



“VMware Infrastructure 3 is the ‘Cadillac’ of virtualization suites. The VMotion, HA and DRS features alone make the investment in VMware technology worth it!”

— Michael Moran
Senior IT Manager,
Kronos Incorporated

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Challenge

Contain server sprawl to ensure sustainable growth within data center

Solution

VMware Infrastructure 3 consolidates physical servers into virtual machines, reducing data center footprint and power & cooling requirements.

VMware at Work

VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:

- ESX Server 3.02 with VMFS
- VirtualCenter 2.02
- VMotion
- Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS)
- High Availability (HA)

Deployment environment

- ESX Server running on Dell 6850's & 6950's with ECM CX3-20 SAN
- Guest operating systems: Windows Server 2003 (Enterprise and Standard), Windows XP, Windows 2000, Linux
- Applications: Kronos Intranet including SQL Database, Blackberry Server, File & Print Service, Autonomy Web Search Engine for Customer Self-Service, WallCHART for Professional Services scheduling application, Citrix Clarify application used by Kronos Global Support, Centra Education Training software application, HEAT Helpdesk tracking software, Trillium Marketing application, CogReport Application, LiveMeeting conference application, LaserVault application

Kronos Incorporated

Through its operations in more than 60 countries, Kronos Incorporated (Kronos) delivers software and services that empower organizations around the world to effectively manage their workforce.

Like many large organizations, Kronos faced the challenge of managing a rapidly expanding IT infrastructure. “Our data center real estate was being consumed by rampant server sprawl,” said Michael Moran, senior IT manager at Kronos. “Additionally, our data centers were pushing the envelope of our power and cooling thresholds.”

After evaluating VMware for six months, the IT team championed virtualization as a way to alleviate the challenges in its corporate data center. Using VMware Infrastructure 3, Kronos was able to virtualize more than 500 systems, including 300 physical servers and 200 new application requests. The resulting virtual infrastructure took up less space and drew less power than the previous physical infrastructure. “We no longer have to worry about potentially maxing out our data center and not being able to add new systems,” says Moran. “VMware Infrastructure 3 makes us a greener, more energy-efficient organization, which, in turn, lets us carry out our business goals more effectively.”

Results

- Achieve 16:1 server consolidation ratio. “By consolidating our servers with VMware Infrastructure 3, we’ve been able to greatly reduce the number of physical 1U servers in our data center,” says Moran.
- Decrease power consumption by 20 percent. Moran says “More than just consolidating our servers, VMware Infrastructure 3 has helped us to reduce our power consumption by 20 percent—even after all the host and storage equipment was placed online.”
- Reclaim data center space. “VMware Infrastructure 3 allowed us to remove over 25 racks from our data center, significantly reducing the physical footprint of our data center,” says Moran.

