



# Frequently Asked Questions



## Citrix NFuse™ Elite

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### Introduction

At iForum 2001 Citrix® previewed a new portal product -- then code-named "South Beach," and now known as Citrix NFuse™ Elite access portal server. Designed to significantly simplify portal implementations, Citrix NFuse Elite extends the Citrix-powered virtual workplace by aggregating Windows®, UNIX® and Java™ applications, native Web applications and internal and external content through a single, secure and personalized Web interface.

### What is Citrix NFuse Elite?

Citrix NFuse Elite is part of a new access portal product line that delivers the virtual workplace to Citrix customers. The new product line, known as Citrix NFuse™, includes the former Citrix NFuse product—now called Citrix NFuse™ Classic, Citrix® MetaFrame® Enterprise Services for NFuse, and Citrix NFuse Elite.

By leveraging the power of Citrix NFuse Classic to enable Web-based access to Citrix MetaFrame applications, Citrix NFuse Elite expands beyond client-server systems to include access to Web-based applications, legacy applications, internal and external content, and other services, such as syndicated content feeds.

Essentially, Citrix NFuse Elite is the simple, powerful access portal server that provides secure aggregation of applications and information.

### Who will benefit from Citrix NFuse Elite?

Any organization that wishes to simplify information access, aggregation and collaboration without the complex customization requirements and associated costs that typify today's enterprise portal implementations, will benefit from Citrix NFuse Elite access portal server.

Common business challenges that Citrix NFuse Elite addresses:

- Employees are hampered by the inability to effectively access and share current information and files with their colleagues. They spend too much time searching for files, research or Web content and less time accomplishing other work.
- Employees need an access point which aggregates Windows, UNIX, native Web applications and internal/external content.
- Managers need efficient ways to communicate beyond the limitations of voice mail and email.
- Mobile employees need access to server-based applications and don't want bulky client applications or large database replicas on their laptops.
- Decisions are being made based on incomplete information.
- IT departments are beleaguered by the need to provide service and solutions in impossible timeframes with limited resources.
- IT managers are faced with multiple hardware platforms and heterogeneous environments that are running a range of legacy, packaged and proprietary applications.
- With the sophistication of today's hackers, viruses and Internet worms, network security is of paramount importance.

### **What are some of the features of Citrix NFuse Elite?**

Citrix recognizes that organizations vary in their initial needs for access portal functionality, but all want room to grow as business needs evolve. The Citrix NFuse Elite access portal server presents options, such as the ability to add features in the future, allow customization if desired and be accessible to both large and small user populations.

The flexibility of the portal's foundation enables extensibility and interactivity with other applications. Key features include:

- Role-based access – to applications, content and pages lets companies deliver meaningful content in a format relevant to each person's job function
- User personalization – lets users arrange the types and appearance of Content Delivery Agents (CDA) on their portal home page according to their personal preference
- Easy, wizard driven installation – allows administrators to quickly set up and customize the portal
- Centralized portal management – through the Portal Management Console allows administrators to manage multiple portal applications across server farms
- Security – support of Windows NT® and Active Directory™ leverages existing security protocols for user authentication

### **What makes Citrix NFuse Elite different from an enterprise information portal?**

Citrix NFuse Elite is focused on simple, powerful access to information and applications. Citrix NFuse Elite differs from enterprise information portals by enabling companies to rapidly deploy an access portal solution. With its wizard-driven installation, pre-configured roles, themes, and templates, the conclusion of the installation procedure results in a prototype portal that can be easily configured by the administrator. Enterprise information portals typically provide a much more customized solution, involving lengthy deployments and specialized staffing. Companies no longer have the luxury of spending six or eight months on a customized portal implementation. Citrix NFuse Elite brings access portal functionality to the organization almost immediately, and has the ability to scale as needs evolve and the organization grows.

### **What is an access portal?**

An access portal facilitates the structuring and dissemination of information to employees. Access portals enable aggregation of applications and content that may reside on disparate systems and databases across the organization. The portal can be used to deliver syndicated external content such as news, stock reports and weather to the user. All content and application presentation can be personalized by the user or organization for the most efficient access.

### **How does Citrix NFuse Elite differ from Citrix NFuse Classic?**

Citrix NFuse Classic software works with Citrix MetaFrame to deliver existing, interactive, server-based applications over the Web. With Citrix NFuse Classic, applications are not converted to HTML or another language, rather, they are delivered in their original form with full functionality intact. While Citrix MetaFrame provides server-side command and control of applications, Citrix NFuse Classic instantly allows those applications to be presented in a Web page environment, such as a corporate Intranet site — or a portal.

It is important to understand that Citrix NFuse Classic is the Web application delivery component of the Citrix NFuse Elite workplace. This Web-enablement technology allows organizations to immediately begin receiving both tangible and intangible returns on their application investments.

Citrix NFuse Elite is the comprehensive access mechanism for the virtual workplace. By securely aggregating applications and information, Citrix NFuse Elite provides a single location for access to the resources users need to do their jobs.

Working in tandem, Citrix MetaFrame, Citrix NFuse Classic and a Citrix NFuse Elite access portal are key elements of a customer's virtual workplace strategy.

### **How does Citrix NFuse Elite leverage Microsoft® SharePoint™ Portal Server?**

Citrix NFuse Elite provides customers with an option to incorporate the primary functions of the Microsoft® SharePoint™ Portal Server to perform departmental document management and publishing, and use SharePoint Portal Services as an indexing and search engine accessed from Citrix NFuse Elite. Citrix NFuse Elite CDAs will enable these capabilities. Citrix NFuse Elite integration with SharePoint Portal Server provides customers with an option to use an excellent Microsoft product to provide document management, indexing and search capabilities. Citrix NFuse Elite also leverages Web Parts to bring external content into the portal.

### **Are Citrix MetaFrame and/or Citrix NFuse Classic required to run Citrix NFuse Elite?**

Neither Citrix MetaFrame nor Citrix NFuse Classic are specifically required to run Citrix NFuse Elite. Since Citrix NFuse Elite resides on its own servers, it is a self-running and free-standing application. However, to achieve the most potential from Citrix NFuse Elite, both Citrix MetaFrame and Citrix NFuse Classic are important components of the total virtual workplace solution. This solution permits the integrated access of UNIX, Web and Windows applications through the portal. Users gain unified, single-point access to a broad range of applications and content within their personalized portal environment.

### **What are Content Delivery Agents (CDA)?**

CDAs provide the mechanism by which information is brought into the portal. CDAs are essentially scripted mini-programs that allow content to be brought into the portal from any data source or back-end application. They are customized to the source, and so Citrix NFuse Elite contains numerous CDAs for a variety of databases, applications, and content sources.

CDAs play an important role in allowing each user to personalize the way content is displayed in their browser. Once CDAs are chosen and installed by the administrator, individual users can decide which CDAs to display in any location on their portal desktop. Certain CDAs are included when Citrix NFuse Elite is shipped, and more will be developed and available on an ongoing basis.

### **Will Citrix NFuse Elite work with third-party products like document management systems?**

Yes, Citrix NFuse Elite will work with a variety of third-party applications via CDAs that will be available in the future. Citrix has already established important alliances with industry leaders in content management, collaboration and syndicated content, including Screaming Media, eRoom Technologies, Documentum, and Bantu, just to name a few. These and future relationships with other vendors will provide Citrix NFuse Elite customers with simple, "snap-in" access to the most popular applications and information sources available to help automate and streamline business processes.

### **How will Citrix NFuse Elite be packaged and priced?**

No announcements regarding packaging and pricing are being made at this time.

### **When will Citrix NFuse Elite be publicly available?**

Citrix expects Citrix NFuse Elite to be publicly available in the first half of 2002.

### **Can I talk to my customers about Citrix NFuse Elite?**


Citrix issued a press release announcing a preview of the Citrix NFuse Elite technology at Citrix's iForum event. Now that the press release is available, you may mention Citrix NFuse Elite to your customers.

### **In what languages will Citrix NFuse Elite be available?**

The first release of Citrix NFuse Elite will be in English only, and will run only on US English versions of the Microsoft Windows 2000 platform. International character support is planned for future releases, but initially only English content will be displayed in the portal.

### **Will there be a beta or early adopter program for Citrix NFuse Elite?**

A technology preview of the product will be made available to qualified Citrix resellers. Technology preview participants will receive information on how to download the technology preview from the secure



portal site. An FAQ with information on installation, training and support will also be made available at that time.

**Will Citrix be providing training on Citrix NFuse Elite?**

Yes, Citrix will be providing training on using and selling Citrix NFuse Elite to its CSN partners. Partners will be notified when training becomes available.

A computer-based training course in portal foundation concepts is now available on myCitrix.com.

**How can I learn more about Citrix NFuse Elite?**

Information about Citrix NFuse Elite is now available at [www.citrix.com/nfuse\\_elite](http://www.citrix.com/nfuse_elite). More information and training regarding Citrix NFuse Elite will be made available in the months ahead.

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