

## CASE STUDY – Architecture

### Summary

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#### Sector

Architecture & design

#### Scope

Numerous offices across North America

#### Project

2005 – 2008

Strategic orientation of IT architecture, infrastructure optimization

#### Technology

System x servers, VMware, DS4000.

### Results and benefits

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- Simplification of infrastructure;
- Marked increase in system performance;
- Securing of environment;
- Significant robustness and stability improvement;
- Elimination of wasted disk space;
- Reduced impact on users.

### Background

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- The company had experienced considerable growth and now had offices in many cities;
- The company's IT infrastructure had expanded "piece by piece" and needed upgrading to assure the performance and stability of its IT environments;
- The backup process had become very lengthy;
- The domain architecture was generating large, heavy files;
- The company had arrived at a point where it was imperative to optimize and consolidate its entire IT environment.

### Needs and challenges

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- Create IT architecture that takes into account the company's future needs and is able to respond to potentially rapid growth;
- Simplify the infrastructure;
- Increase stability and performance.

### Solutions

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- Audit and corporate IT plan
  - evaluation of current situation;
  - identification of new short-term needs;
  - assessment of new long-term needs;
  - proposal of architecture to meet urgent needs and respond to needs as they evolve and change;
- Creation of IT architecture;
- Implementation of a standalone library to reduce the use of floor space;
- Centralization of backup copies using a single overnight process;
- Consolidation of storage to migrate all disk space to a single location;
- Virtualization to allow sharing of applications across multiple environments;
- Implementation of a SAN (Storage Area Network)
- Updating of equipment;
- Knowledge transfer to render the client autonomous in managing and maintaining its IT environment;
- Help desk;
- Technology watch.