



Case Study: Emory Healthcare

Datacenter Virtualization

Business Value

- System administration requirements lowered 80 percent
- Provisioning time reduced from two weeks to 10 minutes
- Utilization improved 500 percent
- TCO lowered 60 percent
- Capital cost reduced 66 percent

Executive Summary

Emory Healthcare has moved mission-critical applications from proprietary UNIX and mainframe platforms to the Egenera® system. Benefits include improvements in system administration, TCO, utilization and provisioning. A system administrator can easily configure and allocate a virtual server in minutes. In addition, multiple operating systems and OS images can be run on a single blade, enabling IT to create test systems on blades otherwise used for failover. Egenera also helps ensure that patient records are preserved in accordance with government mandates.

"By consolidating servers onto the Egenera system we can avoid costs by holding down the number of system administrators required to manage our datacenter operation."

Betty Troup
Director of Operational Services
Emory Healthcare

Business Challenge

Emory Healthcare is one of the nation's leading health systems and is affiliated with the world-renowned Emory University School of Medicine and Emory University Hospital, all located in Atlanta, Georgia. The largest healthcare system in the state of Georgia, Emory has revenues in excess of \$1 billion and approximately 8,400 employees. Emory Healthcare is passionately committed to providing the highest quality patient care, innovative research, medical education and health information to serve the local and global communities.

As part of a strategic initiative to simplify the datacenter and reduce IT spending through utility computing, Emory has moved mission-critical applications from proprietary UNIX and mainframe platforms to the Egenera system.

Egenera Benefits

Emory Healthcare reached its decision by comparing Egenera's server-virtualization capabilities against virtualization offerings from the industry's largest providers of enterprise-class processing systems. The Egenera solution's superior virtualization functionality is enabling Emory's IT group to:

- Reduce capital costs by two-thirds
- Lower total cost of ownership by 60 percent
- Improve processor utilization five-fold
- Compress the time required to provision a server from two weeks to 10 minutes
- Reduce system administration requirements by more than 80 percent.

"At Emory, decisions about IT infrastructure are made based on long-range business requirements," explains Joe Medley, director, infrastructure support services, Emory Healthcare. "To deliver the sophisticated services our user community expects, with the zero downtime medical applications demand, and do it all while spending less requires a visionary approach. We found that Egenera is the only platform available today that delivers the resource virtualization needed to support our vision for utility computing."

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Emory IT personnel can assign Egenera Processing Blade™ resources to internal users as well as to partners, doctors and clinicians outside the organization. A system administrator can easily configure and allocate a virtual server in minutes, sparing users the complexity of connecting to Emory's SAN and IP networks.

Additionally, by utilizing third-party virtual machine software, Emory Healthcare can run multiple operating systems and OS images on a single Processing Blade. This capability enables Emory to build test systems without procuring dedicated hardware, which, according to Medley, represents the most significant reduction in capital costs enabled by Egenera over traditional architectures. Instead, virtual servers for testing are created on the Processing Blades allocated for failover, minimizing the number of systems required and notably increasing processor utilization.

"We saw our server farm exploding," says Betty Troup, Emory Healthcare's director of operational services. "As we added servers to accommodate our growing need for processing capacity, management was becoming increasingly complex. By consolidating servers onto the Egenera system, with its centralized connections and simplified architecture, we can avoid costs by holding down the number of system administrators required to manage our datacenter operation."

Due to government regulations and regulatory compliance, high availability was also a factor in Emory Healthcare's decision-making process. Egenera's diskless Processing Blade design and N+1 failover help ensure that patient records and other information are accessible and preserved in accordance with government mandates.



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