



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY: INDEPENDENT FINANCING



CHALLENGE

Rein in server sprawl and create ease of management within IT environment to increase productivity and deal with rapid data growth.

SOLUTION

Deploy VMware software to consolidate servers and streamline management of IT environment to increase productivity through ease of use.

RESULT

Flexible environment has vastly simplified the provision of servers. The company has not experienced any downtime and resources can be allocated as and when they are needed.

VMWARE AT WORK

VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise featuring:

- ESXi 3.0.2
- High Availability
- VMotion
- Distributed Resources Scheduler (DRS)

"Our company was looking for a new solution to the typical problems most businesses face when it comes to provisioning servers. VMware offered us a system that was easy to use and created the flexibility our business needed. Through the use of their virtualisation technology we were able to implement a flexible environment that mitigated server sprawl and allowed for server provisioning that was simple, quick and increased productivity by saving man hours."

Graeme Ortlieb, Head of IT, Fintech

Fintech Improves Management of IT Environment by Implementing VMware

Fintech is a Small Medium Business (SMB) that specialises in providing asset finance for technology equipment. The nature of Fintech's business means the company endeavours to stay abreast of technology trends to ensure its competitiveness in the market.

Prior to implementing VMware Infrastructure 3 the technical architecture at Fintech was becoming an inhibiting factor for the business. New management stepped in and looked at the entire IT infrastructure from an architectural point of view. Fintech wanted to refresh the current IT environment and implemented a new strategy to increase productivity and create an environment that was flexible, streamlined and easy to manage. IMMIX Network Solutions, an outsourced service provider and VMware VIP enterprise partner was brought in to assist Fintech.

Fintech sought to get server sprawl under control and also to solve the internal issues such as lengthy approval procedures and loss of man hours caused by traditional server provisioning. Critical to the company was the ability to implement a workable Disaster Recovery (DR) plan that would suit the needs of their core business applications such as the Oracle database suite, their financial ERP software JD Edwards and Microsoft Exchange environment.

Why VMware:

- It provided a solution that was flexible to cater for fluctuating data loads
- Servers could be provisioned remotely and could be replicated and allocated within minutes
- VMware allowed for increased productivity and saved on man hours
- The DR solution allowed for easy back ups and worked well with Fintech's core application
- The ability to back up an image instead of a data set was easier and less time consuming
- High Availability would maintain core server sets preventing down time

“VMware gave our business the ability to mitigate provision procedures that were costly and time consuming. The business was able to ensure downtime was reduced to a minimum, data could be backed up faster and our new virtual environment would see to our business needs well into the future.”

Graeme Ortlieb, Head of IT, Fintech

Fintech needed an IT solution that would have future sustainability for the organisation. VMware's Virtualisation technology was the best option because it would eliminate server sprawl and run easily with the company's core business applications.

In order to ensure a controlled process Fintech migrated all their secondary applications over to gain full advantage of the High Availability functionality within their environment. The migrations were seamless and Fintech then converted the Oracle data suite using Power Convert and the JD Edwards application using VM Converter. Once the entire environment was virtualized systems operated more efficiently and the Exchange environment had an approximate improvement of 30%.

Fintech now runs a far more efficient back up system because of the ability to take full VM snapshots and adding to this the ability to utilize Virtual Consolidated Backups to backup files to the server reducing backup time by more than half.

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Graeme Ortlieb, Head of IT, Fintech

Results

- Seamless migration to virtual environment
- Faster and more efficient back-up process now in place as large amounts of data can be easily backed up using snapshots and Virtual Consolidated Backups
- All systems are running at increased efficiency with the Exchange environment running at an approximate 30% improvement
- The company has not experienced any downtime and resources can be allocated as and when they are needed

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- HP DL 380 G5 Servers x 5
- Mission Critical Applications running in production in virtual machines Oracle database with Oracle applications, JD Edwards ERP application, Fax Server, Microsoft Exchange 2007
- Guest operating systems included Windows 2003, Sun Solaris, SUSE Enterprise

VIRTUALIZED PRODUCTION APPLICATIONS

- Entire infrastructure is virtualized with the exception of Fax Server

VIRTUALIZED PRE-PRODUCTION

- VMware Virtual Desktop Infrastructure using Sunrays Offering

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