Vision Support Trading invests in server, storage and access security infrastructure elevating resilience and customer security compliance.

VST

Resilience and security in a single solution:

Within a programme to maintain adherence to the latest security and encryption standards, VST initiated a procurement event for a new storage device and server system upgrade.

Vision Support Trading need IT infrastructure that can match the high calibre of work that they are known for, whilst maintaining security standards that their clients rely upon.

The challenge:

Though fully operational and protected by RAID, performance of the server estate was increasingly frustrated by a run of erratic disk failures and historic configuration inefficiencies which were developing into a time-consuming overhead.

Coupled with a realisation that the new storage could be more proactively arranged to take advantage of the latest resilience & performance capabilities, VST decided that the best way to identify a compliant and cost-effective solution was through connection with a local expert provider who would help them find the right device, make the most of their existing assets then collaboratively install the new and upgraded systems.

Key requirements:

- New Storage system with capacity and capability upgrade

- Maintenance of storage security levels to compliance standards

- Permanent remedy for the server stabilisation issue

- Low risk, seamless transition to the upgraded infrastructure

Business benefits:

- Upgraded, security compliant infrastructure

- Latest generation Hyper-V virtualisation performance & resilience

- Cost efficient re-utilisation of serviceable assets

- Increased user access security system*

- The confidence of working with a tested and trusted IT partner

About Vision Support Trading:

Based in Chester, Vision Support Trading [VST] are a specialised charitable organisation providing alternative format transcription services in the form of modified large print, braille and audio for the sight and hearing impaired.

Working with financial institutions and dealing with sensitive customer information has meant that data security is of utmost importance. The charity has built its trust and reputation from the efforts made to provide the highest standard of work in an environment where client and end-user data is totally secure.

Why VST chose Nviron:

After discussing his requirement with Dell, Phil was introduced to Nviron and Sam Halsey, who would soon become the Vision Support Trading account manager.

Sam took time to talk with Phil and understand the issues that needed resolving at Vision Support Trading. Usefully Nviron's office is only a 20-minute drive from the Vision Support Trading so they were able to quickly and effectively assess the current infrastructure and propose a suitable solution.

Technical Solution

With Nviron's guidance, VST selected a Fibre Channel connected Dell EMC MD3820F SAN appliance with performance, capacity and 256-bit encryption capability. Nviron installed the unit in parallel to the retiring device and assisted Phil in moving the workload between the platforms.

Carefully updating and preserving the RAID and server operating system, Nviron replaced the failing hard drive sets in the still capable servers and working with Phil took the opportunity to deploy Nviron's suggested vitualised storage and network configuration redesign providing access to the full functionality and resilience of their Hyper-V cluster.

Whilst on site engaged with the server and storage upgrades, *Nviron also fulfilled a planned system security extension with the installation of a two-factor authentication [2FA] system from Vasco.

In addition to standard workstation credentials the 2FA system requires users to enter a dynamic One-Time password given to them from a Token or a phone-based app providing an extra layer of security at an affordable price.

Vision Support Trading successfully and cost effectively upgraded their systems with upgrades sharply focused on the requirement designed to make best use of existing collateral. They have been delighted with the service Nviron provided and look forward to long and productive relationship with a capable partner.

Technology at a glance:

- **Dell EMC MD3820F Storage Area Network Appliance featuring 256-bit Encryption**

- **Brocade Fibre Channel SAN switch fabric**

- **Hyper-V virtualisation with transition to full clustering functionality**

- **Vasco Two Factor user authentication solution**

Nviron technology streams deployed...
Datacenter & Security

About Nviron:

Nviron, based in Runcorn, Cheshire provides an exceptional range of IT services and solutions to the UK's private and public sectors. With more than 30 years' experience the company has achieved success by focusing on customer service and understanding how technology can help customers drive growth and increase efficiency.

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