

# Desktop Containers

In today's complex world, desktop and web applications make it difficult to keep moving forward—testing costs, application conflicts, framework requirements, or incompatibility with modern Windows operating systems and browsers are just a few of the hurdles you have to overcome. Micro Focus® Desktop Containers enables you to solve these problems by building containerized desktop applications from most Windows-compatible software, allowing you to easily eliminate these hurdles and distribute the application via USB, your favorite endpoint management tool, or the included web portal.

## Product Overview

Micro Focus Desktop Containers helps you overcome the challenges associated with application conflicts and the ever changing desktop and browser landscape by allowing you to create applications that can be packaged once, and run on any Windows XP or higher device. These applications can then be given to users on a USB stick, through a file share, or from an endpoint management tool like ZENworks®. Or you can host applications on the included web portal. Imagine quickly and easily packaging an old version of a browser, with all the plugins you need for a legacy web application, and then ensuring that anytime the user visits the legacy web application that your browser gets used all from today's latest Windows operating system.

## Key Benefits

As a full-featured application containerization solution, Desktop Containers can help you do things like:

- Run legacy applications on new Windows operating systems, including Windows 10.
- Leverage containerized browsers to provide access to legacy web applications that require NPAPI plug-ins, Java, Flash or other legacy technologies.
- Run legacy applications side-by-side with their more modern equivalents.
- Test beta or newly released versions of applications without impacting the installed version.
- Eliminate application failures caused by .dll conflicts, overwritten registry entries and other problems that often occur when you introduce new software into complex user environments.
- Embed frameworks required by applications, such as .NET and Java, into the application so that you don't need to worry about whether it is present before deploying the application.
- Reduce the planning and testing process normally associated with software packaging and deployment.
- Comply with software rollback and contingency plans.
- Create a self-contained application environment with both desktop security and application compatibility.
- Run software from a wide range of different media without installing any additional software components onto the host machine.
- Make containerized applications with set expiration dates available to contractors, students, or temporary workers.
- Maximize performance with containerized applications that are as fast and responsive as non-containerized ones.

## System Requirements

For detailed product specifications and system requirements, visit: [www.novell.com/documentation/mfdc](http://www.novell.com/documentation/mfdc)

- Extend application access to those outside your IT environment while maintaining control of your applications.
- Understand what containerized applications are being run, by whom, and from what device.

## Quickly and Easily Create Containers for a Variety of Applications

Every containerized application executable includes three key components:

- A small, lightweight virtual machine engine
- The application's programming code
- A modified Windows registry, metadata, keys, and other components required to run the application

Unlike many application virtualization products, this does not require additional back-end components or resources. It works well within practically any software distribution or lifecycle management framework.

## Build and Run Containerized Applications

To provide maximum versatility and flexibility, Desktop Containers provides several methods for building containerized applications:

- **Auto-configured containerized application templates.** Access an online repository of current application template wizards to build, configure, and customize virtual applications quickly and easily.
- **Snapshot an application.** Capture a system's state before and after you install an application and automatically configure virtual application settings based on observed changes. You can even take snapshots of applications while they are running.
- **Manually configure containerized applications.** Get granular control over settings when necessary.
- **Convert AXT-based applications.** Convert legacy Micro Focus ZENworks applications into containers if you already use ZENworks to package and distribute applications.
- **Convert ThinApp applications.** Convert VMware ThinApp applications into containers if you have previously built ThinApp applications.
- **Turbo.net Hub.** The Turbo for Micro Focus Desktop Containers subscription add-on provides you with access to hundreds of applications and thousands of versions of pre-containerized application images that you can use to quickly build containerized applications that meet your needs.
- **Clean Container Packaging.** With the Turbo for Micro Focus Desktop Containers subscription add-on, you also get access to the Turbo command line and the "Clean" container. This allows you to spawn a new container on an existing machine and package many clients by simply running the installer like you normally would, no need to maintain a clean packaging machine.

- **TurboScript.** Turbo for Micro Focus Desktop Containers also includes TurboScript. This powerful scripting language allows you to script the build of common applications and even integrate with the Jenkins continuous integration platform to automate building of new containerized applications when new versions of software are released.

## Key Features

Desktop Containers offers impressive features that allow you to take advantage of everything containerized applications have to offer:

- **Natural end user interaction.** Containerized applications can be as integrated or as separate as you want them to be. When an application is registered with the local desktop, clicking on a registered file extension or shortcut launches the containerized application.
- **IP blocking.** With the Turbo for Micro Focus Desktop Containers subscription add-on, you can isolate specific network resources that an application can access—thus providing a safer and more controlled operating environment.
- **Browser redirection.** Make it easy to use the right application for accessing a web site. The redirector allows you to automatically redirect requests to specific servers, domains or subnets from the host browser to any containerized browser you've built. Coupled with the IP blocking feature, browser redirector provides a great solution for running legacy web applications that require old browsers, NPAPI plug-ins, and Java.
- **Creation of a single executable file.** Package all application files, settings, runtimes, and other components into a single, compact executable that runs anywhere.
- **License compliance.** Stop license creep by limiting application execution

to ZENworks managed devices or members of an Active Directory user group. When using the Micro Focus Desktop Containers server, you can also limit the number of unique or simultaneous users or devices that can access the application.

- **Application expiration.** Configure applications to run for a set number of days or set an expiration date.
- **Application publishing on portable media.** Configure a containerized application to launch from a USB drive and automatically register itself with the host system.
- **Predictive streaming.** Build a streaming model that can anticipate user behavior, resulting in quick, smooth application streaming.
- **Offline stream support.** Run streamed applications when offline.
- **Simple web interface.** Helps users access applications without you building a web portal.
- **Application use tracking.** Monitor current use and overall access to maintain license compliance.
- **Integration with eDirectory™ and Active Directory.** Assign virtual applications to your existing users and groups.
- **One-click component configuration.** Add popular runtimes, components, and viewers to virtual application executables, including support for .NET, Java, Shockwave, Flash, and SQL.
- **Service and application connections and control.** Embed virtualized database and web services into virtual application executables, enable applications to communicate and gain granular control over virtual resource sharing between multiple applications.
- **Optional application compression.** Accelerate deployment and reduce bandwidth by compressing virtual application files.

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- **Independent patch deployment.** Deploy patches for virtual applications independent of the application itself.

### **Turbo for Micro Focus Desktop Containers**

Streamline the containerization process and improve the security of your devices with a

crucial add-on: Turbo for Micro Focus Desktop Containers. This powerful add-on provides access to the Turbo.net hub, featuring thousands of prebuilt containerized applications, security-enhancing IP blocking technology, improved packaging capabilities via the turbo command line and clean container packaging, and unparalleled automation for integration with

your DevOps environment with TurboScript. Ultimately, with Turbo for Micro Focus Desktop Containers, you can package applications even faster and realize the value of Micro Focus Desktop faster and more securely.

**“Desktop Containers is more lightweight and self-contained than the other alternatives we evaluated!”**

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