



# Solution Brief

## Publishing Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp with the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC

Confidently deploy Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp Services using the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC. The Barracuda Load Balancer ADC's capabilities ensure application availability and resilience while improving application performance and scalability. The Barracuda Load Balancer ADC enables geo-dispersed deployments, and the built-in application security features allow you to secure the Citrix XenDesktop deployment against all types of application attacks.

### Challenges

- Efficient load balancing of Citrix XenDesktop deployments
- Fault tolerance and high availability
- Deploying geo-dispersed sites for redundancy and business continuity
- Enhancing user experience
- Deploying Citrix XenDesktop securely

### Solution

- Barracuda Load Balancer ADC
- Included Global Server Load Balancing (GSLB), session persistence, application security
- Up to 15 Gbps throughput
- Physical and virtual form factors

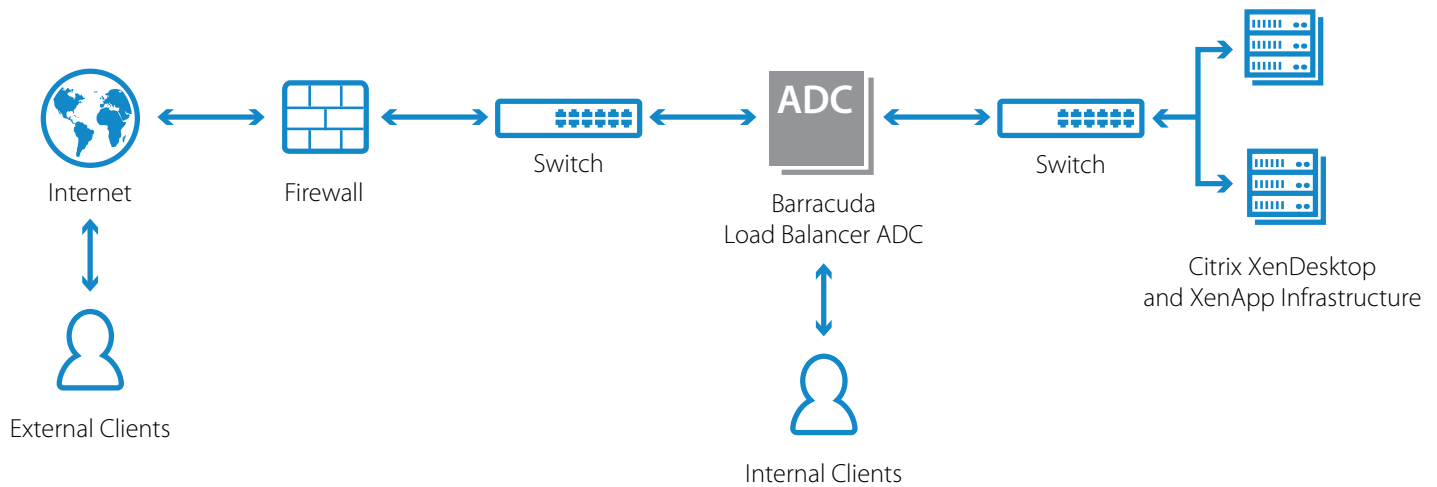
### Benefits

- Performance-aware load balancing extracts the best performance from the Citrix XenDesktop deployment
- High availability clustering and GSLB provide fault tolerance and disaster recovery abilities
- Session persistence ensures increased productivity
- Global Server Load Balancing (GSLB) enables geo-dispersed deployments
- SSL/TLS offloading and application security capabilities to protect the deployment

### Introduction

Organizations today are rapidly moving towards virtualizing their desktops, and virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) solutions simplify the standardization and deployment of desktops and applications. It reduces the cost of hardware and application licenses and improves the availability of resources from outside the intranet.

Citrix XenDesktop securely transforms Windows desktops and applications into an on-demand service that is available on any device. Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp are among the most popular VDI solutions available for businesses, and according to recent research reports, are considered market leaders.



## Publish Citrix XenDesktop with Confidence

The Barracuda Load Balancer ADC is a mature application delivery controller with intelligent high-speed load balancing and security capabilities. The built-in performance optimization features improve the efficiency of the application deployment. The Barracuda ADC provides a scalable and secure solution for load balancing Citrix XenApp and XenDesktop VDI deployments.

Availability and resilience are the most important parameters for any critical VDI deployment. Any downtime will seriously impact the productivity of the organization. The Barracuda ADC provides high-availability along with periodic health monitoring of the XenDesktop and XenApp, which ensures uninterrupted service availability. If any server becomes unavailable, the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC removes it from serving cluster and moves users to other servers in the cluster.

Global Server Load Balancing (GSLB) on the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC greatly improves application availability and resilience. Multiple Citrix XenDesktop clusters can be deployed with the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC front-ending them. With GSLB in effect, if the current serving XenDesktop or XenApp server cluster goes down, it automatically redirects users to the nearest available server cluster. This leads to continual availability and reduces latency, which results in faster load times, user experience, and productivity.

When deployed with a Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp cluster, the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC provides intelligent load balancing to enhance application delivery. The Barracuda ADC continually polls the servers for various parameters, including health and load. The built-in adaptive scheduling algorithm uses this information to direct users to the servers with the least load at any given time. This scheduling has two benefits: It ensures that server resources are not left idle, and users/groups are directed to the servers with the least load. The resulting application performance improvements provide a better user experience, resulting in improved productivity.

Remote users may connect to their desktop sessions through a variety of devices and locations. With session persistence, the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC ensures that a user's session will be directed to the same server (even when logging in from different locations), enabling faster load times. This guarantees that even when the Internet connection is bad, users do not lose their work in a disconnection and can quickly resume where they left off.

The Barracuda Load Balancer ADC provides an extensive traffic protection by encrypting all the connections between the Citrix XenDesktop connection servers and clients. Offloading the SSL transactions to the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC frees up Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp servers to focus on delivering rich applications to end users and ensure application scalability. This also reduces the load on the servers and improves application performance.

The Barracuda Load Balancer ADC fully integrates with Active Directory/LDAP and RADIUS authentication services. These access control capabilities allow administrators to configure granular access for available resources for user/group. This ensures that only authorized users will be able to reach applications, guaranteeing that non-authenticated traffic never crosses the DMZ.

The Barracuda Load Balancer ADC provides industry-leading security to help organizations secure critical applications. The ability to control the number of requests to protect against rate-based attacks like denial of service (DoS) or distributed denial of service (DDoS). Application security features ensure that all application layer attacks against your VDI infrastructure are blocked and appropriately registered.

With continuous server health checks and automated content routing, administrators can ensure the highest levels of availability, while broad monitoring and logging help you manage potential networks and security issues before they cause service interruptions.

## Application Delivery with Barracuda

Designed for today's high-traffic data centers, the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC is a high-performance application delivery controller that combines application acceleration, availability, and control with advanced security capabilities. Deployed by thousands of organizations worldwide, the Barracuda Load Balancer ADC is a robust, proven solution that manages and secures billions of application transactions daily. It's available as a multiport platform with fiber and copper network interfaces, as well as a virtual appliance.

To learn more about evaluation or upgrading to Barracuda's Application Delivery Controller solution, visit [www.barracuda.com/ADC](http://www.barracuda.com/ADC). Or call 1-408-342-5400 or 1-888-268-4772 (US & Canada) to request a free 30-day trial.

## About Barracuda Networks, Inc.

Barracuda (NYSE: CUDA) simplifies IT with cloud-enabled solutions that empower customers to protect their networks, applications, and data, regardless of where they reside. These powerful, easy-to-use and affordable solutions are trusted by more than 150,000 organizations worldwide and are delivered in appliance, virtual appliance, cloud and hybrid deployments. Barracuda's customer-centric business model focuses on delivering high-value, subscription-based IT solutions that provide end-to-end network and data security. For additional information, please visit [www.barracuda.com](http://www.barracuda.com).