

Hewlett Packard Enterprise



Objective

Refresh legacy IT infrastructure; improve data protection for mission-critical applications.

Approach

Modernize the data center to improve the scalability, reliability and economics of the company's IT systems with a hyperconverged infrastructure.

IT Matters

- Full data protection and DR for all applications
- Backups and restores completed in minutes compared to hours or days
- Increased IT agility; new workloads deployed in days compared to weeks
- Improved performance for business-critical applications

Business Matters

- Reduced TCO; two equipment racks consolidated into two 2U units
- Reduces storage costs; 4:7:1 data efficiency
- Streamlined operations; IT staff freed up to focus on core business initiatives

Blundstone takes big step to modernize IT infrastructure with HPE SimpliVity

Compression, optimization delivers top performance with hyperconverged solution



Introduction

Blundstone, an Australian footwear manufacturer and online retailer, replaced its legacy server and storage systems with Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) SimpliVity hyperconverged solution infrastructure. The HPE SimpliVity solution helps Blundstone reduce TCO, streamline IT operations, and ensure high performance and availability for the company's business-critical applications and data.

Business Challenge: Infrastructure Modernization and Disaster Recovery

Blundstone's aging IT systems were becoming increasingly inefficient, risky and costly. The retailer's legacy IT infrastructure included virtualized legacy servers with iSCSI storage systems, running a variety of business applications. The IT team relied on several

distinct backup and replication tools including Symantec Backup Exec and Veeam for data protection and recovery.

Deploying new workloads—allocating compute and storage resources, configuring data protection policies—could take weeks using the company's legacy tools. Worse still, disasters or equipment failures had the potential to impair IT services and disrupt business; restoring applications could take hours or even days using the disjointed data protection solutions.

Peter Cullen, ICT & data hardware manager for Blundstone, kicked off a data center modernization initiative to improve the scalability, reliability and economics of the company's IT systems. Upon the advice of IT consultant Anderson Morgan, Cullen selected HPE SimpliVity hyperconverged infrastructure systems for its next-generation data center over proposals from other vendors.

Customer at a glance

Hyperconverged Solutions

- HPE SimpliVity

“HPE SimpliVity’s hyperconverged infrastructure with built-in data protection helps us mitigate risks, improve business agility and simplify operations. The solution accelerates application deployment and improves disaster recovery while eliminating cost and complexity.”

– Peter Cullen, ICT & data hardware manager, Blundstone

HPE SimpliVity Solution

HPE SimpliVity’s hyperconverged solution is designed from the ground up to meet the increased performance, scalability and agility demands of today’s data-intensive, highly virtualized IT environments. The solution eliminates cost and complexity by consolidating a variety of IT functions—including compute, storage, network switching, replication, and backup—onto virtualized, industry-standard x86 hardware, with global unified management.

Benefits

Blundstone implemented a geographically distributed configuration for ultimate data protection. The company replaced two racks of legacy gear with two 2U HPE SimpliVity hyperconverged nodes in its primary data center. They also deployed an HPE SimpliVity in a remote location for disaster recovery. The IT team centrally manages the distributed 2+1 HPE SimpliVity federation using VMware vCenter.

HPE SimpliVity’s innovative real-time deduplication, compression and optimization technologies deliver breakthrough performance and data efficiency. The HPE SimpliVity solution minimizes data backup and recovery traffic and accelerates data protection functions. With HPE SimpliVity, Blundstone is able to protect all their application data on a regular basis, in just minutes. And data recovery is just as fast. As result, the IT team is now able to meet stringent RTO/RPO targets.

HPE SimpliVity’s VM-centric administration accelerates service agility. The IT team can roll out new applications in days, compared to weeks with the legacy solutions. “With HPE SimpliVity I can quickly institute granular data protection policies at the VM level,” said Cullen. “Deploying new workloads is a snap.”

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