

MOVING WINDOWS SERVER APPLICATIONS BY HAND:

4 REASONS WHY IT'S HARD



A VIRTAMOVE EBOOK

APPLICATIONS CHANGE OVER TIME.



They get new features and patches, integrations, and new applications are added to the stack. Application owners and developers leave, install scripts are lost or not maintained, and run-books get out of date.

Eventually, an application needs to move to a modern server. But moving the app is easier said than done. Engineers might try to migrate using P2V tools, but the application stack needs to run on a new OS instance, and the rework involved in P2V reconfiguration can make it seem faster to re-install applications by hand.

Here are 4 reasons why re-installing old apps by hand on a new OS instance is hard.

1. WHAT DO YOU NEED?



How do you determine which applications on a server need to move? Moving all the apps isn't a great option, because some are used more than others and some may not work at all. Plus, not every application on a new server will appear on the Add/Remove Programs list. If install scripts are missing and IT lacks knowledge about applications on a server, re-installation can seem daunting.

When you move old applications to new servers, you shouldn't move all their clutter. You should move only required applications and workloads, but it's hard to determine which apps are important and the computing resources they need.

2. HOW DOES IT ALL WORK TOGETHER?

Even if IT knows the core applications on a server, they may not know their dependencies. The applications were probably installed and distributed across the directory structure in a complex way. Without documentation, it's difficult to know what belongs to an application and needs to move too, and how it all needs to move to work correctly. Using trial and error troubleshooting is painstaking and risky.

3. SO MUCH RECONFIGURATION REQUIRED

You'll need to reconfigure IP addresses, network connections, drive mappings, and database connections. You may need to modify or replace peripheral drivers to support physical hardware. Server names and the number/types of network interface controllers often change. Application licensing might be tied to hardware IDs. You need to move user profiles and privileges and upgrade stack components like databases and web servers. Doing reconfiguration manually is tedious and error prone. It can make it challenging to sync with original production servers during a maintenance window.

4. SO MUCH TIME REQUIRED

Moving apps by hand involves many steps, which means that projects can take months to plan, execute, and test. The more complex a migration project is, the more likely it is to encounter wait states and delays. A technical team may eventually manage to re-install applications on a new server and OS, but a few hand moves later, they'll want to find a way to make application moves faster and easier.



THERE'S A BETTER WAY: VIRTAMOVE MIGRATION INTELLIGENCE



Using automated migration software to move applications saves over 80% of the time and over 70% of the cost compared to hand migration. VirtaMove intelligent migration software discovers apps across your network, and then packages them and all their dependencies into a container on the new destination server. The containerized application is isolated from the underlying operating system and is portable.

The container can be removed at the end of the migration. When the container is removed, the app is re-installed on the new destination server. It runs natively on a modern OS, with all its configuration, patches, and upgrades.

Reconfiguration can be done automatically. You can roll out as required, and step snapshots allow you to roll back just as easily.

Give us a call, register for a free demo, or send us an e-mail. We'd love to show you what we can do.

ABOUT VIRTAMOVE

VirtaMove subscription-based software moves legacy server applications to new cloud or datacenter servers in a fraction of the time and cost associated with traditional migration methods. Install scripts and source code not required. Encapsulating Windows Server and Linux applications in VM/OS-free moving containers, VirtaMove's patented software provides an automated, stateful re-install of most complex server applications. VirtaMove allows you to modernize your infrastructure, moving from an old, unsupported OS to a newer one with automation – modernize and move forward to a new datacenter server or cloud in one step. Reach out to us at info@virtamove.com or check out our website www.virtamove.com to learn more.