New Virtualization Platform Provides Superior Performance and Value for ENSULMECI

Capgemini's solution enables Portuguese conglomerate to raise service quality, increase technology availability and reduce costs across the enterprise

The Situation

ENSULMECI, an international engineering, procurement, and construction company, had a decision to make about its IT assets. Its infrastructure servers were reaching the end of their lifespan. The Portuguese firm conducted a business case for two scenarios: either maintain its existing physical equipment and replace obsolete components; or adopt new virtual infrastructure. As a result of the evaluation to measure its hardware utilization levels, the company decided to implement a virtualization platform. The choice was taken to improve management control, service quality and availability, and financial benefits. However, ENSULMECI lacked virtual technology expertise, and selected Capgemini to find and implement a new solution.

The Solution

The solution advocated by Capgemini consisted of a platform implementation for datacenter virtualization, consolidating all of ENSULMECI's servers, and allowing different levels of response for each specific type of service offered. Now the company gives higher priority to production environments, and lower priority to others such as development, quality, and testing. The platform was built of virtualization architecture made up of four high-performance servers, and equipment to support all virtual servers and keep systems running in case of hardware failure. Platform management is performed on a centralized management console, which reduces management and operation work for technical staff. Capgemini

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> **Ana Castanho**
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> **ENSULMECI**

People matter, results count.

provided expertise and experience in a number of technologies – VMware, HP, Cisco and Checkpoint – all of which were vital to deliver the solution.

The Result
The virtual platform not only improved the quality and availability of all services for the end-users, but it also reduced the workload for skilled IT professionals. Less equipment was also needed with Capgemini's solution: hardware and hardware resources were reduced by 80% and 60% respectively, while the same performance levels were maintained and service availability was increased. The company also needed 83% less rack space, and saved 64% of exploration costs.

How ENSULMECI and Capgemini Worked Together
Before work began, Capgemini presented the Technical Solution and Business Case to ENSULMECI to outline the full project plan. This was so compelling that the client believed it unnecessary to search for similar solutions in the market.

The project started with the evaluation of two scenarios: the first was to retain the physical infrastructure and renew the obsolete systems; the second was to adopt a virtual infrastructure of servers. Investigation revealed that the implementation of a virtualization platform would produce considerable gains from a financial point of view (through the drastic reduction in the amount of necessary equipment and related replacement costs, datacenter space, power, maintenance and support). Virtualization also promised to raise management and service quality.

Nearly all the client's production servers were migrated with a physical-to-virtual (P2V) process which resulted in almost zero downtime. The servers, which stored a wide range of critical systems, were smoothly transferred to the new virtual platform in two phases:
- in the first phase all existing x86 servers were migrated; these encompassed a range of critical

applications for the business (among which were SAP BW, SQL Server, Exchange Server and Platform for document management)
- in phase two the SAP servers, which were based on the Itanium cluster technology, were migrated.

After migration, ENSULMECI's system administrator and application specialists conducted full testing to help Capgemini's team ensure the new solution worked perfectly. Capgemini's team of technology consultants worked at the client's site for the full project duration.

The collaboration between ENSULMECI and Capgemini was the key to success of the project. With strong teamwork it was possible to combine the systems knowledge and interaction with the critical business

activities, and with technical expertise in the platform implementation for the seamless migration of highly complex and critical environments. The commitment between teams allowed the project to go ahead without business systems becoming unavailable (zero downtime) – a remarkable success for a project of this kind.

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Portugal-based ENSULMECI specializes in engineering, procurement, construction and maintenance. It operates in government and in the energy, transport, oil and petrochemicals,

infrastructure, and communications markets. Founded in 1978, the company is also present in Angola, East Timor, France, Ireland, and Spain.

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