

FULLY VIRTUALIZED ENTERPRISE SOLUTION



Client's Business Needs

The client were supporting their different business units as partitions within their Power server utilizing internal dedicated disk. With each business unit growing within Canada the data footprint was also growing at an unprecedented rate.

They needed to look at alternatives with virtualization to maximize any investment. Beyond the Power server footprint growth, the client was also looking at a central SAN to support their Intel server environment.

Customer Background

The client is a leading global manufacturer of consumer sporting goods and apparel. Employing more than 53,000 people in over 160 countries, they produce more than 660 million units every year to generate sales in excess of \$21.73 billion CAD. Their focus is on keeping their business operations lean and as simple as possible to support a very complex organization.

Description of Solution

The client wanted a fully virtualized enterprise solution that provided the performance and reliability required to run a complex business supporting multiple divisions.

The proposed solution was an IBM Power8 server, attached to an IBM Storwize V7000 Gen2 storage system. IBM's PowerVM virtualization technology provided the hypervisor for shared hardware resources on redundant Virtual I/O Servers. The IBM Storwize V7000 Gen2 provided the storage for the i5/OS and VMware platforms that were deployed for their environment. All the technology for this project, Power Systems and Storwize V7000 Gen2 were deployed and integrated without any compatibility issues.

Solution Benefits

1. Positioned the customer for growth by using an enterprise platform that could easily scale out as the business grew.

2. Cost savings benefits of IBM PowerVM that reduce DB and middleware licensing costs through concepts like shared processor pools.
3. Higher workload utilization of Power Systems technology that allow up to 80% CPU utilization with PowerVM.
4. The V7000 Gen2 offered a high performance storage solution using differing storage tiers.
5. Deployment and management were simplified with the Storwize GUI.
6. Future plans may include deploying storage replication for DR. The V7000 Gen2 offered IP-based replication at a significant cost savings with the full feature software bundle.
7. IBM's support for other vendor technology which integrates with the Storwize V7000 Gen2.

About Blair

Blair Technology Solutions provides tailored, innovative and flexible IT solutions to a variety of mid to large-sized enterprises across Canada.

Our full complement of versatile, scalable and flexible solutions, are exclusively tailored for your organizational requirements.

From traditional infrastructure to Managed Services and Digital Transformation, Blair has extensive expertise in building custom solutions to meet the needs of your unique IT environment.

About Blair

We can identify potential issues before they affect your IT environment's performance and availability.

What makes us unique is our commitment to complete customer satisfaction and our ability to provide highly tailored services that fit the distinctive needs of each client.