

DATA CENTER WITHOUT LIMITS

Technomar Shipping Inc builds next-generation solution Data Center

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

Techomar Shipping Inc. is an international shipping company based in Athens, managing a 62 mixed vessel fleet of containers and bulk carriers.

ORIGINAL CHALLENGE

Techomar Shipping Inc. wanted to build a new Next Generation Datacenter, scalable and efficient to cover their present and expanding future need and able to support the company's quick path for growth.

The goal was to have a scalable and high performance infrastructure able to provide both network and storage functionality with simple and centralized management for both. High availability and predictable behavior for both physical and virtual environments were also very important aspects of the new solution.

Moreover, Technomar Shipping wanted to have the minimum time required to deploy server infrastructure. The majority of staff time was dedicated to managing server requests and server-related application projects, and each new server or VM host required several man-weeks to be placed into production.

WHY ALGOSYSTEMS

Technomar Shipping had an established relationship with Algosystems, a Cisco Gold Certified Partner, for providing technical support and expertise. As Technomar Shipping prepared for its first Cisco Unified Computing System deployment, it engaged Algosystems to provide planning, implementation and support services.

"There is a great partnership between Algosystems and Cisco as they teamed to help ensure the success of our initial implementation," says Michael Anastasakis, IT & T Independent Consultant at Maritime Sector.

THE DEPLOYMENT

After comprehensive diligence, which included a thorough review of various offerings, Technomar Shipping chose the Cisco Unified Computing System. Technomar's data center now run on Cisco UCS C-Series Servers and Cisco Nexus 5500 Series Switches with storage on the EMC VNX 5100 Series and virtualization on the

VMware vSphere Hypervisor. Twelve rack mount Cisco UCS C-Series Servers were chosen that were used either as a Host for multiple Virtual Machines, or as physical servers, depending on the usage scenario.

Two Nexus 5548UP were also selected with necessary L3 modules and storage options and Cluster Virtual Port Channel topology (VPC) was implemented to achieve maximum availability and performance. VSAN isolation and Zoning configuration held at Nexus, eliminated the need for additional FC switches and FC cards use, reducing the complexity and the cost of the implementation.

RESULTS

With a fully integrated data center solution in place, Technomar Shipping is well equipped for rapid expansion and provisioning, enabling uninterrupted business growth.

A consolidated, virtualized UCS environment offered further benefits in terms of disaster recovery and business continuity. If a server goes down, we can redistribute the load to any available server. It's essentially an autonomous system.

We didn't only see steady performance from Cisco UCS, but we were also impressed by how it yield to virtualization.

It's surely designed for a virtual environment.

Michael Anastasakis, IT & T Independent Consultant, Maritime Sector

