



Server Virtualization Yields More Than Just Cost Savings for Distribution America

The Challenge

A one-application-per-server approach used in a growing IT environment led to complexity, high costs of administration and equipment and delays in meeting users' needs for resource additions and changes.

The Solution

A&W Consulting recommended a consolidated server/application architecture based on VMware ESX Server®. The Solution Services team created a proof-of-concept and pilot environment to demonstrate the capabilities of the approach and help Distribution America's IT group learn about the components being used.

Business Value

Server consolidation made the testing environment affordable and increased IT productivity, enabling the existing staff to manage growth. The anticipated increase in server utilization significantly cut capital equipment costs; migration from Microsoft Windows NT® to Microsoft Windows Server® 2003 brought benefits from Active Directory® and enhanced security; and the time to provision new servers is reduced so the IT group can now respond quickly to user requests.

Accelerating Application Development & Testing

Adopted by Distribution America, VMware software quickly streamlined IT application development, testing and deployment while reducing hardware and maintenance costs. "VMware virtual infrastructure software simplified test configuration management and eliminated the need for a physical machine for each configuration to be tested.", noted, Joe Santisteven, Controller, Distribution America.

KEY BENEFITS

- **Reductions in capital costs**
- **Immediate savings from reduced operational, space, power, and support needs**
- **The ability to deploy applications on or ahead of schedule, accelerating time-to-market**

