



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY: PHARMACEUTICAL



CHALLENGE

AstraZeneca Germany's IS team needed to replace the aging hardware infrastructure for its SAP software.

SOLUTION

VMware Infrastructure used to consolidate development and test environments and provide an efficient, highly available infrastructure for AstraZeneca's SAP applications, from development to production.

VMWARE AT WORK

- VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:
 - ESX Server 3 with VMFS
 - VirtualCenter 2
 - VMware VMotion
 - High Availability (HA)
 - Consolidated Backup
- VMware Capacity Planner used for virtualization assessment

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- VMware Infrastructure 3 on four-way dual-core HP Proliant DL580G4 Servers with INTEL Xeon Processors, 64 GB RAM each
- EMC CLARiiON CX500 SAN
- Guest operating systems: Windows NT4; Windows 2000, Windows 2003; Red Hat Linux
- Applications: SAP ERP, APO, CRM, SCM, and SRM

"VMware Infrastructure is proving to have a lot of benefits for us. For example, we are already using VMotion to achieve high availability and 24/7 uptime. Because we can use templates for the virtual machines, documentation is easier and server certification can be done in less time. We are confident that the production virtual machines will give us at least the same performance as the old physical machines did – perhaps better. And we're exploring the ways virtualization can help us provide better service levels with Consolidated Backup and quicker restarts."

Askin Karatepe, server and database administrator, AstraZeneca

AstraZeneca

AstraZeneca is one of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies, with leading positions in gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, neuroscience, respiratory, oncology and infection products. At AstraZeneca Germany where the project described here is located, the hardware supporting the SAP environment was aging and needed to be replaced. This upgrade was made more difficult by the IS team's goal of ensuring high application availability, the need for a more efficient business continuity process, and the regulatory requirements imposed on pharmaceutical companies by Sarbanes-Oxley compliance.

AddOn SystemHaus educated the AstraZeneca Germany IT team about the ability of VMware Infrastructure to help them meet these mission-critical requirements. Deployment began early in 2007, with the purchase of two new HP Proliant servers to support the test and development environment. When production systems are rolled over to virtual machines in October, the entire SAP environment will live on six HP servers hosting 50 to 60 virtual machines.

"VMware Infrastructure is proving to have a lot of benefits for us," says Askin Karatepe, server and database administrator for AstraZeneca Germany. "For example, we are using VMotion to achieve high availability. With virtual machine templates, documentation is easier and server certification can be done in less time. We expect that the production virtual machines will give us at least the same performance as the physical machines did – perhaps better. And we're exploring how virtualization can help us provide better service levels with Consolidated Backup and quicker restarts."

Results

- Achieved server consolidation ratio of 10:1
- Reduced new server deployment time from eight hours to 30 minutes
- Reduced time and complexity of process for certifying new servers against pharmaceutical industry regulatory requirements
- Expect cost savings of more than €1M over three years