

Supreme Court Improves Legal Process

Cisco Nexus and Virtual Switching System help Brazil's Superior Tribunal de Justiça ensure speedy and effective justice

Customer Name: Superior Tribunal de Justiça

Industry: Public sector

Location: Brazil

Number of Employees: 4000

Business Impact

- Higher availability of data center infrastructure
- Ability to make changes in production environment with least possible impact on users
- Greater application performance and justice system efficiency



Case Study

Business Challenge

The Superior Tribunal de Justiça (STJ), or Superior Court of Justice, is the highest court of appeal for non-constitutional issues in Brazil. Located in Brasília, the court employs 4000 people, including an IT team of 35 whose role is to help ensure judges (known as Ministers) can dispense justice as effectively as possible.

To accommodate the large amounts of case information handled by the court, along with the applications that its functionaries rely on, the STJ has two data centers with a total of 500TB of storage capacity, about two-fifths of which is used on average.

This infrastructure is absolutely vital to the court; if it stops, so does all work at the STJ. With the mission critical nature of the system in mind, the organization turned to Cisco to improve the availability and redundancy of the data centers through virtualization. The STJ decided that Cisco Nexus® data center switching platforms would offer the best option on the market in terms of delivering high availability. It began a major program to upgrade its data centers and LAN technology.

Solution and Results

Cisco Catalyst® 4500 Series and 6500 Series Switches were installed in the LAN, with Cisco® Nexus 5000 Series Switches in the data centers. The latter were equipped with 10Gbps Ethernet connections, low latency, and virtual machine optimization. Meanwhile a Cisco Virtual Switching System (VSS) was deployed on a Catalyst 6509 Chassis to improve operational manageability. This would also deliver deterministic sub-200 millisecond layer-2 link recovery, and scale the system to 1.4Tbps by activating all available bandwidth across redundant Catalyst Switches.

The solution has allowed STJ to improve IT infrastructure availability and redundancy by implementing virtual machine technologies. In addition, the court is now able to make changes within the live production environment with minimum impact on its users. All this means that Ministers and other STJ personnel can be assured of a much more reliable, low-latency IT environment. This achievement, in turn, helps to enhance application performance and the working of the entire legal system in Brazil, to the benefit of all citizens.

“When we carried out this substantial renovation of our data center, we put in place a Cisco VSS with Nexus switches because this proved to be the best solution in terms of high availability.”

Leon Mundim
Networking Specialist
Superior Tribunal de Justiça

For More Information

To find out more about the Cisco data center vision, architecture, and portfolio, please go [here](#)

For further details of Cisco Nexus 5000 Series Switches please go [here](#)

For more information on unified fabric, using Fibre Channel over Ethernet, please go [here](#)