



CHALLENGE

Rapid server infrastructure expansion meant that Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust needed to find a solution to guarantee information availability, and well-organised data storage with reliable backup capabilities.

SOLUTION

Hardware:

- Dell™ PowerEdge™ 2850 servers
- Dell™ PowerEdge™ 1850 server
- Dell | EMC CX500 storage area network (SAN)
- Dell™ PowerVault™ 132T LTO tape library

Software:

- VMware Virtual Infrastructure
- VMware Virtual Centre

Services:

- Assessment, design and implementation
- Gold Enterprise Support

BENEFITS

- Service availability ensures applications meet set availability requirements through data replication and data protection solutions
- Information access control, ensures that access to information is controlled at both user and application levels
- Data retention, ensures the accurate retention of specific information for set time periods

Specialist women's healthcare provider implements new information management system

Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust chooses Dell™ and VMware to consolidate server infrastructure to ensure efficient storage management with backup and recovery

Rapid expansion places significant demands on an organisation's IT infrastructure. Continually adding new hardware, however, can lead to an under-utilised server network that lacks reliability and is expensive to manage.

This was the case at Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust—England's largest specialist women's healthcare provider. In 2004/2005, the Trust delivered 8,000 babies, cared for over 1,000 preterm babies, operated on 11,000 women and performed 900 IVF procedures for infertile couples.

As operational requirements became more complex, the Trust's IT infrastructure grew more challenging. The number of servers storing data rose and increasingly employees found it time consuming to locate information distributed around the network. Plus, with the existing system of storage, data loss and a subsequent interruption of services was a constant threat, and network management became more costly.

The Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust decided to imple-

ment a complete infrastructure upgrade. After studying the marketplace, the Trust turned to Dell™, because of its expertise in implementing scalable infrastructures that combine advanced server performance with secure data storage.

Why Dell?

Dell has been the Trust's preferred IT supplier for many years. Dr Zafar Chaudry, Director of Information Management and

Technology for Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust says: "Dell's approach to understanding needs and providing solutions as opposed to pressuring customers is invaluable."

Using Dell's expertise and leveraging its strong alliance with VMware, the Trust successfully deployed VMWare ESX Server, which delivers a scalable architecture, while avoiding server sprawl. The software allows the creation of virtual machines within one server to run applications independently of one another on a single machine.



“The project has gone smoothly and has been on budget. It’s obvious that the Dell™ team can deliver the total service – from design, hardware, software, to professional services.”

– Zafar Chaudry,

Director of Information Management and Technology
Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust

To meet business continuity and compliance needs, a second mirrored Dell | EMC CX500 SAN was installed at a separate location within the Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust's facilities. This serves as the hospital's business continuity site with asynchronous replication of all data between the two sites. It ensures that if an outage occurs, the data will be continuously available

Improved infrastructure is fit for purpose and protects critical data

The Trust's aging storage system was removed and replaced by a Dell | EMC SAN connected to a total of nine Dell™ PowerEdge™ servers. This enables the Trust to have all information regrouped on a unified network with 24 hours a day, 7 days a week availability.

Advanced infrastructure cuts operational costs 70 per cent

As a result of the new environment consolidated on Dell hardware with VMware, the Trust expects greater service availability with a 70 per cent saving on operational costs. The advanced server performance of Dell™ PowerEdge™ servers combined with software such as VMware promotes stability with efficient, central management to minimise day-to-day expenditure.

Excellent project management ensures successful deployment

Choosing Dell to drive the deployment of the consolidated infrastructure ensured the Trust's IT team gained a comprehensive level of support, with the vendor taking responsibility for designing and successfully implementing the environment. In addition, to promote visibility throughout each stage of the deployment programme, the Trust gained a dedicated Dell project manager providing a single point of contact for all queries.

“The project has gone smoothly and has been on budget. It's obvious that the Dell team can deliver the total service – from design, hardware, software, to professional services,” says Dr Zafar Chaudry.

Easy as



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