



A Real World Server Consolidation

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Sytek Services

- **Formerly VM Assist Inc.**
- **Why the Name Change?**
- **Nationwide VM & VSE Services Provider – Primarily System Support**
- **Now providing OS/390 Services**
- **Consultants Work from Their Homes Across the Country**

Last Year's Environment

- **Two Novell Netware Servers**
 - Non-Y2K compliant & disk-constrained
 - Netware-proprietary communications
- **Outside Vendors Provide:**
 - Web hosting services
 - Email services
 - Remote backup services

Last Year's Environment

- **Outdated MS-DOS In-house Software**
 - Time Tracking Application
- **Individual, Loosely Connected PCs**

Current Configuration

- **Novell Servers Eliminated!**
- **VM/ESA on a Dell Workstation**
 - Using “*Flex-ES*” from Fundamental Software
 - 27Gig (data space) Raid-1 disk
 - Desktop Tape Drive
 - Laser Printer
 - Communication Equipment
 - 256M DSL Line; Ethernet
- **Individual, Loosely Connected, PCs**

Web Server

- **Formerly Hosted by ISP**
- **Now Hosted on our VM Platform**
- **Using Sterling's VM:Webgateway**
- **One CGI needed - Mailto**
- **Equivalent Performance**
- **Greater Reliability**

E-mail

- **Formerly Hosted by ISP**
- **Now Hosted on our VM Platform**
- **Using URI POP Server**
- **Restrictions “Tolerable”**
 - 4.8 Meg e-mail size limit
 - 50 e-mails retrieved at once
- **Removed “annoying” ISP SMTP Restriction**

E-mail Backup

- **Goldmine for our E-mail Client**
- **Built-in Synchronization and Archive for:**
 - E-mail
 - Critical Business Data

Benefits

- **Lower Cost**
 - Admin Costs (Novell and ISP Interface)
 - ISP Costs (for Web and Email)
- **Greater Flexibility**
 - Add & Remove Email Addresses & Aliases
 - Changes to our Web Site & CGI Capability
- **Increase in Reliability & Availability**
- **Unsupported Network s/w**
- **Elimination of ISP's SMTP Restriction**

What's Not Done – And Why

- **Delays – The Biggest “Why”**
- **IMAP E-mail Server**
- **ADSM for PC Backup**
- **NFS for file Sharing**
- **Time Tracking Application**

Delays – The Biggest “Why”

- **“The Best Laid Plans...”**
- **Four Months to Install a Working DSL Line**
- **Server Moved from San Francisco to Bellingham, WA Corporate Offices**
- **ISP “Difficulties”**

IMAP

- **IBM IMAP Server Still in Beta Test**
- **Our Current E-mail Client Does Not Support IMAP**
- **Currently No Plans to Pursue IMAP**

Backup

- **Evaluated ADSM**
- **Concluded: Not Practical Because:**
 - Volume of data across dialup lines
 - Some consultants can only get slow (28.8K) connections
 - All consultants have personal data on our personal PCs
- **Individual Consultants Are Responsible for PC Backup**

NFS File Sharing

- **Files Currently Still Shared on a PC**
- **VM NFS Still to be Implemented**
- **Delayed Due to Scheduling Conflicts**
- **No Technical Obstacles to Implementation**

Time Tracking Application

- **Old MS-DOS Application**
- **Currently Still Using It – As Year 1900**
(Leap Year Not a Concern for this Application)
- **Still Plan on Replacing It**
- **Was Planned to be on VM using Java, Using DB2 (aka: SQL), QMF for Windows**
- **“Proof of Concept”**

Java on VM

- **Java vs. Rexx for Portability**
- **Performance**
 - Inadequate for a Production Application
- **JDK 1.1.4 (Recently Upgraded to 1.1.6)**
- **OS/390 Java is 1.1.8 going to 1.3.x or “Java2” Functionality**
- **Is Java on VM Strategic? or “Functionally Stabilized”?**

What Does The Future Hold?

- **VM – or Hardware?**
 - After 20+ years working with VM , it may finally be time to look elsewhere...
- **OS/390**
 - Java & Websphere
 - Time Tracking Application Host
 - Lotus Notes for E-Mail

What Does The Future Hold?

- **Linux**

- “Has the Linux 'dream machine' arrived?”

- By ZDNetNews

- Expecting more comments like:

- “XYZ is not supported on VM . Note that XYZ
WILL be supported on Linux for S/390 which
of course runs just great under VM .”

Summary

- **PC to Mainframe Server Conversion Is Viable and Can Be Cost Effective**
- **Choose Your Server Wisely**



Thank You!

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