



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY: **BANKING****CHALLENGE**

McHenry Savings Bank needed new servers for the many rich software applications that it offered customers. But so much new hardware would be difficult for its two-person IT department to manage.

SOLUTION

The bank implemented VMware Infrastructure 3 to virtualize its servers, improving manageability, performance, utilization and the bottom line.

VMWARE VIRTUAL INFRASTRUCTURE AT WORK

VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:

- ESX Server 3 with VMFS
- VirtualCenter 2
- VMotion
- High Availability (HA)
- DRS

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- ESX Server 3.0.1 and VirtualCenter 2.0 on three HP ProLiant DL380 G5 servers with 16 GB RAM
- Hitachi SAN AMS200
- Guest operating systems: Windows Server 2003, Windows 2000 Server Professional, Windows XP Professional, Novell NetWare 6.5
- Applications: Microsoft SQL Server 2000, Microsoft SQL Server 2000 Desktop Engine (MSDE), Novell ZENworks 7, and DNS controllers

"The support is just phenomenal. With VMware support staff and one other call that we made to an outside company, we had our employee set up the whole thing on his own without training."

Derek Niedermayer

Network Support Supervisor, IT, McHenry Savings Bank

McHenry Savings Bank

McHenry Savings Bank is a small, full-service financial institution northwest of Chicago, Illinois. As one of 29 banks in a town of 23,000 people, it competes by offering customers numerous online and other technology-enriched services. The bank's two-person IT department supports 110 staffers.

The software packages that McHenry has invested in place heavy demands on hardware, with many vendors requiring a dedicated server. By autumn of 2006, the bank needed to add another 12 servers to the 30-plus it already had running. McHenry considered blade servers, but after an evaluation it found that VMware software would be a better and less expensive solution to its server-sprawl issues.

Results

- Every employee is now on VMware virtual machines: "And they don't even know it," says Network Support Supervisor Derek Niedermayer
- Saved \$68,000 in hardware acquisition costs
- Dramatically increased processor utilization
- Achieved a 4:1 server consolidation ratio: "We've added more servers into our VMware infrastructure than we thought we'd be able to—and we still have room to add more"
- Cleared more than half a computer rack by taking old servers offline
- Reduced average new server deployment time from several hours to 45 minutes
- Increased throughput: "Reports pull up quicker now—and the users can tell"
- Streamlined manageability of servers: "We've even cloned new virtual machines from home"