

How Cisco IT Migrated Mission-Critical Application to Cisco Unified Computing System, Improving Performance and Lowering TCO

BUSINESS BENEFITS

- Increased application performance by 40 percent on average
- Gained CPU capacity to support double the workload
- Saved 85 percent in capital costs compared to migrating to HP Itanium
- Increased resiliency
- Lowered support costs

“Since we moved the Quote to Cash environment to the Cisco Unified Computing System, performance for all types of transactions improved by an average of 40 percent. Tax calculations that used to take around 7 hours now complete in 1 to 2 hours.”

Seshagirirao Surapaneni, IT Service Manager

Migration was completed on schedule with zero hardware issues since go-live.

One hundred percent of Cisco revenue flows through Cisco's 65 Quote to Cash applications, which access a 5TB Oracle RAC database. Approximately 2400 Cisco employees in 18 business functions use the mission-critical applications, and slow performance or outages are unacceptable because they can delay revenue booking.

The Quote to Cash systems previously were hosted on an HP Superdome platform. But as transaction volume increased, users began experiencing long delays during month-end and quarter-end close.

Cisco IT improved application performance by migrating the systems from HP Superdome servers to Cisco UCS B440 Blade Servers. The team accomplished the migration on schedule and with

zero hardware issues since the go-live date.

Performance for all types of transactions improved by 40 percent on average. Tax calculations that used to take around 7 hours now complete in 1-2 hours. Order booking performance improved by 400 percent, from 37,000 orders in approximately 6.5 hours on HP Superdome to 70,000 orders in 3 hours on the Cisco UCS B440 Blade Server. Improved application performance results from several factors: migration to the Cisco Unified Computing System, a concurrent upgrade from Oracle RAC 9i to Oracle RAC 10g, and a tax software upgrade.

The Quote to Cash system can now handle twice the workload because the Cisco UCS B440 Blade Server has more efficient CPU utilization. Cisco IT expects the current configuration to accommodate anticipated growth for two to three years, with no extra expenditure.

Total cost of ownership decreased. Cisco saved 85 percent in capital costs by migrating to the Cisco UCS B440 Blade Server instead of the HP Itanium platform. Oracle licensing costs decreased by 35 percent because of the x86 platform and fewer CPU cores. Support costs lower because of simplified connectivity. And if a Cisco UCS Blade Server fails, Cisco IT can rapidly provision a replacement by applying a Cisco UCS Manager service profile to a different blade.

The application now needs less data center space. The entire Quote to Cash environment, including production, development, staging, disaster recovery, and backup, now occupies one-sixth the data center space, consumes 65 percent less power, and uses 40 percent fewer cables.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To read the entire case study or additional Cisco IT case studies on a variety of business solutions, visit Cisco on Cisco: Inside Cisco IT www.cisco.com/go/ciscoit.

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