diagnostic
case study

diaxion
IT Strategy & Optimisation

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Diaxion provides solution for leading supermarket group shopping for upgrades to their private cloud environment.

OVERVIEW

Our Client is one of Australia's leading retail groups, operating almost 1,000 stores across Australia with more than 100,000 staff. They have implemented a private cloud environment based on large VCE vBlocks, which grows significantly each year.

Our Client adopts a bi-annual approach for the upgrade cycle of their environment and sought recommendations and guidance on how much additional capacity would be required in the coming cycle and how to adjust capacity thresholds.

The project was completed in a non-intrusive way with no impact on the environment and minimal assistance from staff.

The Business Challenge

The Client's recent review of the environment identified that current utilisation levels and engineering rules needed to be reconsidered. Such rule changes, if brought into effect, would result in lower spend on additional capacity.

A higher utilisation of the environment would enable the implementation of large projects currently in the pipeline. Better tooling would allow for better performance and utilisation reporting into the overall capacity planning process and provide information about current server and storage performance and utilisation levels at any given point in time.

Diaxion got engaged to provide answers to these challenges and recommend options aligning to the client's risk level.

The Diaxion Solution

Once engaged, Diaxion leveraged our extensive and proven experience around UCS, Cisco, EMC and VCE platforms to better understand the most efficient and effective engineering and capacity approach to adopt.

Our vendor agnostic approach gave our client the confidence in knowing we would provide, and they would receive, the best available independent advice for their unique business requirements.

Diaxion presented a report demonstrating that the client was able to use servers and storage with significantly higher utilisation and provisioning ratios. Diaxion was able to show that at the current rate of growth their systems had sufficient spare capacity for at least another 6 months negating the perceived need for an upgrade.

We also showed our client that they had very limited capability to observe their utilisation levels at any particular point. From this our solution recommended improvements in tooling leading to increased performance and utilisation reporting.

The Business Benefits

Diaxion's deep knowledge and experience across various platforms and in particular with other vBlock customers enabled our Client to reassess their approach to VCE upgrades and capacity.

Our considered approach and recommendations led to a significant reduction in the current upgrade cycle and the opportunity to postpone or reduce future upgrades resulting in savings of what is usually a multi-million dollar capital investment otherwise.

Diaxion recommended a selection of tools to provide an accurate view of server utilisation at any given point in time to enable the Client to use the private cloud environment at an optimal level: using as much of the available capacity as possible without creating risk for services and the environment.

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The best IT solutions are not about a single approach to a problem but about how a solution complements an entire organisation's strategy.

Diaxion offers IT strategy and optimisation services to support and promote business goals. By integrating IT solutions across business units and building strong IT capability and understanding, organisations are given the best chance of achieving their business targets.

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