



BRAZILIAN PAINT MANUFACTURER, TINTAS IQUINE, MIGRATES FROM UNIX TO RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX TO INCREASE PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVE SECURITY

FAST FACTS

Company	Tintas Iquine
Industry	Manufacturing: Paint & Tints
Geography	Latin America: Brazil
Business Challenge	Increase the stability and performance of business critical ERP applications
Migration Path	UNIX/RISC based servers to Red Hat Enterprise Linux on Intel Xeon processor based Dell PowerEdge servers
Software	Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Datasul, Progress Database, Trend Micro Security Solution
Hardware	Intel Xeon processor based Dell PowerEdge 2950 servers
Benefits	Red Hat virtualization enabled increased stability, performances, and increased security on redundancy and backup, and Red Hat Satellite simplified systems management



BACKGROUND

Tintas Iquine, a Brazilian paints, coatings, and special resins company, produces more than 1,500 products including; industrial paints, varnish, sealing, resins, pastes, and is known for its rigorous quality control, and its use of new technologies to improve its processes, products and deliver more value to its customers, paint and building material resellers and retailers.

In operation since 1974, Tintas Iquine's two factories have the capacity to produce 8 million liters of products per month, guaranteeing to the company 6% to 7% of the entire Brazilian market, operate 24/7 and are fully computerized in order to achieve enhanced production capability, security, and in addition, less impactful to the environment. Tintas Iquine achieved the certificate of approval in NBR ISO 9001:2000, which signifies the company's compliance with the requirements of the standard of Quality Management System in coatings. Iquine also won the certificate of quality of the Brazilian Association of Manufacturers of Paints.

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Tintas Iquine grew significantly in a short amount of time, with sales volume increases of 20-30 percent, the company increased in size from 200 to 500 employees, and needed a operating platform to improve its critical Enterprise Resource Planning applications and increase the IT team's ability to scale for the company's growth.

The existing UNIX based server environment at Tintas Iquine supported the ERP system, database, BI, CRM and security tools, consisted of a disparate, aging infrastructure that resulted in a lower application performance level and required resources devoted to systems management and monitoring, making it increasingly difficult and costly.

The new operating platform needed to increase the ERP application's performance, security, and provide a simplified systems management tool.

SOLUTION

The Tintas Iquine' IT team was well versed with open source operating platforms, and especially favored Red Hat Enterprise Linux due to the enterprise support, stability, and performance the platform provides, in addition to Red Hat Satellite systems management, that would solve the company's systems management issues.

With the expertise in-house and the enterprise-ready reputation, Tintas Iquine confidently decided not to conduct a lengthy technical evaluation of the Red Hat Enterprise Linux platform. Due to the breadth of third-party applications certified to run on Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Tintas Iquine decided to migrate all of its applications from UNIX, as all of the applications would be running under only one operating system, thus increasing the performance and reducing systems management resources.

The migration to Red Hat Enterprise Linux involved the virtualization of 12 machines to support the company's Progress database, Business Intelligence (BI) applications, CRM and Trend Micro Security Solutions.

BENEFITS

Tintas Iquine's implementation of Red Hat Enterprise Linux has allowed the company to scale for growth, increase application performance, reduce costs, and simplify systems management. The satisfaction and gain of performance were immediately realized by the IT staff and throughout the company, as application users began to work more efficiently and more productively.

The virtualization and the migration to Red Hat Enterprise Linux from UNIX, provided Tintas Iquine increased server utilization, and the management process on the Red Hat Enterprise Linux based servers have shown greater agility and ease of use, when compared to the Windows based servers, due to less interruptions in the maintenance process.

With Red Hat Enterprise Linux, the performance in the application processing has increased 30 percent, and costs have fallen about 50 percent, thus confirming the company's decision to migrate to Red Hat.

Although Tintas Iquine's Oracle database is running in a Windows platform, due to the results of the UNIX to Red Hat migration, the company plans to gradually migrate all systems to Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

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