasticity to accommodate a wide range of users
- » Easy integration with existing CRM system due to single sign-on authentication
- » Instant access to GPU-enabled machine running on AWS
- » Instant access to the AWS-hosted GXP Xplorer® application

* Gartner HR Survey, 3/2020

Client

The GXP user community comprised of geospatial analysts across defense, intelligence, and commercial industries

Challenge

As analysts increasingly worked from home during the COVID-19 pandemic, an urgent need arose for a virtual software training environment

Solution

The web-based VTC, providing self-paced training and hands-on software demonstration accessible from any connected device

Results

With approximately 10,000 visits in the first few weeks, the VTC delivered effective remote training to over 1,500 geospatial analysts



Featuring the Nutanix Xi Frame environment, the VTC delivers the full catalog of GXP software capabilities to any connected device.

Results

Offering a wide range of critical content, including video tutorials, live events, and a virtual software testing environment, the VTC delivered effective remote training to over 1,500 new users within the first couple months of its launch. Averaging over 2.5 hours per session in the Nutanix Xi Frame environment over the course of approximately 10,000 visits to the VTC, geospatial analysts were able to engage with the full offering of GXP desktop solutions, including SOCET GXP® and GXP InMotion™.

Moving forward, VTC users across defense, intelligence, and commercial industries will be able to consume a rapidly increasing volume of content to maximize the efficiency of their GXP software training, from anywhere in the world.

“ The VTC is incredibly useful, and the entire team is emphatic that we utilize it moving forward. The self-paced classes are exactly what we needed to take care of our globally-deployed, high-demand analysts as they support our special customers. ”

Jason Link, Vice President and General Manager, AEVEX Intelligence Systems

GXP™ Geospatial solutions to ensure a safer world.

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