**Company**

Chicago Based Modeling Firm

**Industry**

Architecture

# Project Management Company hosts Revit on Apps4Rent Virtual Desktops for Building Information Modeling

### Background:

A U.S-based outsourcing company providing professional architecture, engineering, and construction services with remote employees was looking for hosting solutions for AutoDesk Revit for 2 users. While they knew that the solution is resource-intensive, they were unsure of the required configuration. Apps4Rent identified, implemented, and optimized the right solution for the client to empower their remote employees with hosted Revit at affordable rates.

### Apps4Rent's Solution:

Apps4Rent offered the client a host of virtual desktop plans and options. While both shared and dedicated plans were available, the resource-intensive tasks practically ruled out shared plans. The top-of-the-line Citrix Virtual Desktop Dedicated Gold plan was identified as the optimal solution for the customer's requirement. The client further customized the solution with the addition dedicated vGPU and extra disk space apart from a license for a second user.

### Results:

Apps4Rent offered a successful solution for remote work on graphics-intensive app like Revit. There is no need to update software on expensive workstations with Apps4Rent's 24/7 Support.

# What the Customer Needed?

A U.S-based customer was looking for virtualization solutions for Revit. Revit can be accessed remotely using different methods such as Revit Cloud Worksharing, Revit Server, Remote Desktop, or virtual desktop. The last option was the most favorable for the customer as it allowed them the centralize their server and the Revit software could be accessed as a virtual solution that could either be accessed from their office or remotely.

# What Apps4Rent Suggested?

Apps4Rent suggested the Citrix option to host their Revit software. The customer's requirement specified that two users needed a hosted desktop solution for their Revit software. The customer also stated that the virtual machine configuration must support heavy usage. Based on these requirements, Apps4Rent offered the Dedicated Gold plan with 12 additional vCPUs and additional, 8 GB of RAM, 100 GB of disk space, and an 8 GB dedicated vGPU.

# Why Revit on Apps4Rent Citrix Desktop?

Apps4Rent provides flexible Citrix Virtual Desktop which can be customized for the customers' requirements. The Dedicated Virtual Desktop Gold plan which the customer purchased was the perfect solution with sufficient memory and processing power. Additionally, the customer opted for dedicated vGPU along with a license for an extra user to run their Revit instances smoothly with remote access. This solution was not only cost-effective but also highly scalable, unlike the other options whose performance is contingent on several factors such as on-premises infrastructure, network performance, and so on. Additionally, as a managed hosting service, the maintenance of the infrastructure for the server is handled by Apps4Rent freeing up the bandwidth of the users for non-technical but core operations tasks.

# Challenges of Implementing Revit on Virtual Desktops

Hosting Revit on a virtual desktop requires intricate planning and flawless execution for the complex server-client workstation deployment to work as expected. The software is particularly resource-intensive during the process of rendering. Since the client had already committed to the processing power they required, it was challenging to optimize the size of the paging file. A larger page file increases the availability of memory to the program platform but has a detrimental effect on the system's performance as it expands.

# How Apps4Rent Solved Customer Challenges?

Apps4Rent engineers optimized the solution for the client. The best practices recommended by Autodesk were followed to realize the solution desired by the customer. The user profiles were optimized for the server performance on dedicated client computers. The paging file size was specifically optimized for the customer's system for optimal performance. With this, the customer's offshore employees have secure access to Revit with round-the-clock assistance for the virtualization solution for which Autodesk does not provide support.

# The Final Outcome

The customer managed to reduce dependence on costly workstations, each of which had to be updated individually for Revit updates, releases, extensions, and even hotfixes. With Apps4Rent hosted virtual desktops for Revit, these updates are available to the customer's employees through the server. Consequently, the customer managed to significantly reduce infrastructure expenses, improve employee productivity, maintain application consistency all at once by upgrading to Apps4Rent solutions.