



Customer Snapshot

INDUSTRY

HEALTH CARE

“With VMware software and Intel-based hardware, we are creating a very agile infrastructure to meet our needs—both now and in the future”

Frank Van Berkum

IT Systems Engineer, Harrison Medical Center

HIGHLIGHTS

CHALLENGE

Datacenter becoming crowded as medical center grows

SOLUTION

VMware® and Intel® technology creates a virtual infrastructure that scales to meet growth in a cost-effective manner

VMWARE AND INTEL AT WORK

VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:

- VMware ESX™ Server 3.5 and 4
 - Dell 2950 servers with Intel Xeon processors attached to EMC CX-300, 500 and CX3-80 SAN
- VMware vCenter 4.0 - VMware vSphere™
- VMware® VMotion™
- VMware Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS)
- VMware® High Availability (HA)

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- Guest operating systems: Windows 2000 Professional and Server, Windows 2003, Windows 2008, Windows XP and Vista
- Virtualized Applications: SQL, Oracle, Citrix, file servers, domain controllers

VIRTUALIZED INFRASTRUCTURE HELPS MEDICAL CENTER EASE GROWING PAINS

Founded in 1918, Harrison Medical Center (Harrison) has evolved from a small community hospital into the Bremerton, Washington region's busiest medical center. Harrison boasts an impressive range of specialties, services, and programs, provided by a staff of 2,400 and a medical staff of 350.

Despite having a fairly new datacenter, Harrison was feeling squeezed for space by growth within the organization combined with the deployment of a new electronic medical records system. VMware solutions running on Intel-powered hardware provided a way for Harrison to scale its IT infrastructure more effectively.

“Virtualization allowed us to add many more servers without having to break down a wall and expand our existing datacenter, or take on additional cost at a co-location facility,” says Frank Van Berkum, an IT systems engineer with Harrison. “That was a huge money saver.”

Additionally, the combination of VMware and Intel solutions assists Harrison with business continuity for its critical applications. “It’s a great feeling to have all our servers running in a highly available virtual cluster,” says Van Berkum. “The Intel chip family allows features like VMware High Availability to work across older and newer servers—so that if a host fails, we know that it will be picked up by another host. We have an additional facility 10 miles down the road, so with the foundation that VMware and Intel provides, we can see virtualization playing a major role in our disaster recovery plans in the future.”

RESULTS

- Avoid significant capital expenses. “We avoided significant expenses by not having to rush to expand our co-location use and prepare to enlarge our fairly new server room,” says Van Berkum. “Additionally, we were able to postpone buying an additional battery cabinet to the next budget cycle, because of our reduced power usage.”
- Decrease operational expenses. “Our use of VMware and Intel technologies is saving us a substantial sum yearly in power costs,” says Van Berkum. “On top of that, we just need less bodies to manage the number of servers we have.”
- Increase business agility. “I can deploy three new business servers under an hour,” says Van Berkum. “That helps us meet business needs more rapidly, and provide a better level of service to our customers especially when a hard deadline for deployment suddenly shows up”