



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY: TECHNOLOGY

**CHALLENGE**

Meet green IT and cost-reduction objectives while implementing a dynamic, scalable infrastructure that could support software such as Microsoft Exchange 2007.

SOLUTION

VMware Infrastructure gave Future Businesstech the confidence to deploy Microsoft Unified Communications and a customized ERP system on a virtualized platform.

VMWARE AT WORK

- VMware ESX 3.0.2, migrating to ESX 3.5
- VMotion
- Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS)
- High Availability (HA)
- Virtual Desktop Infrastructure
- VirtualCenter

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- ESX on two HP ProLiant BL460c blade servers, each with one quad-core 2.33GHz Intel Xeon processor and 8GB RAM
- HP EVA 4400 enterprise virtual array
- Guest operating systems: Microsoft Windows 2003 R2
- Virtualized production applications: Microsoft Exchange 2007, Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007, SmartFBT ERP system accessing an SQL Server database, antivirus software.

"We have been very successful running Microsoft Exchange 2007 on VMware. Our experience in terms of reliability and performance has been so positive, we are installing and running Microsoft's Unified Communications suite in our virtualized environment as well."

Ashok R, Associate Vice President, Solutions
Future Businesstech

Future Businesstech

Future Businesstech provides systems integration services including network design, software implementation and support, hardware infrastructure procurement and disaster recovery to corporate clients. Formed in 1990, the organization has 160 staff supported by a single datacenter.

To reduce its environmental footprint and consolidate its mix of rack-mounted and tower servers, Future Businesstech decided to develop a modular 'green datacenter'. After initially migrating its existing hardware to the new facility in November 2006, Future Businesstech found its ability to upgrade to newer software was compromised.

"We wanted to upgrade from Microsoft Exchange Server 2003 to Exchange Server 2007 to take advantage of greater performance and improved calendaring and spam control, but could not undertake the required testing due to the limitations of our physical boxes," said Future Businesstech Associate Vice President, Solutions, Ashok R. "This prompted us to consider alternatives and in February 2007 we started implementing VMware Infrastructure 3 incorporating ESX 3.0.2."

Future Businesstech began running Exchange Server 2007 in a virtualized infrastructure in April 2007. The consequent reliability and availability has given Future Businesstech the confidence to install and run Microsoft's Unified Communications product suite in a similar environment. "We plan to complete this by the end of 2008 and use VMware virtualization to help build our disaster recovery from January 2009," said Ashok R.

Future Businesstech is also planning to migrate to ESX 3.5 to exploit newer features and is exploring Virtual Desktop Infrastructure to deliver centralized administration of desktop environments at branch offices.

Results

- Improved performance of Microsoft Exchange Server by 25%
- Attained 99.999% uptime
- Delivered single-screen management of virtualized infrastructure
- Achieved a 5:1 server consolidation ratio
- Reduced the number of administrators from three to one
- Delivered a 100% reduction in UPS requirements and 75% overall reduction in power and cooling

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