



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY: PUBLIC SECTOR



Forestry Tasmania

CHALLENGE

Stabilize infrastructure costs, improve test and development application turnaround and production environment performance.

SOLUTION

Deploy VMware server virtualization to maintain infrastructure costs and deliver an upgraded service.

VMWARE AT WORK

- VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:
 - o ESX Server 3.5.0
 - o VirtualCenter 2.5
 - o VMotion
 - o Distributed Resource Scheduling
 - o High Availability
 - o Consolidated Backup

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- ESX Server on two Dell PowerEdge 2950 servers
- ESX Server on one Dell PowerEdge 1950 server
- ESX Server on one Dell PowerEdge 1850 server
- EMC CLARiiON CX3-20 storage system
- Guest operating systems: Windows 2000, Windows 2003, Windows XP, Novell NetWare 6, Open Enterprise Server
- Virtualized Production Applications: Oracle Database 8i, Oracle Database 10g, Citrix Presentation Server, supply-chain system, finance system, print server, Apache, SQUID, GIS mapping server

“Deploying VMware virtualization allowed us to construct and tear down test systems quickly and reliably and move projects rapidly from proof of concept to test and then production.”

Jeremy McCarthy, Team Leader, Systems and Helpdesk
Forestry Tasmania

Forestry Tasmania

Forestry Tasmania is a government organization charged with managing more than 1.5 million hectares of state forest land. The organization manages about 750,000 hectares available for sustainable timber production and a network of reserves that protect flora, fauna, soil, water and cultural heritage.

With its data center hosting a hotchpotch of 30 ageing servers with local disk storage, Forestry Tasmania decided to enhance the performance and cost-effectiveness of its infrastructure. After conducting an evaluation on a single physical server, the organization decided to undertake a large-scale VMware server virtualization deployment. In August 2007, Forestry Tasmania consolidated its environment to 28 virtual production servers and 15 virtual test and development servers on four physical machines. The organization also enhanced its storage resources by implementing a networked storage system to support its virtualized environment.

“The scalability and performance of the new environment enabled us to maintain costs while offering an upgraded service to the business,” said Jeremy McCarthy, Team Leader, Systems and Helpdesk, Forestry Tasmania.

Results

- Reduced deployment times by up to five hours per application across 12 applications over a two-month period
- Cut power consumption by 30% based on lower UPS usage (expected to change to 40%-plus once last physical servers are retired)
- Achieved a server consolidation ratio of 5:1
- Reduced required server real estate by more than 50%
- Freed IT staff from mundane maintenance tasks to undertake higher-level work and increase their value to the organization
- Reduced fivefold the time required to produce financial reports
- Provided capability to support resource-intensive GIS applications