



Trusted Converged Client

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As digital content is increasingly stored in the network cloud rather than on a local hard drive, demand will grow to access this content from whatever device users find most convenient. Individuals will no longer want to maintain a separate home PC and business laptop – a scenario opposed by many chief information officers because of security issues.

The Trusted Converged Client (TCC), a research prototype developed by HP Labs Bristol, eliminates the need to maintain strict physical separation of the personal and business worlds. The TCC uses virtualization technology to isolate personal and business information within a single PC by creating different compartments. As a result, a business PC can be used for both personal and business needs without exposing corporate networks and information to the risks associated with the open Internet.

The TCC is configured by a corporate IT department so that the business compartment connects securely to the corporate network. Other TCC compartments can simultaneously run personal applications or very small footprint compartments called Trusted Virtual Appliances (TVAs) on the public Internet. These TVAs can secure personal applications, such as the connection to personal bank accounts, and protect against online attacks such as phishing.

Virtualization technology ensures that malicious infection of personal-use compartments cannot affect the business compartment.

This project is in the early research prototype stage and development is ongoing.

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3/2008