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Avanade Virtualised Grids

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Avanade's Virtualized Grid Technology adopts Virtualization as a mean to provide more configurable, dynamic, secure and cost-effective Grid Computing solutions. Virtualization is used to provide automatic creation of computing clusters with the optimal configuration in two complementary domains: Operating Systems and installed software.

In a Grid computing context we see that virtualization has two benefits:

• Application Virtualization provides application isolation so that each grid application is able to run in its own space. Operating System Virtualization allows for a cost-effective utilization of dedicated computing servers, supporting the dynamic creation of etherogenous computing farms.

Avanade developed this technology based on a business case. What we faced is a situation where a grid
enabled application required different environments to run, due to a major version upgrade, and coexistence
on the same system was not supported nor working. By using Operating System Virtualization, the client is
not required to split available resources between the two required applications, and currently shares them by
using virtualization.

In addition, as the application is based on Linux, now the execution is possible even on Windows machines, so the available resources that can be used at the same time even greater that before.

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