

Moving Towards a Data On Demand Future

Overview

Industry

- IT
- Health Care

Technology Challenges

- No disaster recovery plan
- Limited growth model
- Server upgrades
- Provisioning of new servers

Solution

- Storage Consolidation

Business Benefits

- Expand storage easily
- Lower cost of ownership
- Disaster recovery capabilities
- Maintain systems uptime



As radiology images continue to grow in size, imaging centers, hospitals and clinics require more and more storage both onsite and at an offsite location. Storage service providers (SSPs) are searching for the most efficient and cost effective technologies available to them in order to serve their customers with high availability, easy access to storage and their data.

7 Medical Systems, a storage service provider serving the healthcare industry, recently engaged Evolving Solutions, an IT architect, to design and architect an easy-to-use, high availability storage platform to enable 7 Medical Systems to provide electronic health record data on-demand to care providers.

7 Medical Systems' current computing resources were limited to

- HP Servers & Storage
- No Backup tape unit or backup software
- Limited growth model

In order to achieve their goal of providing data on demand, 7 Medical Systems realized that they needed to leverage up and coming technologies to move them to the next level.

The Case for Storage Consolidation

More and more imaging centers and hospitals are moving towards a

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centralized storage infrastructure, where all of their images and records are stored and archived in a centralized and easily accessible information system.

“When hospitals do consolidate image storage and management, they often include an off-site element to enhance the data security mandated by HIPAA,” said Jaime Gmach, President and CEO at Evolving Solutions. “Image storage is a fast-growing area because with technology improvements, modalities are producing more digital images. As more facilities incorporate digital modalities and save the output to disk, the new location for storage will be the computer room-not the file room.”

Some medical institutions are forming separate IT departments that take charge of the image storage technology for the entire organization. Other hospitals and clinics are turning to storage service providers, like 7 Medical Systems, to act as an outsourced IT department.

“One of the advantages of outsourcing storage is security,” said Gmach, “it’s always a good idea to have a backup copy and a disaster-recovery duplicate in a safe location.”

Technology Used

Evolving Solutions designed and architected a storage consolidation solution for 7 Medical Systems that incorporated IBM BladeCenter technology, a storage area network and a TotalStorage Tape Library.

The storage consolidation solution from Evolving Solutions, integrated 7 Medical Systems’ current computing resources into a centralized, cost-effective, high-density chassis containing IBM BladeCenter servers.

Not only are IBM BladeCenter servers highly reliable and redundant, but they are also easy to implement and scale. The servers fit into a single chassis. Each blade is an independent server, with its own processors, memory, storage, network controllers, operating system and applications. New servers simply plug into a bay in the chassis.

The existence of spare servers within the chassis also means that there is maximum uptime as automatic failover occurs if any active blade server experiences downtime.

Destination Data On Demand

One month after deploying the storage consolidation solution, Evolving Solutions has enabled 7 Medical Systems to achieve its goal of providing data on demand. 7 Medical Systems can now:

- Maintain system uptime (99.999%) 24/7 for mission critical applications.
- Expand storage easily as customer needs arise
- Lower cost of ownership due to storage virtualization and centralized computing operations.
- Lower up-front and ongoing costs for customers via platform utilization &

“We are in a position to better serve our customers and what is better for our customers is ultimately better for our business’ bottom-line.”

~ Jason Studsrud, 7 Medical Systems

Overview

Solution

Server consolidation

Server

X3950

Storage

IBM BladeCenter

Software

Acuo Technologies Imaging
Archiving
RIS
System Interface Messaging
Veritas Backup
Multiple EMR
Microsoft Exchange Services

provisioning.

“Now 7 Medical does not need to worry about server downtime,” said Jason Studsrud, 7 Medical Systems. “We are in a position to better serve our customers and what is better for our customers is ultimately better for our business’ bottom-line.”

BUSINESS VALUE HIGHLIGHTS

Profile

7 Medical Systems is an on & off-site storage service provider (SSP) serving the healthcare industry.

Challenge

Radiology images continue to grow in size and imaging centers, hospitals and clinics require more and more storage both onsite and at an offsite location. Storage service providers, like 7 Medical Systems, are searching for the most efficient and cost effective technologies available to them in order to serve their customers with high availability, easy access storage.

Business Value

Evolving Solutions designed and architected an IBM BladeCenter storage consolidation solution to integrate 7 Medical Systems’ current computing resources into a centralized, cost-effective, high-density chassis.

Evolving Solutions has enabled 7 Medical Systems to:

Maintain system uptime (99.999%) 24/7 for mission critical applications.

Expand storage easily as customer needs arise.

Lower cost of ownership due to storage virtualization and centralized computing operations.

Lower up-front and ongoing costs for customers via platform utilization & provisioning.

7 MEDICAL SYSTEMS DATA ON DEMAND ENVIRONMENT

Applications: IBM BladeCenter

Software: Acuo Technologies Imaging Archiving; RIS (Radiology Information System); System Interface Messaging; Veritas Backup; Multiple EMR (Electronic Medical Record); Microsoft Exchange Services

Storage Infrastructure: IBM BladeCenter; Storage Area Network & TotalStorage Tape Library

Services: Evolving Solutions design, architecture and implementation services

Production Environment: IBM BladeCenter

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