



MIGATRTION TO PRIVATE CLOUD

Case Study



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About The Client

Our client is a global leader in beverage alcohol with an outstanding collection of brands across spirits and beer. We produce an outstanding collection of over 200 brands – old and new, large and small, global and local – that are enjoyed in more than 180 countries around the world.

Challenge

Unilever has enjoyed significant growth in recent years, with more than half of its revenues coming from emerging markets. Management intends to capitalize on the company's success in these markets and set an ambitious goal to double the company's size in a decade.

Every business unit in the company has responded to the growth goal by fostering a culture of continuous improvement, driving for small changes every day to increase speed, improve quality, and reduce costs. The IT organization wanted to devise a way to support the company's growth goal without doubling the company's IT "footprint"—the cost of servers, data center power and cooling costs, and IT staff. Our had more than 5,000 servers in its global data centers and in hundreds of remote locations. Infrastructure team began virtualizing servers by using VMware ESX software and reduced its physical servers by 65 percent. However, VMware was too expensive to proceed with.

Solution Overview

A business case was developed for moving to Hyper-V focused on increasing data center consolidation, extending virtualization to remote office locations, and reducing management costs. By migrating our VMware estate to Hyper-V, client estimated a six-figure operational cost savings from lower licensing and support costs, power and cooling savings from fewer physical servers, and IT management savings. In total, the count was reduced to 2,000 Hyper-V virtual machines.

Meanwhile there were hundreds of custom in-house developed and packaged products that business was using on the old infrastructure. ESS helped migrate packaged solutions to the new environment to the new infrastructure. This entailed upgrading some products to new versions and in some cases performing major version upgrade to products. A majority of custom applications were either

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rewritten to the latest technology stack and in some case remediation was done on some of the applications to run in the new environment

Value Delivered

In developing markets, in particular, where the company's growth was focused, the IT staff wanted to meet business demands for IT services more efficiently. "Doing business in emerging markets requires customized approaches, more solution diversity, and often shorter lead times," Meier says. "Virtualization helped to increase IT efficiency and reduce costs, which are critical to sustainability. But we needed to accelerate overall service provisioning times, which required new system management tools and a revamping of our operational processes."