



Amey reduces its carbon footprint

Amey is one of the UK's leading support service partners, specialising in the outsourcing of sustainable business solutions. Amey works in partnership with customers across the aviation, central government, defence, education, local government, rail and strategic highways sectors.

Operating from 200 locations with 8000 employees, Amey has high visibility in its field.

The Challenge

Julian Proudfoot, Contract Manager at Amey is responsible for overseeing one of Amey's IT contracts, which is to ALC, a joint venture of Amey Plc and VT Group Plc, for the 'C' Vehicle Capability Private Finance Initiative.

As a company confident in all that it has achieved and can achieve in the future, Amey is actively involved in developing procedures that integrate key social issues with its business model. Therefore it is no surprise Amey takes very seriously its impact on the environment. Sustainable computing and the greening of power-hungry data centres, is central to enacting its green corporate social responsibility (CSR) policies.

Implementing server virtualisation at this contract, Amey was able to make a substantial impact on its commitment to sustainable computing. A massive reduction in power consumption at the data centre of over 35% has resulted in considerably improved energy efficiency.

Amey was able to measure and quantify the extent to which it went green. The new server farm running in a virtual environment used just 67,162 KW/h. Before virtualisation, servers required 104,316 KW/h. Lower power consumption being used by servers also had a knock-on effect of reducing power demands being made by air-conditioning units. Before virtualisation, air-conditioning required 52,046 KW/h. After the project, just 33,523 KW/h was needed.*

Consolidating growing numbers of physical servers also freed up both floor space and the IT team's time. Support staff have found that time being spent managing physical servers is now spent on other projects, which adds value to their client's business operations.

The new system provides a cost effective fail over solution. In the past, malfunctioning servers had to be physically removed from the network. This resulted in downtime and was inconvenient as well as expensive. The new system enables the team to transparently reallocate servers with no downtime. In the event of a bottleneck or if a server needs to be moved, staff simply move resources around through the management console.

* The KW savings are equal two round the world trips in average family sized car.

<http://erasemyfootprint.com/calculator.cfm>

Solution Summary

- › Virtualisation – a green technology – helps reduce the corporate carbon footprint
- › Server consolidation frees up valuable business resources
- › Increased business continuity

Infrastructure services

The Solution

Designing and implementing a green solution required the need for expert advice. Intercept was given the challenge of designing and implementing a robust and cost effective solution.

Intercept recognised that maximizing efficiency gains made by rolling out a new system requires careful design and planning. Accordingly, a wide range of diagnostic and analysis tools were applied. PlateSpin PowerRecon, for example, was used to provide further intelligence and forecasting on server metrics.

Intercept then went on to install VMware ESX servers and virtualisation software across the network. They transformed ALC's server architecture from the "usual" hardware focused infrastructure, to a modern virtual infrastructure requiring less maintenance with increased scalability and flexibility.

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Amey is part of Ferrovial, one of Europe's largest infrastructure and services groups, which brings with it the strength and additional capabilities of a world-leading organisation.

Amey has been listed amongst the 'Top 100 Companies that Count' in Business in the Community's (BITC) Corporate Responsibility Index since 2005.

Industry

Business Services

Customer

Amey plc

Business Challenge

- › Reduce environmental impact
- › Greening of power-hungry data centres
- › Sustainable IT growth

Business Solution

- › VMware ESX
- › PlateSpin PowerRecon

Business Advantages

- › Server consolidation
- › Lower power consumption
- › Reduced carbon footprint
- › Increased business continuity

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