

Quick Start Guide

SECURE VDI PORTAL



VERSION 24.05

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Notes, cautions and warnings¹

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Index

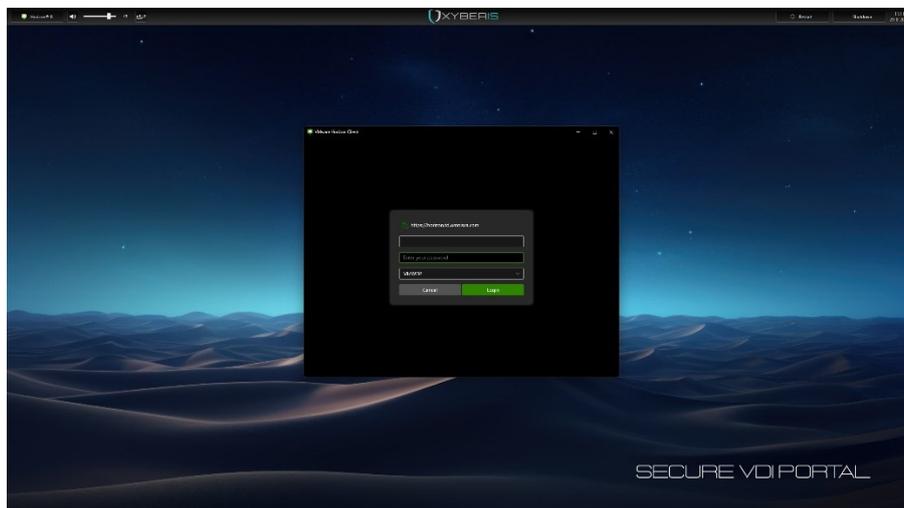
Secure VDI Portal™	4
Architecture of the Windows™ environment	4
Installation:	5
Local Installation	5
Central Installation	6
Using the Secure VDI Portal	7
Web Controls.....	7
Audio settings.....	8
Extend Monitors.....	8
Restart and Shutdown.....	8
Configuration	9
Example svp.ini.....	11
Command Line	12
Mode Selection:	12
Examples:	12
Usage.....	12
Other Tools.....	13
Quick Steps.....	14
Support:	14
Contact Information:.....	14

Secure VDI Portal™

Secure VDI Portal (SVP) is a versatile application that acts as a replacement for the Windows Desktop, providing seamless access to a Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) environment. This guide will help you set up and configure SVP via its configuration file (**C:\Xyberis\SVP\svp.ini**) to access a VDI environment using an integrated web browser or launch VDI client applications such as Omnissa™ View or Microsoft RDP.

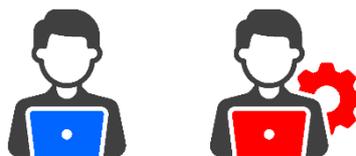
Architecture of the Windows™ environment

The Secure VDI Portal (SVP) replaces the Windows™ Explorer Shell with a Win32 application for a specific user profile. This setup means that the user will no longer have access to the Windows file system, start menu, and taskbar, as these elements are hidden. Typically, a “kiosk user” will have no password and will log in automatically, with these settings configured in the registry. Additionally, pressing Ctrl + Alt + Del will only show the [Sign out] option, preventing the user from exiting the SVP environment.



Xyberis SVP will create a custom user shell for both Web and Win32 applications (e.g. Omnissa Horizon Client)

For local administrative actions, an “admin user” must log in to make changes. During the local installation of the Secure VDI Portal, this “admin user” usually installs the software and creates the user profile. Once logged in as the user, the configuration is finalized before initiating a final “lockdown.” After this point, the user will no longer have access to the Windows™ operating system.



The “kiosk user” has limited access, where the “admin” has full control over the system

Using a management application (e.g. Microsoft® Intune or Omnissa™ Workspace One) will also enable possible changes to the underlying operating system, applications and settings of the device.

Installation:

1. **Download and Install:** Obtain the Secure VDI Portal application and install it on your system. Ensure the configuration folder is located at the designated directory (C:\Xyberis\SVP\). We recommend using the standard installation locations.
2. **Configuration File:** Open the `svp.ini` configuration file located at C:\Xyberis\SVP\ in a text editor to customize the settings for your environment.

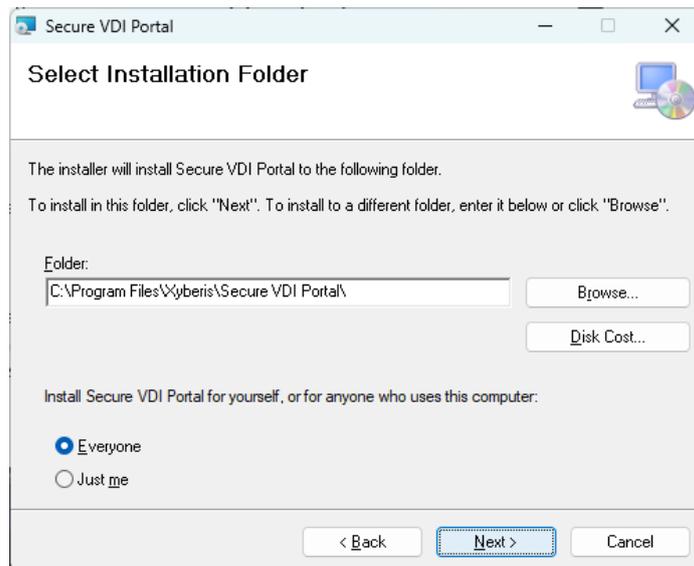
Local Installation

Place the files named "SecureVDIportal.msi" and "Setup.exe" into the designated (Downloads) folder.

Launch the setup.exe file and proceed according to the provided instructions. (It's advisable to continue using the suggested folders as recommended.)

Installing for All Users:

The architecture of Secure VDI Portal (SVP) necessitates the utilization of two distinct user accounts: an elevated administrative user for initial setup and a separate locked-down kiosk user. In accordance with this design, ensure that the application is installed for all users, which is the default configuration.



Central Installation

To achieve a comprehensive central installation, three essential actions are required:

1. Secure VDI Portal Application Installation
2. Kiosk User Creation
3. Kiosk User Lockdown

Using a variety of management applications, execute the following command lines in this specified order:

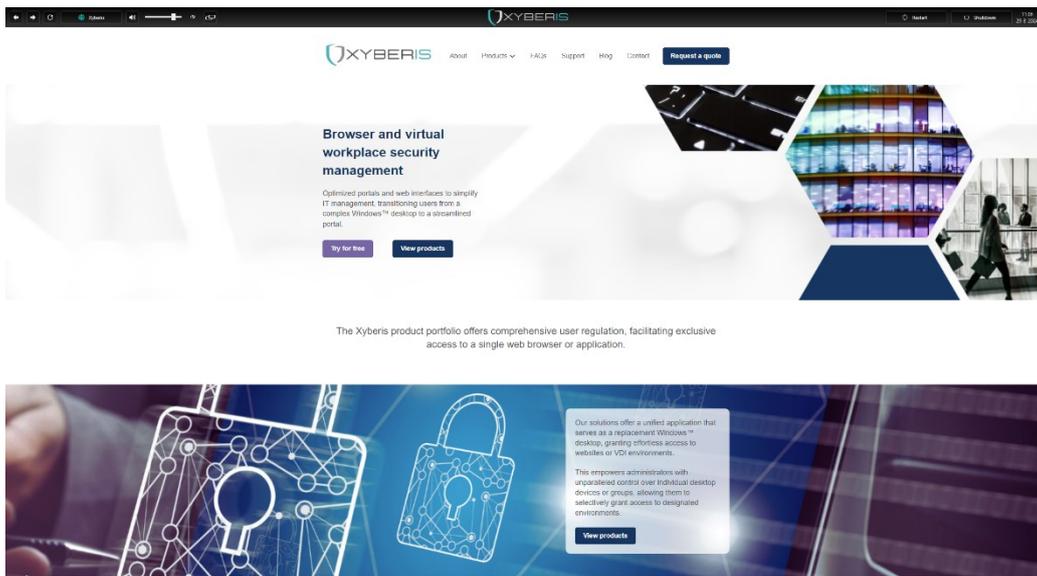
1. Initiate the installation of SecureVDIportal.msi using the "/q" or "/qn" install parameter (without including double quotes).
2. Execute SecureSVPuser.exe located at C:\Program Files\Xyberis\Secure VDI Portal\Tools\, utilizing the install parameter "user name" (remember to include double quotes if the username contains a space). **Important(!):** Wait for the file "SecureSVPuser.log" to appear in the "C:\Xyberis" folder.
3. Perform a system reboot after 30 to 60 seconds (it's crucial for the new user to log in and establish the Windows™ environment).
4. Launch, as the newly created user(!), LockSVPuser.exe found at C:\Program Files\Xyberis\Secure VDI Portal\Tools\ without any install parameters, after the reboot has been performed and the new created kiosk user has logged in automatically.

Using a wide range of management applications, the following command lines should be executed and also in this order:

1. Launch SecureVDIportal.msi with the install parameter "/q" (quiet) or "/qn" (quiet, no reboot). Exclude the double quotes.
2. Launch C:\Program Files\Xyberis\Secure VDI Portal\Tools\SecureSVPuser.exe with the install parameter "user name" (include the double quotes when using a space)
3. Delay 30 to 60 seconds or await the SecureSVPuser.exe and then reboot the System (important that the new user logs in and creates the Windows™ environment)
4. Launch, as the newly created user, C:\Program Files\Xyberis\Secure VDI Portal\Tools\CreateLockSVPuser.exe without install parameters

Using the Secure VDI Portal

Secure VDI Portal is designed to replace the traditional Windows™ desktop environment, offering two distinct display modes that can be accessed either via command line directives or customized within the local configuration file. It operates as a singular instance application, featuring a convenient top menu for seamless access to the VDI workplace, volume controls, and system restart or shutdown functionalities. The Web mode serves as the primary mode, substituting the Windows™ Desktop with a secure web browser. This browser acts as a streamlined gateway for web-based VDI access, such as Citrix® NetScaler™. Equipped with essential buttons like back, forward, and refresh, it intentionally omits an address bar, home button, and settings to mitigate potential security risks. The browser also abstains from supporting shortcut keys, function keys, or context menus, closing potential "back doors" to unauthorized access.



Web Controls

Similar to many popular web browsers, the Secure VDI Portal's web interface includes back, forward, and refresh buttons for navigation. The VDI session button functions as a 'Home' button. The icon can be customized to represent Web, Citrix, VMware, Microsoft Remote Desktop, Edge, or Windows. This flexibility enhances the user experience by allowing quick identification of the preferred platform, streamlining navigation, and providing a more personalized and intuitive interface.



Back, Forward, Refresh and the session's 'Home' button are placed in the top menu

Audio settings

Pressing the audio button activates the control panel's audio features, while the volume slider in the top menu provides easy and instant control over the system's sound output. This feature allows quick adjustment of audio source and sound levels, providing a seamless and efficient audio management experience. By default, the control panel's audio settings provide access to the Event Viewer. To ensure airtight security, access must be restricted to prevent users from accessing applications outside the VDI Portal. This is achieved by executing the "LockSVPuser.exe" application found in the "Tools" folder of the Secure VDI Portal application.



Clicking the audio button will launch the audio settings of control panel

Extend Monitors

When a laptop is docked to a new monitor setup, the default Windows behavior is to clone the displays. The Secure VDI Portal's "Extend" button – next to the audio settings – in the top menu allows users to extend their screens, similar to the DisplaySwitch function in Windows. This feature will typically arrange the monitors from left to right, with the laptop as the leftmost screen, followed by the 'master' monitor (connected via USB Type-C) and a 'companion' monitor. For more advanced configurations, Xyberis offers the Multi-Monitor Director, which can automatically align monitors and provides up to 38 different configurations, ensuring a setup that matches the user's existing monitor arrangement. This flexibility maximizes workspace efficiency and enhances productivity by allowing users to tailor their display setup to their specific needs.



The 'Extend'-button allows for extending the available displays

Restart and Shutdown

Restart and Shutdown options have been added to enable users to reboot or power down the system, mirroring the functionality of these actions in Windows™. To prevent accidental reboots or shutdowns, users are prompted to confirm their choice before the action is executed. Additionally, these options can be disabled if the IT department requires the system to remain constantly available. If the AfterSession option is configured, the system will automatically reboot, shut down, or log off according to the settings in the configuration file, providing a seamless and customizable experience.



Easy and quick access to restart and shutdown

Configuration

The pivotal aspect in configuring the Secure VDI Portal lies within the `svp.ini` files situated within the `C:\Xyberis\SVP` directory. These files dictate crucial elements like the mode (App or Web), configurations for both Web and App functionalities, designated menu items for display, and the chosen language settings.

[Mode]

Select the mode of operation:

- **Mode = Web:** Provides a secure web browser interface.
- **Mode = App:** Sets up a portal for a specific VDI application (e.g., Omnissa Horizon® 8 or Microsoft RDP).

[Web]

Settings for the Web Browser mode:

- **URL:** Specify the URL for the web browser.
- **Icon:** Define the icon for the web browser portal.
 - **CTX** for Citrix, **RDP** for Microsoft Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP), **VMW** for Vmware, **WIN** for Windows, **EDG** for Microsoft Edge and **WEB** for a Web icon.

If no icon is specified, a white monitor icon will be used.

[App]

Settings for the VDI Application mode:

- **Application:** Path to the VDI application executable.
- **Arguments:** Command-line arguments for launching the VDI application.
- **Autostart:** Set to "Yes" to enable automatic startup of the application.
- **Icon:** Define the icon for the VDI application. Supported built-in icons include:
 - **CTX** for Citrix, **RDP** for Microsoft Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP), **VMW** for Vmware, **WIN** for Windows, **EDG** for Microsoft Edge and **WEB** for a Web icon.

If no icon is specified, a white monitor icon will be used.
- **Wallpaper:** Specify the filename for the background wallpaper used in the Application Portal. Ensure the wallpaper file is copied into the `C:\Xyberis\SVP` folder.
- **AfterSession:** Specify the desired course of action upon application closure. Choose from Logoff, Restart, Shutdown, Relaunch or leave it blank for no action.

[Menu]

Customize the names for the Workplace, Restart, and Shutdown buttons. For example, setting Workplace to “Vmware VDI” will replace the name used in the [App] or [Web] sections. Renaming the Restart and Shutdown buttons will override their default language settings.

[Visible]

Adjust the visibility settings for the Back, Forward, Refresh, Workplace, Volume, Restart, and Shutdown options. Setting any of these to “No” will remove them from the top menu bar, making them inaccessible to the user.

[Settings]

Choose the language for buttons and user interaction from available language options: DE, EN, ES, FR, IT, NL. DE = German, EN = English, ES = Spanish, FR = French, IT = Italian, NL = Dutch.

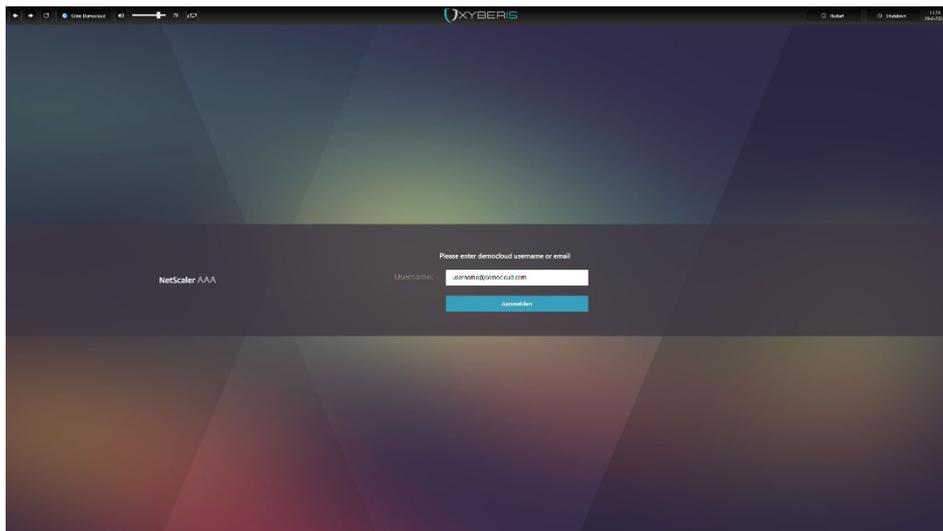


Figure 1: Xyberis SVP workplace for Citrix Storefront

Example svp.ini

Below is an example of the svp.ini file that establishes two demonstration connections — one to a Citrix environment and another to a Omnissa™ Horizon® 8 setup. The command line options facilitate a seamless switch between these two environments.

[Mode]

Mode = App

[Web]

Name = Citrix Demo

URL = https://democloud.cloud.com

Icon = CTX

[App]

Name = VMWare Demo

Application = C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware Horizon View Client\vmware-view.exe

Arguments = -serverURL horizon.td.omnissa.com -desktopName TD-WINDOWS11 -desktopProtocol Blast -domainName=VMWDP -desktopLayout multimonitor -singleAutoConnect -hideClientAfterLaunchSession

Autostart = Yes

Icon = VMW

Wallpaper = wp8.jpg

AfterSession = Logoff

[Menu]

Workplace = VDI Demo

Restart =

Shutdown =

[Visible]

Back = Yes

Forward = Yes

Refresh = Yes

Workplace = Yes

Volume = Yes

Restart = Yes

Shutdown = Yes

[Settings]

Language = EN

Command Line

Mode Selection:

- Use **-a** or **-app** to launch in App Mode.
- Use **-w** or **-web** optionally followed by a URL (e.g., **-w https://democloud.cloud.com**) to set the URL under **[Web] URL =**.

Examples:

svp.exe -a or svp.exe -w <https://democloud.cloud.com>

Usage

1. **Launch SVP:** Execute the Secure VDI Portal application.
2. **Interact with Workplace:** Access the configured VDI environment through the integrated web browser or launch the specified VDI application.
3. **Customize Interface:** Use the provided settings in the **svp.ini** file to tailor the interface and functionality according to your preferences.
4. **Explore Features:** Utilize the Back, Forward, Refresh, Volume, Restart, and Shutdown options based on the visibility settings and customized names as specified in the configuration file.
5. **Wallpaper Setting:** Specify the filename for the background wallpaper in the **[App]** section. Ensure the wallpaper file is present in the **C:\Xyberis\SVP** folder for it to be used as the background in the Application Portal.

The Secure VDI Portal offers a user-friendly and configurable interface to seamlessly access your VDI environment or specific applications, enhancing your workflow efficiency. Adjust the settings in the **svp.ini** file as needed to suit your requirements, or use command-line options to quickly configure the application's mode and URL.

Other Tools

Attention! Our Tools are provided “as is” and should be used with great caution! Most of the tools below are used to lockdown a system and if other changes are or have been made to the registry already, then this could result in a Windows™ device that becomes no longer accessible for administrative tasks. Please use carefully!

To support creating a Windows Kiosk User for the Secure VDI Portal, additional applications are provided in the C:\Program Files\Xyberis\Secure VDI Portal\Tools folder.

DisableOOBE.exe	Disables the OOBE Windows experience for Windows 10 and 11 computers when logging on for the first time.
DisplayReset.exe	Resets all known monitor configurations
EnableOOBE.exe	Enables the OOBE Windows experience for Windows 10 and 11 computers when logging on for the first time.
GetUserSID.exe	Sets the current User SID before running LockSVPuser.exe. This sequence ensures that LockSVPuser.exe locks down the correct currently logged-in user. Should be run by the kiosk user when logged in.
LockSVPuser.exe	LockSVPuser.exe will lock down the current user and enable Secure VDI Portal as the Windows™ Shell replacement. It requires administrative privileges and should only be run after GetUserSID.exe, ensuring the Kiosk User is logged in.
SecureSVPuser.exe “[User Name]”	SecureSVPuser.exe is an all-encompassing application responsible for generating and configuring an autologin for a new restricted user without a password. It is advisable to consistently enclose the username in double quotes, despite the possibility of adding a name without spaces without this precaution. Should only be run by the Administrator!
UnlockSVPuser.exe	The UnlockSVPuser.exe "Username" utility is designed to unlock and deactivate autologin. An Administrator should execute this when the specified kiosk user is logged in.
UnlockUser.exe [“Username”]	The UnlockUser.exe "Username" utility is designed to unlock and deactivate autologin for the specified Username. An Administrator should execute this when the specified user is not logged in.
VMwareDisableShade.exe [“Username”]	Disables the menubar in Omnissa™ Horizon® 8 for that user. An Administrator should execute this when the specified User is not logged in.
VMwareEnableShade.exe [“Username”]	Enables the menubar in Omnissa™ Horizon® 8 for that User. An Administrator should execute this when the specified User is not logged in.

Quick Steps

Here are the simplified steps to utilize the command line applications located in the C:\Program Files\Xyberis\Secure VDI Portal\Tools folder, after the installation of Secure VDI Portal:

1. Edit the `svp.ini` configuration file located in the C:\Xyberis\SVP folder to meet specific requirements. These may include settings for Mode, VDI environment or application with arguments, language preferences, custom wallpaper, and the functionality of the SVP application. This step can also be performed after step 4.
2. Execute `SecureSVPuser.exe` with the command "VDI Kiosk" (Replace "VDI Kiosk" with your desired username) and monitor for the appearance of the log file `SecureSVPuser.log` in the C:\Xyberis directory.
3. Reboot the computer (e.g., use the command "Shutdown /r /t 00") and await for the successful creation of the new user, which should log in automatically.
4. Now, logged in as the newly created user: Access the C:\Program Files\Xyberis\Secure VDI Portal\Tools folder, launch `GetUserSID.exe` followed by `LockSVPuser.exe` (administrative privileges required) and reboot the computer (e.g., use the command "Shutdown /r /t 00") to evaluate if the Windows™ Explorer Shell is replaced by the Xyberis Secure VDI Portal .

Support

For any inquiries or assistance regarding the Secure VDI Portal, please feel free to contact our support team at support@xyberis.com. Whether you have questions about configuration, usage, or encountering issues with the application, our team is here to help and provide the necessary support.

Contact Information:

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