



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY: TECHNOLOGY

**CHALLENGE**

Increase flexibility, resilience, performance and time to market while keeping deployment and IT management costs in control

SOLUTION

Virtual appliances running on VMware® Infrastructure 3 offer rapid deployment, improved performance and reduce time spent on systems management

VMWARE AT WORK

VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:

- VMware® ESX Server 3
- VMware® VirtualCenter 2
- VMware® Virtual SMP
- VMware® VMFS
- VMware® Distributed Resource Scheduler
- VMware® VMotion™

Zeus Technology's ZXTM VA (Zeus Extensible Traffic Manager Virtual Appliance)

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- VMware ESX Server on a number of SUN Sparc Enterprise servers
- VMware VirtualCenter on SUN Servers
- SUN StorageTek Arrays
- Microsoft Windows, Linux, BSDA, SUN Solaris in more than 100 virtual machines
- Running a variety of mission critical business applications in virtual machines
- 10% of all workloads are virtual appliances



"The ZXTM load balancing solution from Zeus Technology previously ran on a dedicated physical machine, ensuring that hosted solutions met appropriate performance levels. As we started testing the ZXTM as a virtual appliance we experienced increased performance and flexibility and therefore took the decision to deploy it as a virtual appliance permanently. We found that deploying ZXTM as a virtual appliance meant that we could cut as much as 95 percent of the time from the typical installation process. In testing other and more complex applications we found the advantage of having them deployed as virtual appliances to be equally great."

Karsten Thygesen, Systems Architect and Technical Director, Netic A/S

Netic A/S

Netic A/S is a professional IT services and hosting company, running and maintaining mainly mission critical, multi-layer business solutions for customers in the financial services, manufacturing and other industries. Located in Aalborg, Denmark, Netic delivers consultancy, development and integration for a company's hosted solutions based on exceptional skills and knowledge of industry leading platforms like BEA, JBoss, Trifork, Oracle and many others.

Netic is always looking for new and innovative ways to run solutions for customers in order to minimize maintenance and deployment costs and provide a competitive advantage.

Netic has used VMware infrastructure for several years as the strategic platform for its hosting business. During this time the company has reaped the benefits of virtualization including maximizing its investment in hardware, simplifying the deployment of new solutions, increasing security and availability and improving systems management capabilities.

As the business of hosting requires a 24x7 high quality load balancing solution, Netic decided to test the Zeus Technology ZXTM load balancing solution as a virtual appliance soon after it became available. Evaluation of the virtual appliance resulted in such significant benefits that Netic decided to deploy it internally as well as include it in its virtual infrastructure services offering to customers.

"Running our ZXTM load balancing solution as a virtual appliance means that we spend considerably less time on deployment today than we have in the past, giving us better control and greater flexibility" says Thygesen.

Thygesen cites numerous other benefits to be gained from virtual appliances including performance gains, increased security due to a smaller footprint of the slimmed down operating system included in the appliance, and a reduced implementation and management burden.

“We feel very comfortable having a large ISV test, tune, optimize and be responsible for the interaction between the operating system, the core application, the database and other related systems. Moreover using virtual appliances gives us total freedom to install a Linux optimized application in a Windows environment and vice versa. When you look at it, what you really want is for the evaluation and deployment of the functionality you need to be as easy as possible – not preoccupying your team with optimizing the solution, fine tuning, and making difficult choices around hardware and OS,” adds Thygesen

Netic is actively evaluating other applications as virtual appliances and estimates that about 25 percent of their applications will be deployed as virtual appliances within the next two to three years.

Results

- Compared to traditional ZXTM software, the Zeus ZXTM as a virtual appliance reduced installation and configuration time by 95%
- Experienced time savings by up to 95% in configuring and optimizing other complex applications being evaluated and tested as virtual appliances
- Improved performance by 10% and reduced the need for troubleshooting due to the optimized software stack .
- Improved security by running a leaner, dedicated operating system
- Benefiting from fast and easy test and evaluation of new software applications as virtual appliances with an “install and delete” approach

**VMware, Inc. 3401 Hillview Ave., Palo Alto CA,
94304 USA Tel 877-486-9273 Fax 650-427-5001**

Copyright © 2008 VMware, Inc. All rights reserved. Protected by one or more of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,961,806, 6,961,941, 6,880,022, 6,397,242, 6,496,847, 6,704,925, 6,496,847, 6,711,672, 6,725,289, 6,735,601, 6,785,886, 6,789,156, 6,795,966, 6,944,699, 7,069,413, 7,082,598, 7,089,377, 7,111,086, 7,111,145, 7,117,481, 7,149,843, 7,155,558, 7,222,221, 7,260,815, 7,260,820, 7,268,683, 7,275,136, 7,277,998, 7,277,999, 7,278,030, 7,281,102, 7,290,253; patents pending. VMware, the VMware “boxes” logo and design, Virtual SMP and VMotion are registered trademarks or trademarks of VMware, Inc. in the United States and/or other jurisdictions. All other marks and names mentioned herein may be trademarks of their respective companies.

Item No: 07Q4_ss_vmw_Netic_Denmark

