

# How to Use the VINCI Workspace

*Tim Trautman*

Research Health Science Specialist



VA Informatics &  
Computing  
Infrastructure



# VINCI Workspace User Guide

On VINCI Central under User Guides

Home About VINCI Skip to Content

**VINCI Central**

Welcome to the VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure

Keyword Search  Search

Timothy Trautman  
VINCI Email: VINCI@VA.gov  
Concierge Desk: 1-801-872-3324  
Request Help Online

Launch Workspace  
New To VINCI  
My VINCI Dashboard  
VINCI University  
VINCI Tube  
VINCIpedia/FAQ  
**User Guides**  
VINCI Services  
Computing Cloud  
Data Sources  
Applications  
Events  
Policies and Forms  
Quick Links

## User Guides

### VINCI User Guides

Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries Filter:

Type	Guide Name	Description	Last Updated
	VINCI Database User Guide	This guide provides users with step-by-step instructions on how to access and query their study's SQL database in the VINCI Workspace, getting started with using SAS, and using CDW Project Specific databases.	2017-02-01
	VINCI File Transfer Guide	This guide explains how to upload and download files to the secure VINCI Workspace.	2017-02-01
	<b>VINCI Workspace User Guide</b>	This guide is intended to provide users with pre-requisites and instructions on accessing the VINCI Workspace for the first time as well as instructions on using the VINCI Workspace.	2017-03-27

Previous 1 Next

### Additional Resources

- VINCI SAS Grid Guides
- SharePoint site
- Veterans Administration
- SAS® Users Group
- (VASUG) SharePoint site
- Acceptable Use Policy for SAS/Grid
- Grid - Where to begin?

# VINCI SAS/Grid User Guides

## On VINCI Central under User Guides

Home About VINCI Skip to Content

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Computer or General Help: Your I  
VINCI Online Help

Launch Workspace  
New To VINCI  
My VINCI Dashboard  
VINCI University  
VINCI Tube  
VINCIpedia/FAQ  
**User Guides**  
VINCI Services  
Computing Cloud  
Data Sources  
Applications  
Policies and Forms  
Let's Collaborate VAI  
Quick Links  
Voogle Notes

### User Guides

- VINCI User Guides
- VINCI Software Guides
- OMOP Guides
- SAS Guides**

Showing 1 to 10 of 22 entries Filter:

Type	Guide Name	Description	Last Updated
	<a href="#">A Grid Primer - Where to Begin?</a>	This document gets you started by providing information on using the Grid for new users.	2019-04-02
	<a href="#">Best Practices in Accessing SQL Server Data with SAS</a>	Tips for the best ways to interact with SQL Server from your SAS session.	2017-11-24

Additional Resources

- [A Grid Primer – Where to Begin?](#)
- [VINCI SAS Grid Guides SharePoint site](#)
- [Veterans Administration SAS® Users Group \(VASUG\) SharePoint site](#)
- [Acceptable Use Policy for SAS/Grid](#)

Feedback

# About the VINCI Workspace

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- The VINCI Workspace is a FREE high-performance computing environment that serves research and operations business intelligence communities
- Firewall provides enhanced data security
- Access to computing power, software tools, databases, SAS/Grid, file and data storage
- Can be accessed from outside the VA through VA VPN solutions of Rescue and CAG
- The VINCI Workspace and shared project folders allow for national collaboration in a research group

# About the VINCI Workspace

## ■ Comes in two variations

## ■ Standard Workspace

- Standardized environment
- Shared resources
- Fixed software package

## ■ Development Workspace

- Special purpose usage
- Custom coding using programming software
- Use of non-standard [TRM approved software](#)



# VINCI Standard Workspace

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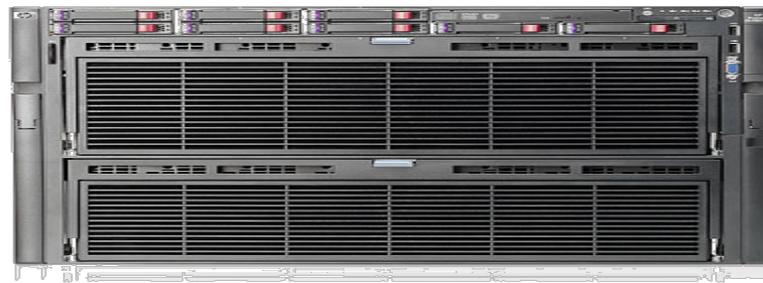
- Windows Server 2012 Enterprise R2 x64 SP2 Operating System on 3 load balanced servers
- No elevated (administrative) permissions
- 4 shared CPUs totaling 32 cores
- Shared 128 GB RAM



# VINCI Development Workspace

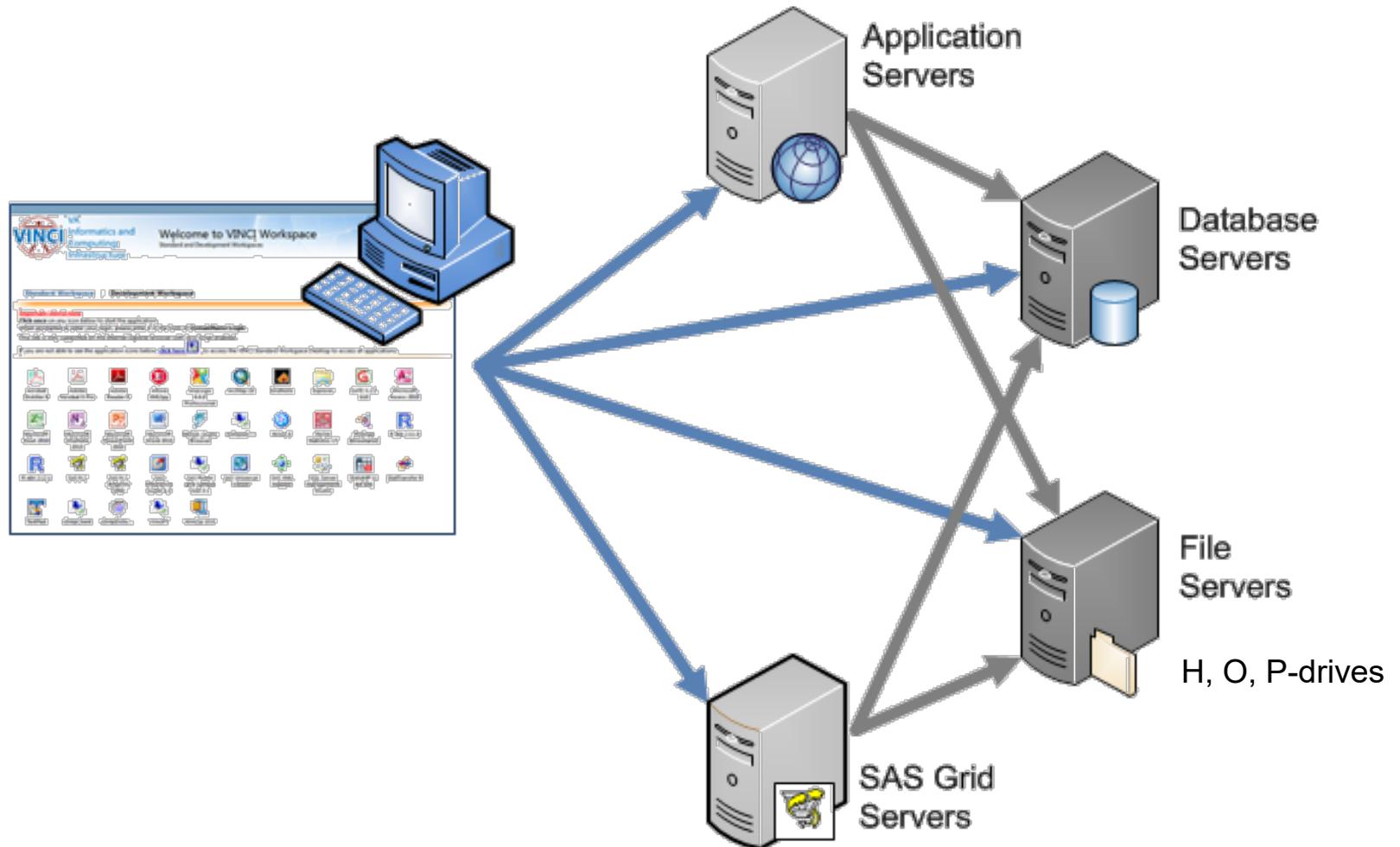
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- Windows Server 2012 Enterprise R2 x64 SP1 or Linux Operating System
- Elevated permissions allowed\*
- Install additional software yourself (TRM!)
- 1 processor core
- 4 GB RAM



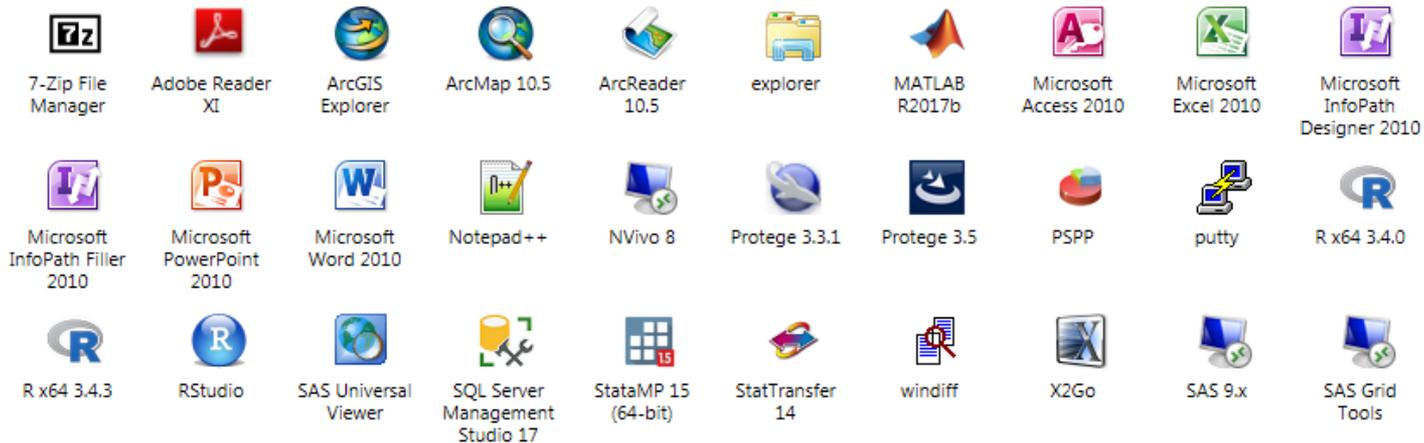
\* VINCI does not provide elevated access approvals - [see how here](#).

# VINCI Workspace Architecture



# VINCI Workspace Software

- VINCI provides ArcMap, STATA, R, SAS, PSPP, MATLAB, NVivo, SSMS, and other software for FREE
- Additional and updated software added when funded



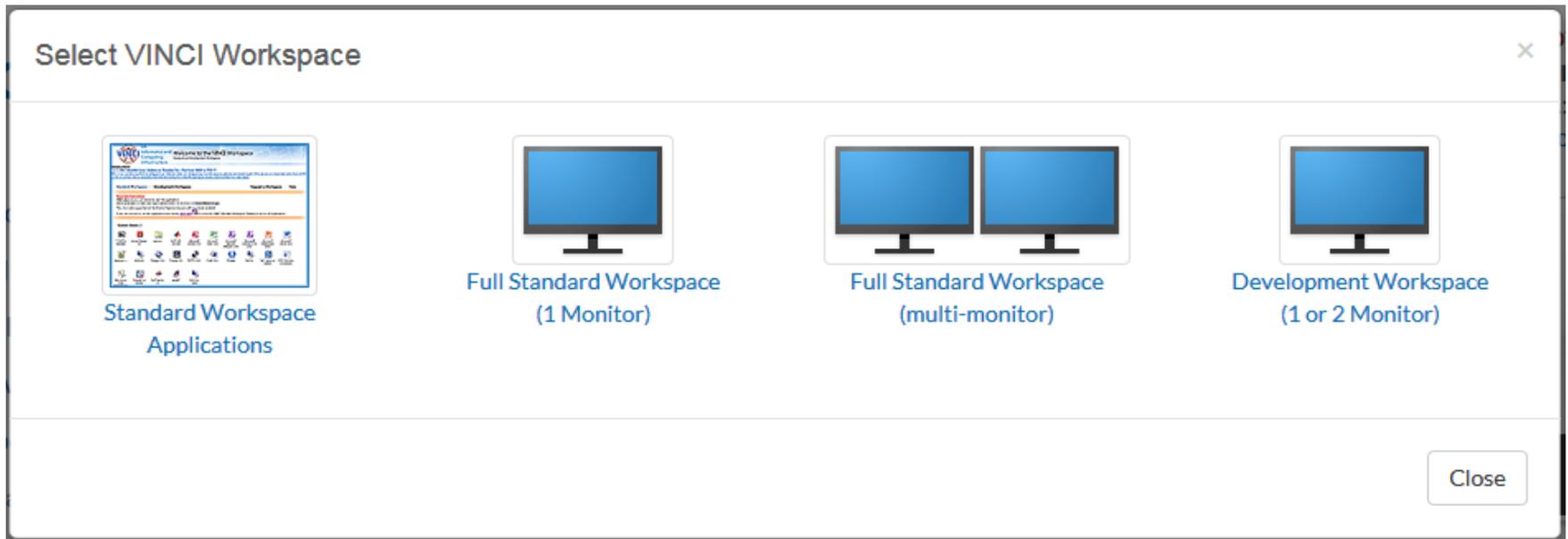
# Accessing the VINCI Workspace

- On VINCI Central, click **Launch Workspace**

The screenshot shows the VINCI Central website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About VINCI, and Skip to Content. The main header area includes the VINCI Central logo, a search bar with the text "Welcome to the VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure", and user information for Timothy Trautman, including his email (VINCI@VA.gov) and a contact number (1-801-872-3322). A red arrow points to the "Launch Workspace" link in the left sidebar. The sidebar also contains links for "New To VINCI", "My VINCI Dashboard", "VINCI University", "VINCI Tube", "VINCIpedia/FAQ", "User Guides", "VINCI Services", "Computing Cloud", "Data Sources", "Applications", "Events", "Policies and Forms", "Let's Collaborate VAI", "Quick Links", and "Voogle Notes". The main content area features a "New To VINCI" banner, a "My VINCI Dashboard" section, and a grid of service tiles including VINCI University, VINCI Tube, VINCIpedia, User Guides, VINCI Services, Computing Cloud, Data Sources, and Applications. A "Feedback" button is located on the right side of the dashboard.

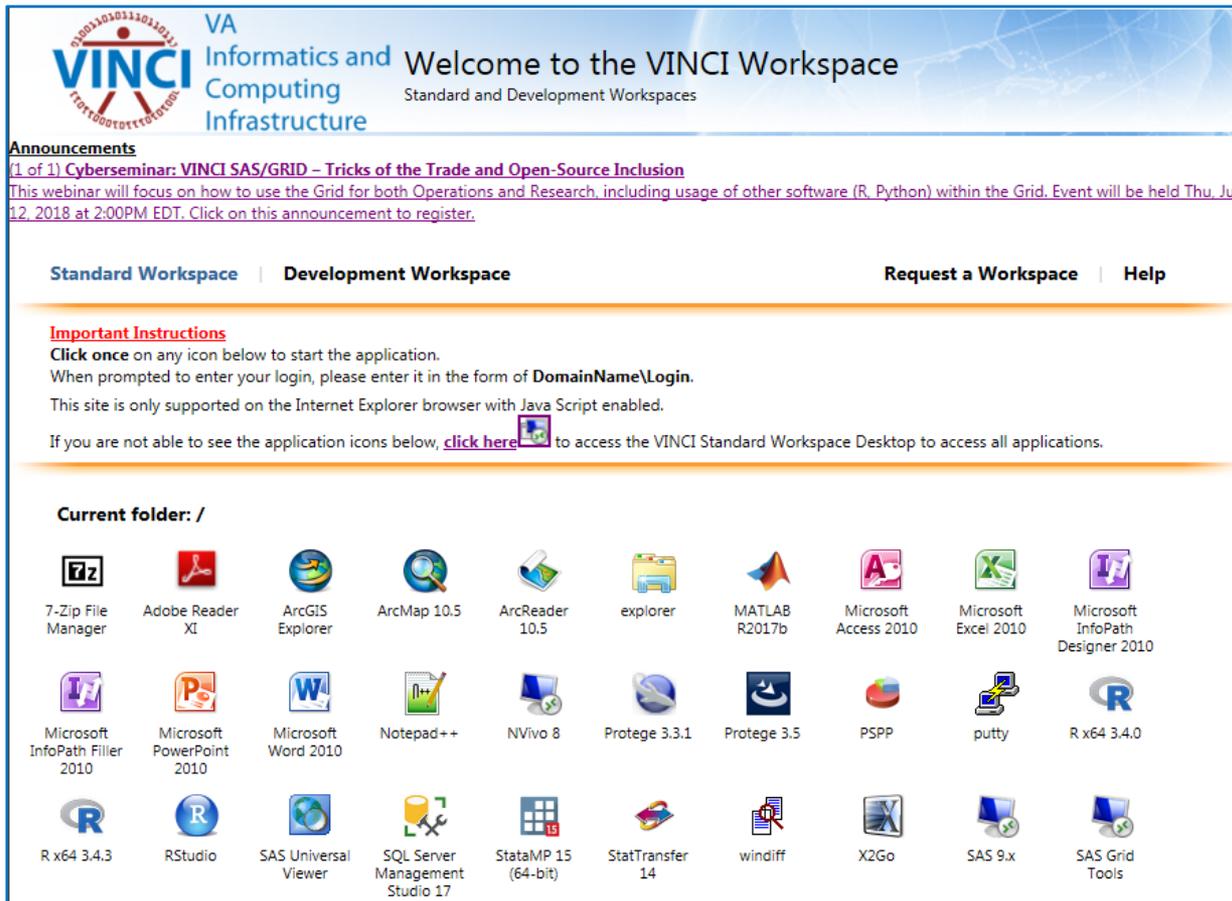
# Accessing the VINCI Workspace

- This gives you 4 options:
  - Standard Workspace Applications (launch one at a time)
  - Full Standard Workspace (1 monitor)
  - Full Standard Workspace (multi-monitor)
  - Development Workspace (1 or 2 monitor)



# VINCI Workspace Web Interface

## To launch one application at a time

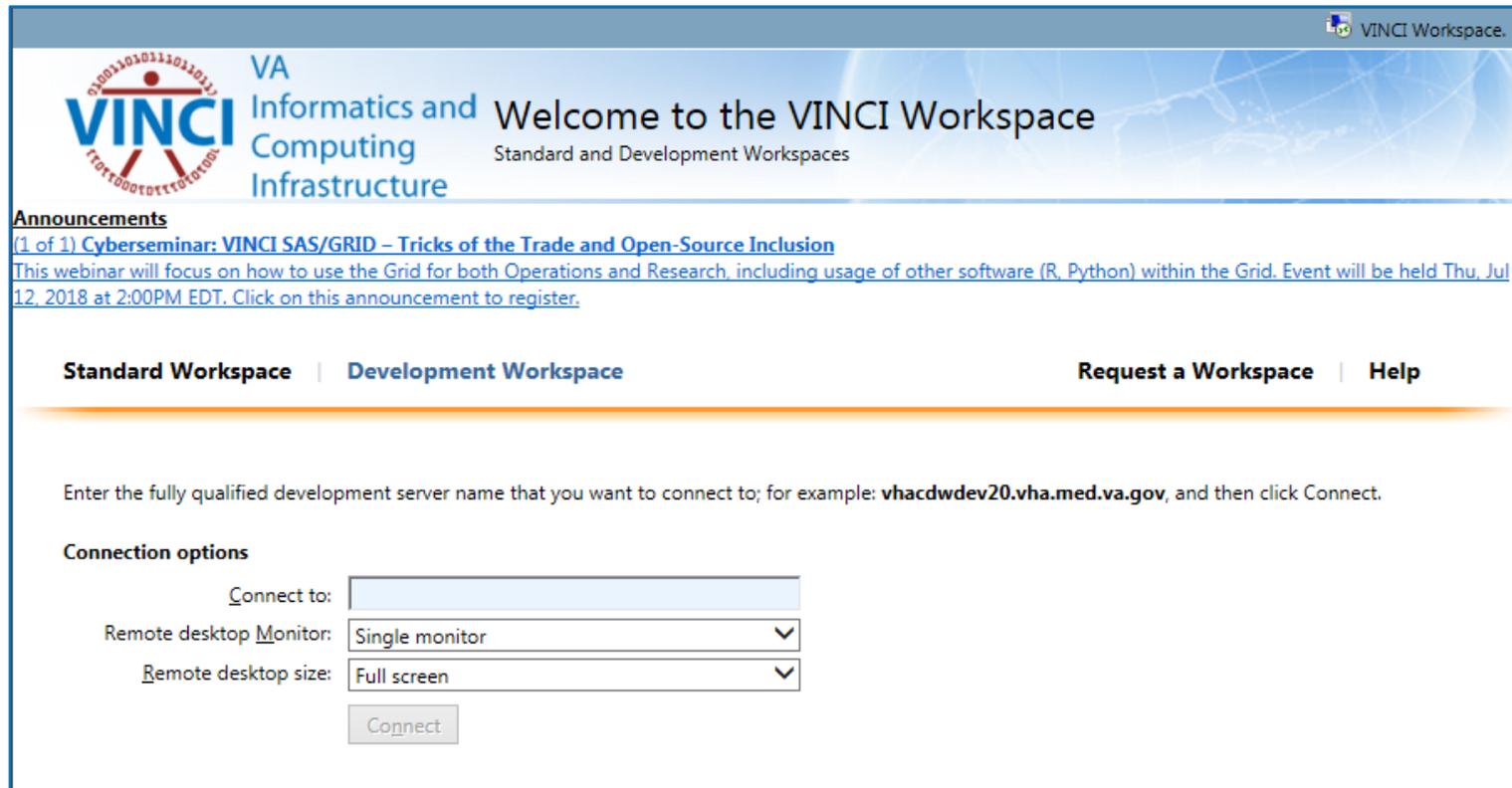


The screenshot displays the VINCI Workspace web interface. At the top left is the VINCI logo with the text "VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure". To the right, it says "Welcome to the VINCI Workspace Standard and Development Workspaces". Below this is an "Announcements" section with a link to a webinar. A navigation bar includes "Standard Workspace", "Development Workspace", "Request a Workspace", and "Help". An "Important Instructions" section provides login details and browser requirements. The main area shows a "Current folder: /" with a grid of application icons, including 7-Zip File Manager, Adobe Reader XI, ArcGIS Explorer, ArcMap 10.5, ArcReader 10.5, explorer, MATLAB R2017b, Microsoft Access 2010, Microsoft Excel 2010, Microsoft InfoPath Designer 2010, Microsoft InfoPath Filler 2010, Microsoft PowerPoint 2010, Microsoft Word 2010, Notepad++, NVivo 8, Protege 3.3.1, Protege 3.5, PSPP, putty, R x64 3.4.0, R x64 3.4.3, RStudio, SAS Universal Viewer, SQL Server Management Studio 17, StataMP 15 (64-bit), StatTransfer 14, windiff, X2Go, SAS 9.x, and SAS Grid Tools.



# VINCI Workspace Web Interface

- Development Workspace Login
- Connect to `vhacdwdwhdevXX.vha.med.va.gov`



The screenshot displays the VINCI Workspace web interface. At the top left is the VINCI logo, followed by the text "VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure". To the right, it says "Welcome to the VINCI Workspace" and "Standard and Development Workspaces". Below this is an "Announcements" section with a link to a webinar. The main content area has two tabs: "Standard Workspace" and "Development Workspace", with "Development Workspace" selected. To the right are links for "Request a Workspace" and "Help". The instructions state: "Enter the fully qualified development server name that you want to connect to; for example: `vhacdwddev20.vha.med.va.gov`, and then click Connect." Under "Connection options", there are three fields: "Connect to:" (a text input field), "Remote desktop Monitor:" (a dropdown menu set to "Single monitor"), and "Remote desktop size:" (a dropdown menu set to "Full screen"). A "Connect" button is located below these options.

# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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## CANNED DEMONSTRATION

### VINCI Videos

[Logging into a VINCI Workspace Application](#)

[Logging into the VINCI Standard Workspace](#)

[Logging into the Development VINCI Workspace](#)



# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

The screenshot shows the VINCI Central website home page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About VINCI, and Skip to Content. The main header includes the VINCI Central logo, a welcome message, a search bar, and contact information for Timothy Trautman. A red arrow points to the 'Launch Workspace' link in the left sidebar. A red box highlights the URL 'vaww.VINCI.med.va.gov' in the center of the page. The main content area features a 'New To VINCI' banner, a 'My VINCI Dashboard' section, and a grid of service tiles including VINCI University, VINCI Tube, VINCIpedia/FAQ, User Guides, VINCI Services, Computing Cloud, Data Sources, and Applications. A 'Feedback' button is located on the right side of the dashboard area.

Home About VINCI Skip to Content

VINCI Central

Welcome to the VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure

Keyword Search Search

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VINCI Email: VINCI@VA.gov  
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Request Help Online

Launch Workspace

New To VINCI

My VINCI Dashboard

VINCI University

VINCI Tube

VINCIPedia/FAQ

User Guides

VINCI Services

Computing Cloud

Data Sources

Applications

Events

Policies and Forms

Let's Collaborate VAI

Quick Links

Voogle Notes

VINCI Monthly Server Updates on Sunday July 22nd from 10AM to 4PM ET  
Servers will be available intermittently during this time.

My VINCI Dashboard  
All your VINCI resources in one place!

Feedback

**vaww.VINCI.med.va.gov**

VINCI University  
Here you learn more

VINCI Tube  
Videos on all things VINCI

VINCIPedia/FAQ  
VINCI's forum for research &

User Guides  
Let us guide you through VINCI

VINCI Services  
Support and concierge services

Computing Cloud  
Computers, software, and

Data Sources  
Learn about our available data

Applications  
Applications available in VINCI

# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

The screenshot displays the VINCI Workspace user interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, About VINCI, and Skip to Content. A user profile for Timothy Trautman is visible in the top right corner, including his email (VINCI@VA.gov) and desk phone number (1-801-872-3324). A central dialog box titled "Select VINCI Workspace" is open, offering four workspace configurations: "Standard Workspace Applications" (with a thumbnail of a desktop environment), "Full Standard Workspace (1 Monitor)", "Full Standard Workspace (multi-monitor)", and "Development Workspace (1 or 2 Monitor)". A "Close" button is located at the bottom right of the dialog. The background interface features a left-hand navigation menu with categories like "Launch Workspace", "New To VINCI", "My VINCI Dashboard", "VINCI University", "VINCI Tube", "VINCIpedia/FAQ", "User Guides", "VINCI Services", "Computing Cloud", "Data Sources", "Applications", "Events", "Policies and Forms", "Let's Collaborate VAI", "Quick Links", and "Voogle Notes". Below the navigation menu is a grid of service tiles, each with an icon and a brief description: VINCI University (learning), VINCI Tube (videos), VINCIpedia (forum), User Guides, VINCI Services (support), Computing Cloud (computers/software), Data Sources (data), and Applications (available apps). A "Feedback" button is positioned on the right side of the page. At the bottom left, a "VINCI Monthly Server Updates on Sunday" notice states that servers will be unavailable from 10AM to 4PM ET on July 22nd.



# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

The screenshot displays the VINCI Workspace login page. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, About VINCI, and Skip to Content. The main content area features a 'Select VINCI Workspace' dialog box with three options: 'Standard Workspace Applications', 'Full Standard Workspace (1 Monitor)', and 'Development Workspace (1 or 2 Monitor)'. A large red arrow points to the 'Full Standard Workspace' option. The background shows a sidebar with various navigation items and a main grid of service tiles. A user profile for Timothy Trautman is visible in the top right corner.

Home About VINCI Skip to Content

VINCI Center

Launch Workspace  
New To VINCI  
My VINCI Dashboard  
VINCI University  
VINCI Tube  
VINCIpedia/FAQ  
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Timothy Trautman  
Email: VINCI@VA.gov  
Desk: 1-801-872-3324  
Request Help Online

Feedback

Select VINCI Workspace

Standard Workspace Applications

Full Standard Workspace (1 Monitor)

Development Workspace (1 or 2 Monitor)

Close

VINCI University Here you learn more

VINCI Tube Videos on all things VINCI

VINCIpedia/FAQ VINCI's forum for research &

User Guides Let us guide you through VINCI

VINCI Services Support and concierge services

Computing Cloud Computers, software, and

Data Sources Learn about our available data

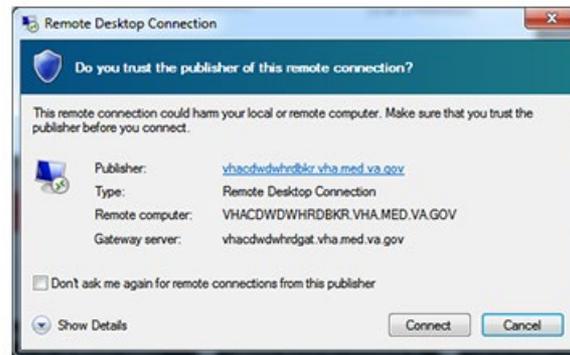
Applications Applications available in VINCI

# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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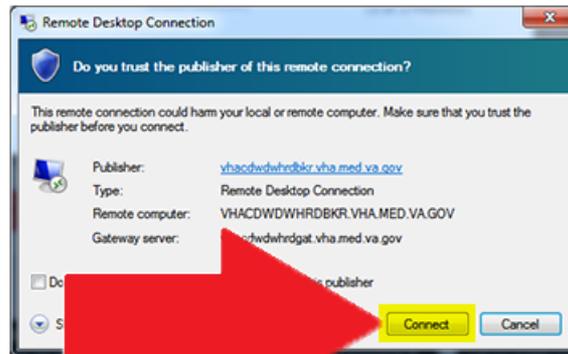
# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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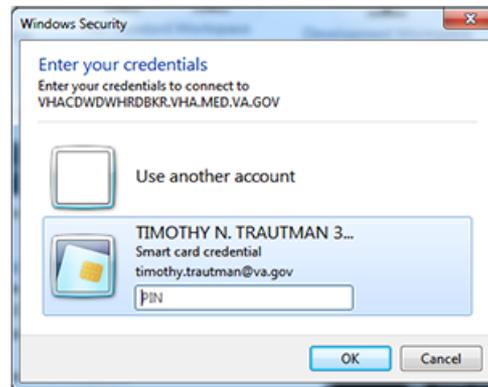
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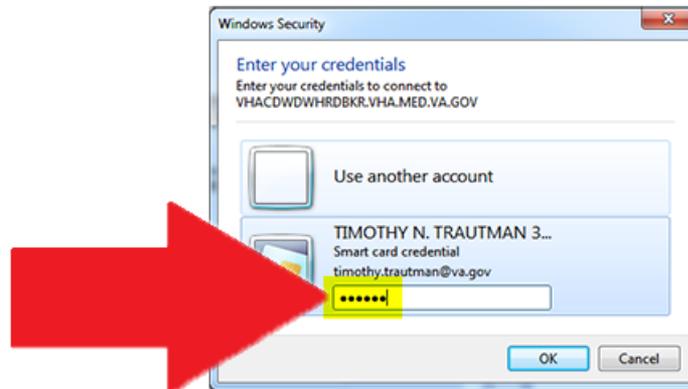
# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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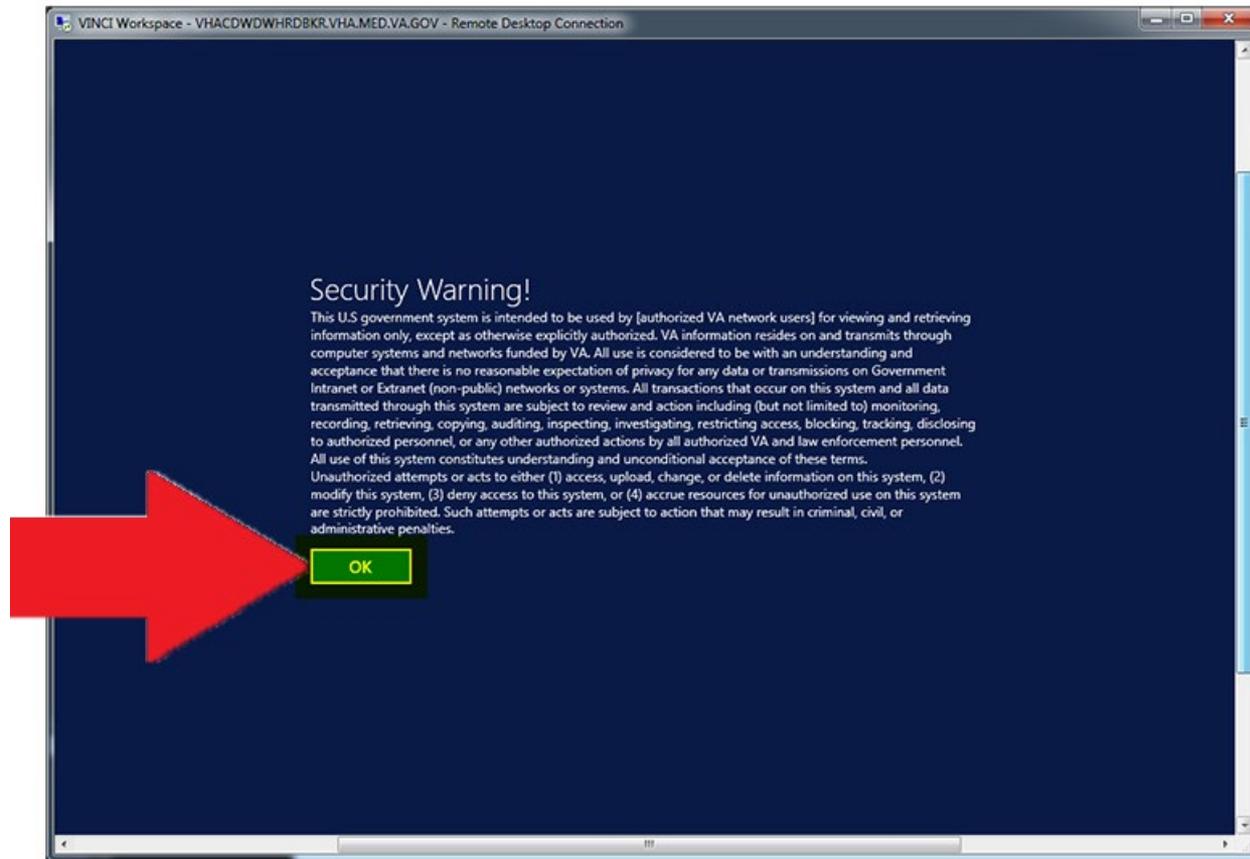
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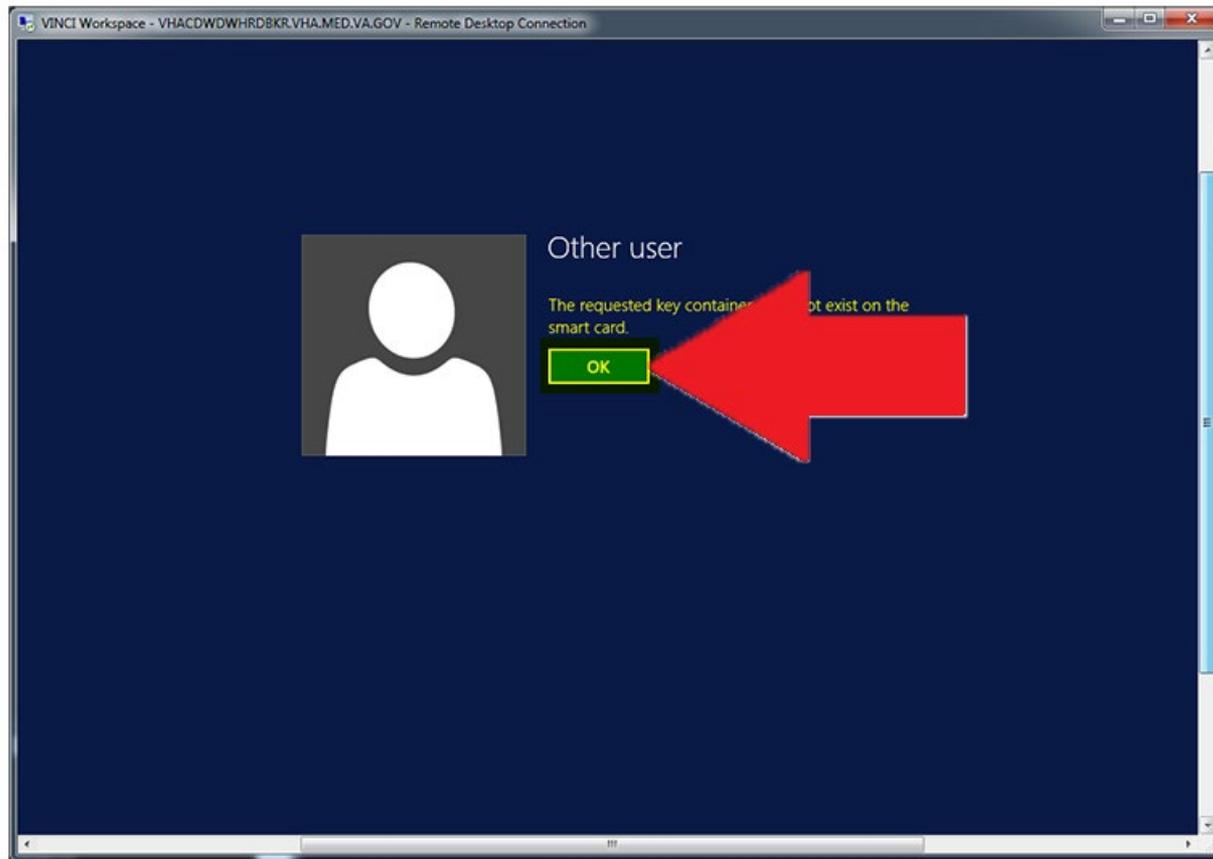
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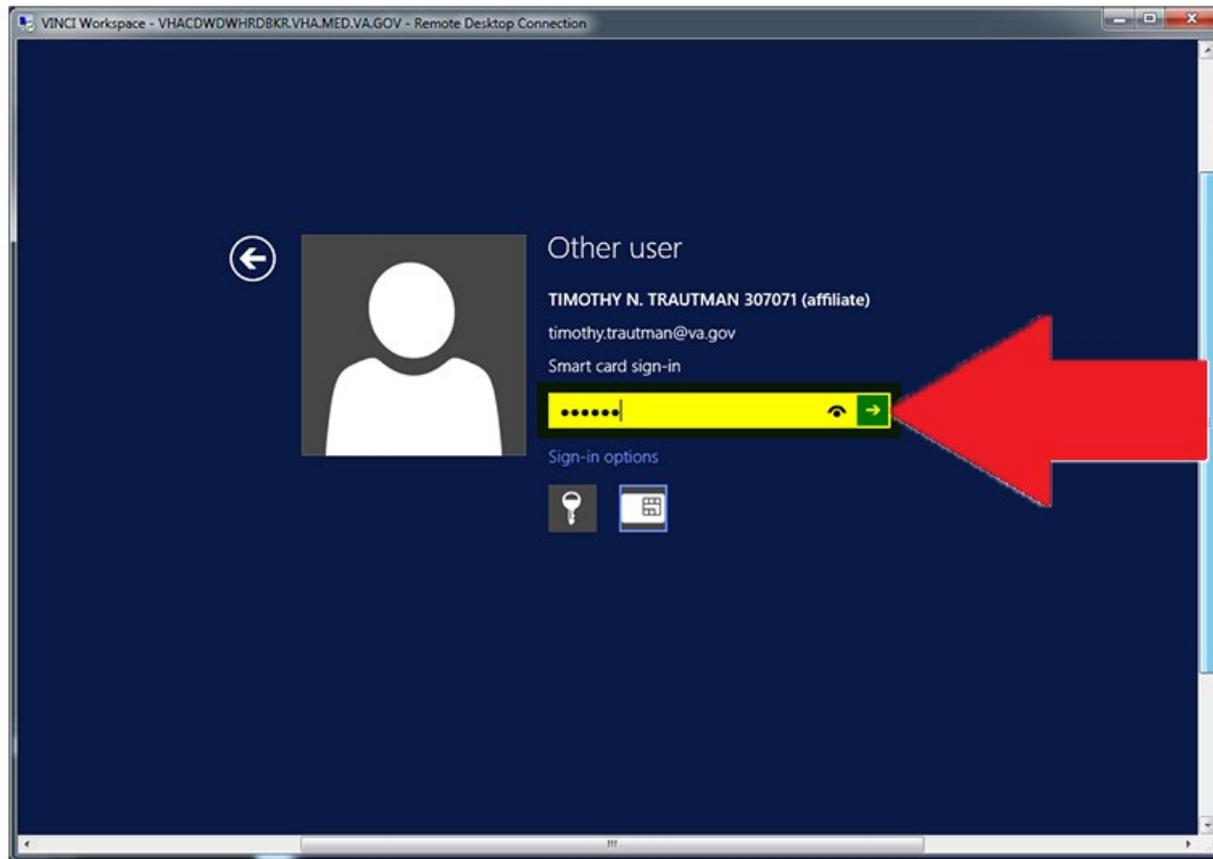
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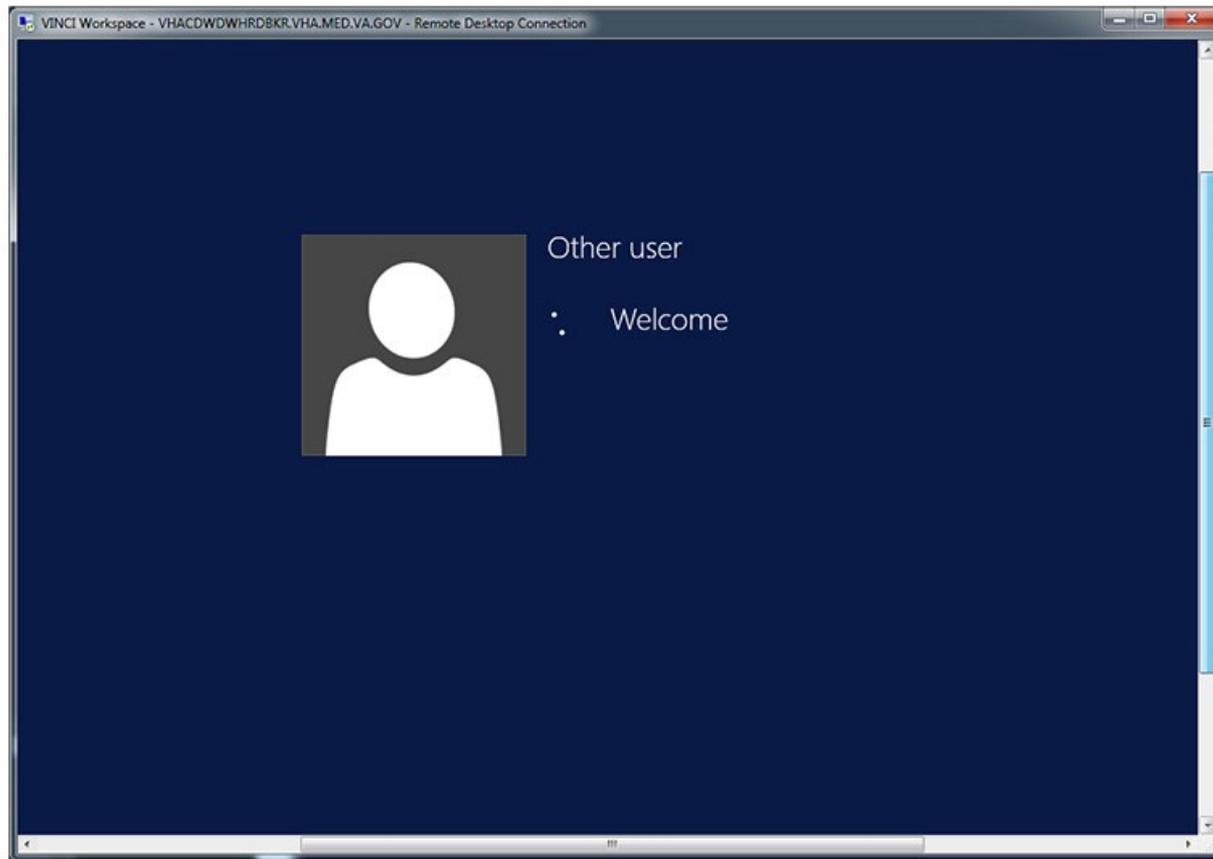
# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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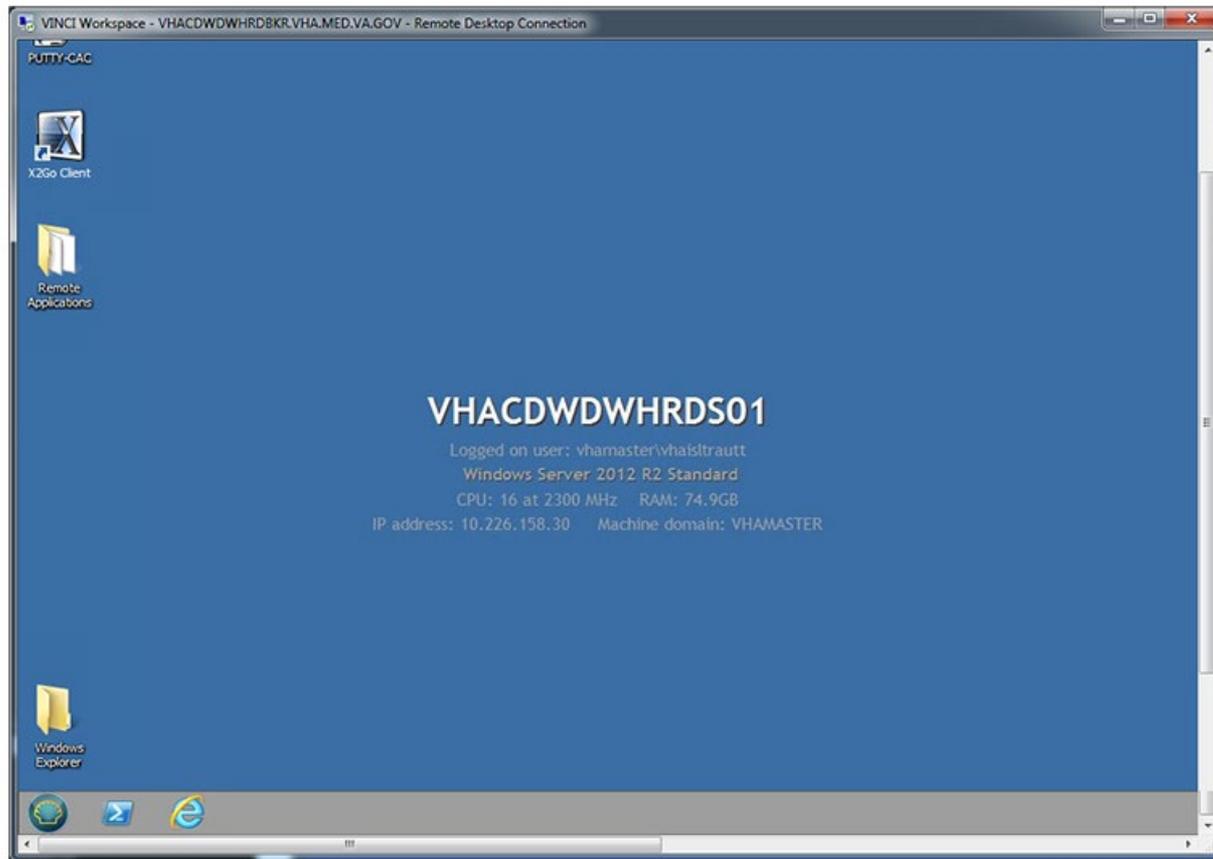
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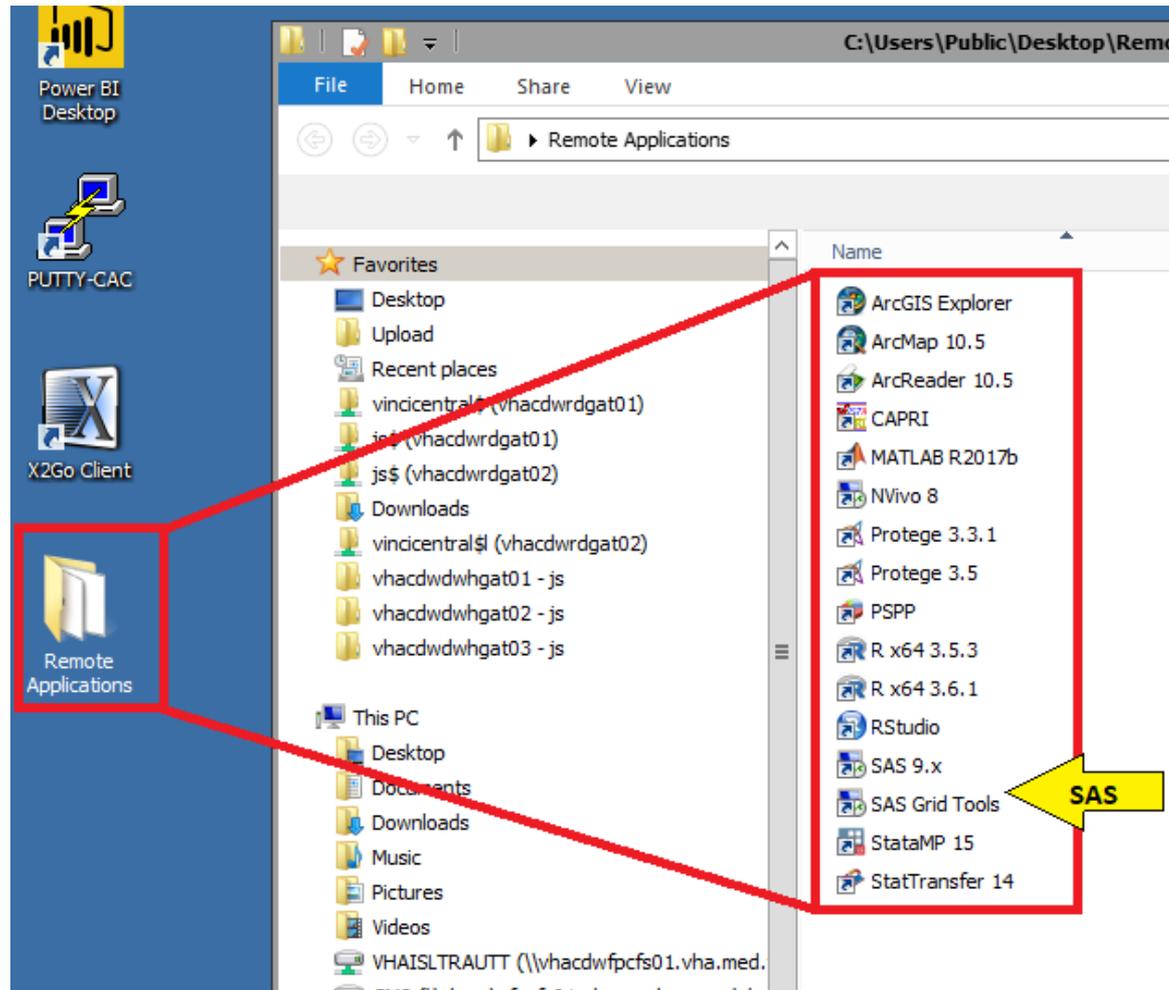


# Logging into the VINCI Workspace

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# VINCI Workspace Applications



# VINCI Workspace Restrictions

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- No Internet access (for data security)
- Cannot copy and paste to/from workspace
  - Can save info as a file and download/upload within regulations
- Copy and paste between applications in the workspace can fail as many applications run from remote servers
  - Save copy to file and open the file from the target application

# VINCI Workspace Storage

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## ■ H-Drive Personal Storage

- 10 GB standard size
- For user's file storage only
- **NOT** for storing study PHI data



## ■ O and P-Drive Project Folders

- 100 GB standard size
- Specifically intended for project file storage
- Access is controlled and limited to project staff

## ■ Tape and Disk backup

# VINCI Workspace Storage

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## LIVE DEMONSTRATION

VINCI Video

[Understanding VINCI Workspace Drives](#)

# VINCI Workspace Databases

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- VINCI creates study databases that are accessible within the VINCI Workspace
- The assigned server depends on study's data needs (static vs. live data) and the space available on the server
- Databases (use FQDN)
  - Static data - `vhacdwrrb01.vha.med.va.gov`
  - Live data - `vhacdwrrb02.vha.med.va.gov`
  - Live data - `vhacdwrrb03.vha.med.va.gov`
- Use SQL Server Management Studio 2017 to access your study database

# Accessing VINCI Workspace Databases

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## LIVE DEMONSTRATION

VINCI Video

[Accessing VINCI Databases using SQL Server Management Studio 2017](#)



# VINCI File Transfer Tool

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- Two tools in one: Upload and Download
- Can transfer one file at a time (ZIP multiple files together into one)
- Limited to 2GB per transfer
- VA Intranet-based utility application for copying files from the workspace
- Available from VINCI Central under Applications

# VINCI File Transfer Tool

Home About VINCI Skip to Content

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**Applications**  
Policies and Forms  
Let's Collaborate VAI

## Applications

VINCI has a lot of applications both inside and outside the VINCI Workspace to help our customers achieve their research goals. From VINCI applications and utilities to pre-installed VINCI Standard Workspace applications to self-installed VINCI Development Workspace applications. If you have your own government licensed software, contact VINCI using our [New Software Request Online Form](#) for permission and information on installing it. Due to the lengthy VA acquisition process and limited funding, new software is provided when possible based on popularity and need. Versions listed below are subject to change as newer software becomes available.

### VINCI Applications

These are VINCI created non-VINCI Workspace applications.

Click on an application to launch it.

DART Dim Data Viewer Meta Data Viewer **VINCI Workspace Download** **VINCI Workspace Upload** Let's Collaborate VAI

## Featured Apps

**VINCI Workspace Upload**  
**VINCI Workspace Download**  
Launch Workspace

Feedback

# VINCI File Upload Tool

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- Copies to either your H-drive or project folder per your selection
- Creates an “Upload” folder for the contents in the target folder

# VINCI File Download Tool

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- Copies files from your H-drive or project folders per your selection to a local folder
- File Audit Process
  - Copies of transferred files are archived
  - Copied files from Research studies are audited for PHI, PII, and SI

# File Download Restrictions

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## ■ Operations Project Users

- Can transfer files out without permission except MAC CMS data which can't be downloaded
  - Identifiable PHI/PII/SI data
  - Aggregate data
  - Documents - papers, analysis, presentations

## ■ Research Study Users

- Can transfer some files *without* permission
  - Aggregate data
  - Documents - papers, analysis, presentations *without* PHI/PII/SI
- Can transfer out *with* data steward permission
  - Data containing PHI/PII/SI
  - To local secure server, not desktop or laptop

# File Download Restrictions

- Before downloading any file, familiarize yourself with HIPAA and VHA definitions of PHI and PII; [VHA Handbook 1605.1](#), Appendix B, is a good resource
- If you are not sure whether you may download PHI/PII for your project, read your Research Request Memo or email [VINCI@va.gov](mailto:VINCI@va.gov) with Subj: **Compliance**
- Once you have selected the "Download" link, be aware that browsing to and opening any file will cause the file to be downloaded. Do not use "Open" in utility. If you open a file and then close the utility without saving the file, it will still be written to your local temporary Internet files folder in violation



# File Download Restrictions

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- Pay attention to the warning that is displayed as soon as you select the "Download" link, which advises you to select "Save As" and not "Save" when downloading the file. Selecting "Save" will copy the file to your "Downloads" folder in violation. "Save As" will allow you to copy the file to your local secure server



- Remind your team that they are each responsible for ensuring only PHI data approved for download by the data steward may be transferred out of VINCI and that the data is downloaded to a secure VA server

# Using the VINCI File Transfer Tool

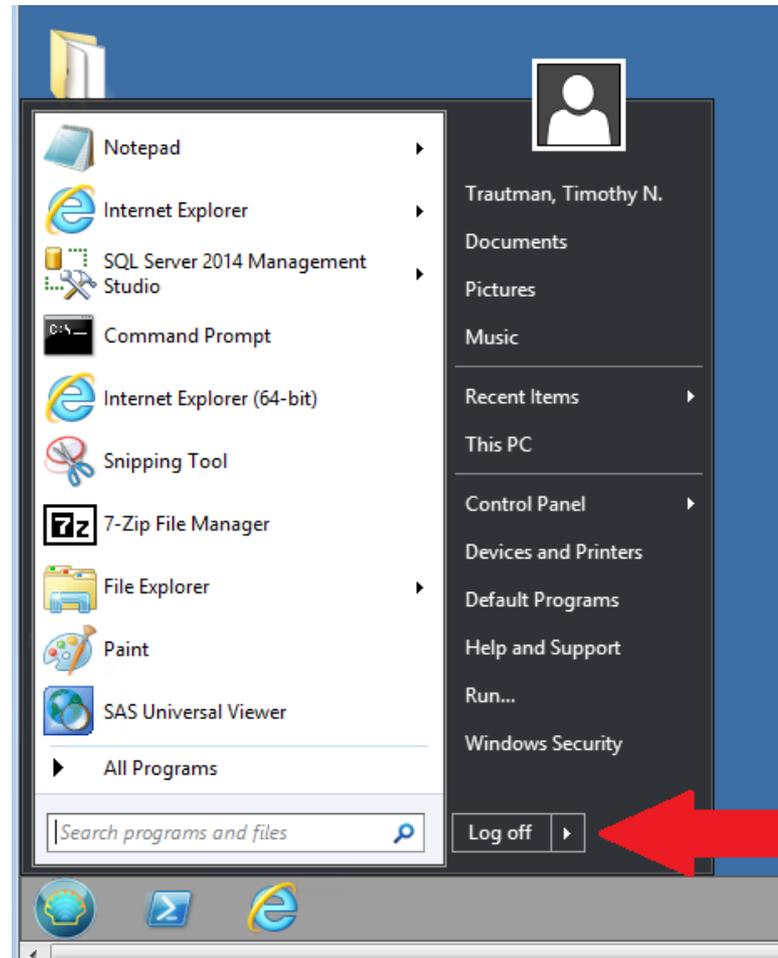
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## LIVE DEMONSTRATION

[VINCI Video](#)  
[Using the VINCI File Transfer Tool](#)

# Log Off When Finished

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# VINCI Workspace Resources

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- **VINCI Central:** <http://vaww.vinci.med.va.gov>
- **See VINCI User Guides:**
  - VINCI Workspace User Guide
  - VINCI Database User Guide
  - VINCI File Transfer Guide
  - VINCI Development Workspace Software Install Guide
- **See SAS User Guides:**
  - 22 various SAS user guides from *A Grid Primer - Where to Begin?* to *SAS Coding Considerations using the Linux-based Grid*
- Under **VINCI University**, see **VINCI Cyberseminars**
- Under **VINCI Tube**, see **VINCI Videos**

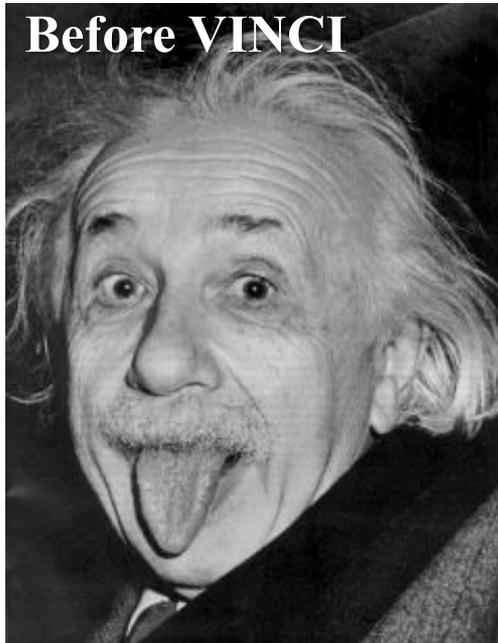
# Questions?

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**VINCI Support: [VINCI@va.gov](mailto:VINCI@va.gov)**

**SAS Support: [VINCISASAdmins@va.gov](mailto:VINCISASAdmins@va.gov)**

**Before VINCI**



**After VINCI**

