

---

# SteelHead CX for Virtual

---

## Visibility, Optimization and Control for Virtual

### The Business Challenge

The traditional enterprise has rapidly evolved into a complicated hybrid enterprise driven by the adoption of virtualization, cloud services, rich media applications and Software as a Service (SaaS). Virtualization has become the default standard in datacenters and even branch offices; space is limited and consolidation and cost control have remained a focus for IT. This has fueled the adoption of virtualized services, but the fundamental concerns of any application deployment remain—the end-user experience and productivity. The complexity of this new dynamic, hybrid environment reduces visibility, control and manageability of application performance, which can challenge IT, increase the risk for application performance issues and ultimately, cause a loss of business productivity.

### The Riverbed Solution

Riverbed® SteelHead™ delivers not only best-in-class optimization—but essential visibility and control as companies transition to the hybrid enterprise. SteelHead CX for Virtual is available as a virtual solution on most major hypervisors including VMware vSphere, Microsoft Hyper-V and KVM. It accelerates the performance of all applications including on-premise, cloud, and SaaS across the hybrid enterprise for organizations that want to deliver the best end-user experience—while leveraging the scalability and cost benefits of virtualization.

SteelHead CX for Virtual uniquely delivers the best application performance along with application, network and end-user visibility, and simplified control management of users, applications and networks based on business requirements and decisions.



---

## Key Benefits

### Optimization virtualized

- Delivers optimization on advanced intelligent switches and routers that feature an integrated virtualization platform
- Easily deploys into existing virtual-service environments standardizing on the use of the same management tools that IT administrators know and trust
- Increases application and data transfer performance up to 100x
- Reduces bandwidth utilization by up to 95%, thus deferring costly network bandwidth upgrades

### Integrated visibility

- Enables end-user monitoring and troubleshooting for SteelHead-optimized and non-optimized enterprise web and SaaS applications through seamless integration with Riverbed® SteelCentral™ AppResponse
- Supports end-to-end network monitoring and reporting through seamless integration with SteelCentral NetProfiler
- Improves problem resolution with on demand gathering of packet and flow data from the branch through activation of SteelCentral NetShark
- Leverages simplified configuration with REST API for hybrid features—path selection, QoS, and secure transport—and custom API scripts for monitoring
- Enables simplified integration into existing operation flows with SteelScript for Python scripting to automate, provision, configure, and program SteelHead for Virtual
- Streamlines QoS configuration with per-site exceptions, application tagging and centralized, business intent-based policies

### Enhanced control

- Automatically derives all application path possibilities to streamline configuration when used with the SteelCentral Controller
- Dynamically selects the best application path based on application-aware, business intent-based policies and network availability
- Secures all traffic between SteelHead solutions across private and internet links with standards-based encryption

## Key Features

### Multi-tiered optimization for SaaS

- Leverages multiple optimization techniques, including data, application, and transport streamlining, as well as specifically designed SaaS and cloud intelligence
- Ensures optimal end-user experience, despite distance from the cloud to the user, with GeoIQ for Office 365 mailboxes

### Delivers the flexibility and advantages of virtual platforms

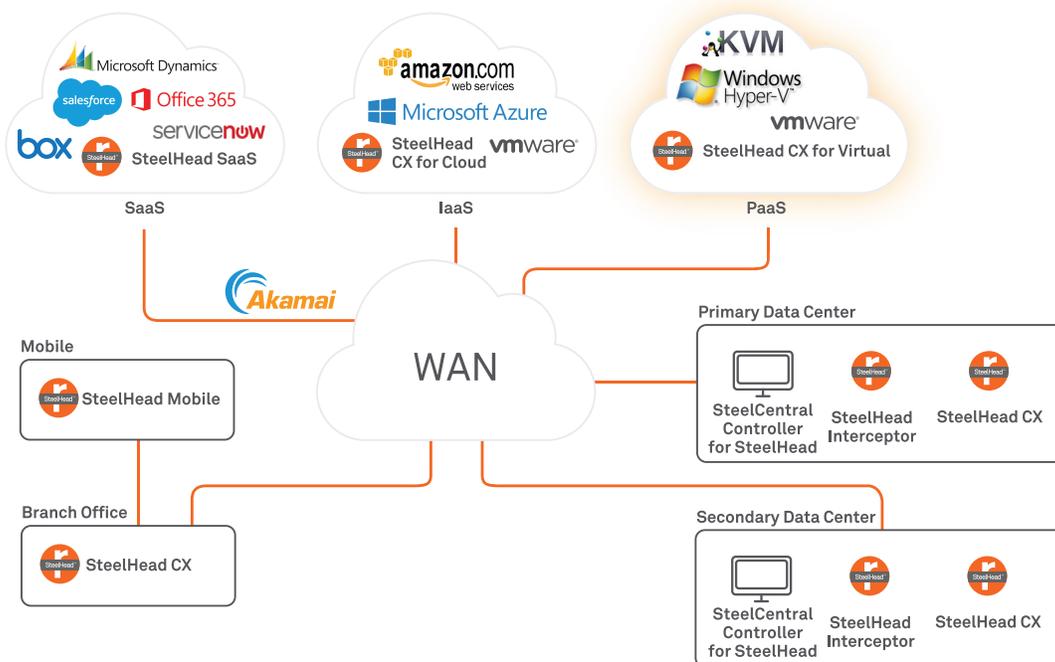
- Fits any form factor to meet environmental requirements such as physical space limitations or the need for ruggedized hardware through customized manufacturing
- Provides scalability through a simple license key upgrade without adding servers—delivering optimization for up to 1 Gbps of traffic with a single instance of SteelHead CX for Virtual
- Facilitates cost savings by offering the capability to standardize on a common hardware platform and to utilize pooled resources
- Enables Managed Service Providers and System Integrators to readily provide scalable optimization as an on-demand product offering

### Support for large-scale deployments

- Automates migration of QoS configuration to streamline upgrades to newer versions of SteelHead
- Supports up to 100,000 connections through an intelligent and scale-as-you-grow performance architecture

### Faster, more cost-effective disaster recovery

- Accelerates both replication and back up from the branch or between data centers by 10x or more
- Eliminates the need for additional bandwidth or longer back up windows



---

## Learn More

Riverbed delivers not only optimization of all applications (on prem, SaaS and cloud)—but essential visibility and control across the hybrid enterprise. Riverbed SteelHead solutions support location-independent computing for organizations of all sizes. A broad Riverbed product portfolio delivers a SteelHead appliance or software for every laptop, branch office, or data center providing the highest performance for data and application acceleration, back up, replication, and recovery across the hybrid network. What's more, you can upgrade your solutions within a model family as your demand grows.

To learn more about Riverbed SteelHead solutions, including the Riverbed SteelHead CX solution, please visit: [www.riverbed.com/SteelHead](http://www.riverbed.com/SteelHead).

---

### About Riverbed

Riverbed, at more than \$1 billion in annual revenue, is the leader in application performance infrastructure, delivering the most complete platform for the hybrid enterprise to ensure applications perform as expected, data is always available when needed, and performance issues can be proactively detected and resolved before impacting business performance. Riverbed enables hybrid enterprises to transform application performance into a competitive advantage by maximizing employee productivity and leveraging IT to create new forms of operational agility. Riverbed's 27,000+ customers include 97% of the *Fortune* 100 and 98% of the *Forbes* Global 100. Learn more at [riverbed.com](http://riverbed.com).

The Riverbed logo consists of the word "riverbed" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are a vibrant orange color. The 'i' in "river" has a small dot, and the 'd' in "bed" has a small tail.