Chittenden | Customer Snapshot

"Our 'go-to' environment is a virtual platform based on VMware technology and Intel processors. We look at an application and decide why it shouldn't be virtualized, rather than why it should."

Doug Nelson
Network Engineer, Chittenden Bank

HIGHLIGHTS

CHALLENGE

Ensure IT infrastructure can scale to match business growth plans

SOLUTION

VMware® and Intel technology creates a virtual infrastructure that provides scalability and ease of management.

VMWARE AND INTEL AT WORK

VMware® Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:

- ESX Server 3
  - HP p-class blades with Intel Xeon processors attached to HP EVA-6000 SAN
- VirtualCenter 2
- VMotion™
- Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS)
- High Availability (HA)

DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT

- Guest operating systems: Windows 2000, Windows 2003
- Virtualized Applications: Citrix, DNS servers, DHCP servers, IAS, Active Directory

CHITTENDEN BANK PREPARES TO GROW ITS BUSINESS—NOT ITS IT STAFF—WITH VIRTUALIZATION

Chittenden Bank (Chittenden) is Vermont's largest full-service bank with more than 47 offices and over 600 employees throughout the state serving consumer, small business and corporate business clients. Chittenden is a subsidiary of Bridgeport, Connecticut-based People's United Bank.

As part of its overall business plan, Chittenden was planning to double its size within a five-year period, and the IT department needed to do its part to support this growth. "We knew we couldn't double the IT staff," says Doug Nelson, network engineer at Chittenden. "We had to come up with a new architecture that would allow us to manage a bank that was twice as big with few—if any—additions to staff."

VMware® Infrastructure 3 and Intel-based servers allowed Chittenden to create a centralized virtual infrastructure that was much more scalable and manageable than the distributed physical infrastructure that had previously been in place at the bank's branches. "Thanks to VMware, we were able to pull 140 servers out of our branches and consolidate our network," says Nelson. "Now, we have a core cluster of VMware ESX hypervisors running everything from Active Directory, to Citrix and other critical elements of our production environment. This type of infrastructure is a lot easier to manage—which, in turn, makes it much easier for us to grow."

RESULTS

- Save thousands of dollars in IT overhead costs. "One of the biggest benefits of virtualization has been the reduction in hardware costs and the associated reductions in heat, power, and cabling," says Nelson.
- Keep headcount lean. "A virtual infrastructure doesn't require as many bodies to administer it as a physical infrastructure," says Nelson. "That keeps us nimble and scaleable."
- Strengthen disaster recovery capabilities. "Virtualization has greatly simplified our backup and replication tasks," says Nelson. "It's taken our disaster recovery time for critical servers and applications from days down to a matter of minutes."

vmware | intel

The Foundation of Virtualization