

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Italian kitchen manufacturer reduces IT costs with green server environment



Over recent years, manufacturing has become greener as companies using natural materials move towards sustainable sources. These same firms are now applying eco-friendly philosophy to other areas of their businesses, particularly IT. In simple terms, such an outlook not only helps the environment, but can result in lower costs and greater productivity.

SOLUTIONS:

- DATA CONSOLIDATION AND MANAGEMENT
- GREEN IT
- MIGRATION



CUSTOMER PROFILE

COMPANY: Scavolini

INDUSTRY: Manufacturing

COUNTRY: Italy

FOUNDED: 1961

EMPLOYEES: 650

WEBSITE: www.scavolini.com

CHALLENGE

Scavolini's server landscape needed to be upgraded to cope with the demands of an SAP deployment and planned migration to Windows Server® 2008.

SOLUTION

The company deployed a range of Intel-based Dell servers and a tape library backed by Dell ProSupport to create a green IT environment capable of supporting the line-of-business software.

BENEFITS

Get IT Faster

- No intermediaries ensures rapid response to proposal request
- Scavolini deploys servers in less than 14 days

Run IT Better

- ProSupport and monitoring services enable maximum uptime
- Simplified IT reduces total cost of ownership
- Power consumption falls thanks to energy-efficient server systems

Grow IT Smarter

- Dell technology continues to meet Scavolini's business needs



Since launching in 1961, Scavolini has grown to become one of Italy's leading kitchen brands. Headquartered in Pesaro, the company's range of kitchens blend style, functionality, safety and durability. Scavolini attributes much of its success to constant improvements in working practices and to developing its product portfolio to reflect changing consumer demands.

The drive for progress at Scavolini has led to a robust IT environment. This infrastructure, which is standardised on Intel-based Dell hardware and VMware® virtualization technology, features business software solutions from SAP and Microsoft. In the last few years particularly, Scavolini has invested significantly in technology, understanding that IT is a great enabler for people to deliver their business goals faster and more cost effectively.

As part of its IT investment strategy, the company planned to upgrade the SAP environment and migrate to Windows Server® 2008. With its built-in web and virtualization technologies, Windows Server 2008 represented a major milestone in the development of the Scavolini IT landscape. Nevertheless, the new versions of Windows and SAP were processing-intensive solutions, requiring Scavolini to replace many servers. Edoardo Gentili, IT manager at Scavolini says: "We needed a level of processing

performance that didn't exist when we bought our previous servers."

Scavolini used the server upgrade as an opportunity to look at the hardware infrastructure in greater detail. The company, like many successful businesses, has made a commitment to sustainability and so wants to promote greener working practices across all departments. It seemed the right time to look at the infrastructure's green credentials and investigate ways to reduce power and cooling in line with the company's overall eco-friendly policies.



"WE STANDARDISED ON DELL SERVERS RUNNING INTEL TECHNOLOGY BECAUSE THEY ARE ENERGY-EFFICIENT AND CAN HANDLE PROCESSING-INTENSIVE APPLICATIONS."

Edoardo Gentili, IT manager, Scavolini

HOW IT WORKS

HARDWARE

- Dell™ PowerEdge™ M600 servers with Intel® Xeon® Processors E5450
- Dell PowerEdge R900 servers with Intel Xeon Processors X7460
- Dell PowerEdge 2950 servers with Intel Xeon Processors E5420
- Dell PowerEdge M1000e blade enclosure
- Dell PowerVault™ TL4000 tape library
- Dell Remote Access Card (DRAC)

SOFTWARE

- Windows Server® 2008
- SAP/R3 Release ECC 6.0
- VMware® Virtual Infrastructure 3.5
- Dell OpenManage™ Systems Management 5.5

SERVICES

- Dell ProSupport for IT
 - Mission Critical option

Alongside the sustainability and simplified management challenges, there were underlying design issues that also had to be addressed. The company wanted to increase computing density – squeezing more computing power out of each square metre of space in the datacentre – and make it easier for the relatively small IT team to administer the overall infrastructure.

Although servers were standardised on Dell, Scavolini sent a request for proposal to leading IT solution providers, to enable a detailed comparison of available technologies. Gentili says: "The Dell PowerEdge server technology was very interesting, innovative and in line with the goals of our project – namely cost-effective, high performing, power efficient and simple to manage."

The decision-making process was short, with Gentili choosing a range of Dell servers to support the upcoming software migration and deliver the company's vision of a server infrastructure for the future. The company bought Dell™ PowerEdge™ M600 blade servers with Intel® Xeon® Processors and a Dell PowerEdge M1000e blade enclosure to deliver network services. It also purchased Dell PowerEdge R900 servers to support the SAP database and Dell PowerEdge 2950 servers for SAP applications, file services and backups. Data storage was provided by an existing Dell/EMC CX3-40 storage area network and a Dell PowerVault™ TL4000 tape library purchased along with the servers.



“DELL OPENMANAGE SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DRAC SIMPLIFY ADMINISTRATION AND HELP REDUCE OUR TCO, BECAUSE WE CAN EXECUTE TASKS SUCH AS SYSTEM CONFIGURATION, IMAGING AND APPLICATION INSTALLATION REMOTELY.”

Edoardo Gentili, IT manager, Scavolini

The company now plans to upgrade the SAN to a Dell/EMC CX4-480 to gain additional performance and expansion capability in the coming years. The storage device supports up to 480 hard drives and stores around 471 terabytes of data.

Historically, the recipe of Dell server hardware and Intel Processors had delivered an excellent level of performance, so Gentili wanted to keep the same combination.

“We standardised on Dell servers running Intel technology because they are energy-efficient and can handle processing-intensive applications,” says the IT manager.

Gentili bought the R900 and 2950 servers for the SAP environment and for the future deployment of Windows Server 2008. The servers offer high performance and scalability and the power of Intel Processors. The M600 blades support email, software-as-a-service solutions and act as domain controllers, providing high-density computing with low power consumption.

The Scavolini team did the majority of the implementation, asking Dell Deployment Services to help configure the tape library. Gentili says: “Because Dell technology is tested at the factory and designed for rapid deployments, we were able to complete the installation process in just a couple of weeks.”

SIMPLIFIED MIGRATION TO WINDOWS SERVER 2008

By choosing Dell, Scavolini will have a validated process for migrating to Windows Server 2008, enabling faster and more effective deployment. Comments Gentili: “Because Dell has focused on standards-based computing, our IT infrastructure is ready for deploying Windows Server 2008 in the coming months.”

LOWER TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP, SIMPLIFIED MANAGEMENT

Because Dell is making servers and storage solutions that are simpler to manage, Scavolini expects the total cost of ownership (TCO) across the IT environment to fall. “Dell technology will help us reduce TCO,” says Gentili. This means, for instance, that the IT team will spend less time on routine management tasks, helping them focus on higher value strategic roles.

Scavolini is making server management more effective using Dell OpenManage™ Systems Management 5.5 and Dell Remote Access Card (DRAC) technology. Comments Gentili: “Dell OpenManage Systems Management and DRAC simplify administration and help reduce our TCO, because we can execute tasks such as system configuration, imaging and application installation remotely.”

DELL DELIVERS GREENER IT INFRASTRUCTURE

The Dell blade servers are helping Scavolini deliver its green agenda by reducing power and cooling across the IT infrastructure. Gentili says: “We saw that Dell servers are designed to be energy efficient, helping businesses meet their commitments to sustainability and reduced energy consumption.” The M600 blades – which deliver 60 per cent greater computing density than standard 1U servers¹ – are also helping the company gain greater computing power per square metre of datacentre. “By deploying 12 Dell PowerEdge M600 blades in a Dell PowerEdge M1000e blade enclosure, we can achieve the same level of computing power as before but in 33 per cent of the space and with almost a 30 per cent reduction in power consumption,” says Gentili.

FASTER IT WITH EXCELLENT SERVICE

Scavolini values the Dell Direct Model, which avoids the expense and time delays created by third-party intermediaries. In addition, it means Gentili can work closely with Dell.

1. Based on Principled Technologies, ‘SPECjbb2005 performance and power consumption on Dell, HP, and IBM blade servers’, December 2007 test report commissioned by Dell.

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“The Dell Direct Model offers real added value, ensuring a high level of service and closer relationships. As a result of the model, Dell is very responsive to our enquiries and is quick to pass on information that could help drive business growth,” says Gentili.

The server and storage infrastructure is protected by Dell ProSupport for IT, Mission Critical option. As part of the service, Dell technicians will be on-site within four hours after telephone-based troubleshooting. The offering also provides monitoring services to help maximise uptime. Says Gentili: “Dell ProSupport for IT delivers peace of mind by helping us maintain the 99.999 per cent availability we’ve come to expect from Dell solutions.”

For more information on this case study or to read additional case studies, go to www.dell.com/casestudies and www.dell.it

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