ThinLinc at Zürich University

About The Institute of Mathematics at Zürich University

The Institute of Mathematics is a scientific and academic organization, and part of the University of Zurich. The university performs research and education of the highest international quality in all key areas of mathematics. The institute of Mathematic collaborate in research and education with scientists at leading universities from the whole world and promotes the application of mathematics in other areas through interdisciplinary research and education.

The Challenge

Before the University of Zurich started to use ThinLinc, it used Oracle Sun Ray on its 130 terminals. However, a solution with faster graphics that could work with modern Linux operating systems was much needed to enable both the students and the staff to perform graphics-intensive tasks and use a wide range of applications such as web browsers, Skype, LibreOffice Dropbox, and a broad spectrum of scientific applications like Matlab and Mathematica.
ThinLinc Setup

ThinLinc is running on a set of 12 virtual machines in a server park that enables high performance server-side graphics. ThinLinc can be displayed on small mini-PC-terminals or a private PC at other locations.

Result and Benefits

Support for recent Linux systems have made new things possible or at least easier and faster than before. The following results have been achieved by using ThinLinc: better performance, shadowing sessions, USB stick support and great support from Cendio team. ThinLinc is used today at The Institute of Mathematics at Zürich University by graduate students, postdocs, professors, staff (technical and administrative) and undergraduate students.

"The students use our terminal room during the day, go home and do their homework via ThinLinc from home with the same session - very nice."

Carsten Rose, IT Koordinator / Institut für Mathematik