AL JAZEERA PAINTS

NEC FAULT TOLERANT SERVERS FOR BETTER PRODUCTIVITY

Saudi Arabia's Al Jazeera Paints leverage NEC Fault Tolerant (FT) Servers to improve production processes

Al-Jazeera Paints Factory, a division of Al Jazeera Pigment Factory in UAE, has selected NEC to streamline its operations and increase production. Established in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) in 1991, Al-Jazeera Paints Factory currently has 2500 employees and a turnover of more than SR 100 million (US$ 27 million).
Since its establishment, Al Jazeera Paints has expanded its manufacturing capacities to around 50,000 tons annually.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

A system that guarantees:

- Reduction of the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)
- Business Continuity
- High availability
- Easy administration

Further develop and streamline its operations

The challenge

In order to continuously expand its business, Al Jazeera Paints Factory wanted to further develop and streamline its operations.

One mandatory aspect to fulfil the company demand was the need for a high-availability (no down time) solution, for running its operations with minimum administration, that could also manage a network of branded hardware (servers, workstations, desktops, etc) and an ERP solution that was developed in-house.

Al Jazeera Paints' IT team decided that the final requirement to update this infrastructure would include servers for Exchange, SQL and the applications. In addition, the network needed a storage solution and a Backup solution for the factory and its headquarters in Riyadh.
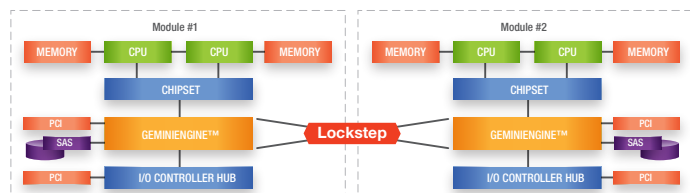
The Solution

Three NEC Fault Tolerant servers - one each for Exchange, SQL and Applications respectively - along with its SAN Box D110 and Backup SmartWay Tape with agents for storage and two Rj120-2 servers for Domain Controllers Implementation.

A SOLUTION FOR HIGH AVAILABILITY AND BETTER PRODUCTIVITY

"We have found the right solution to fit the needs of our organization. The NEC Fault Tolerant Solution offered an effective way to achieve both the speed and safety required by us, in order to drive our operations in the 21st century."

Mr. Hussain Sherza, IT Manager for Al Jazeera Paints

Fault Tolerant Server

The solution was deployed (within one month) and included the training of Al Jazeera Paints key IT personnel. The project involved one Project Manager and four senior technical staff from NajTech, the NEC's authorised reseller in Saudi Arabia.

For more Availability and Reliability

The NEC Fault Tolerant server is designed in such a way that it delivers its high availability straight out of the box. The high availability is handled by the specialized chipset found inside the Fault Tolerant server and that makes it independent of the software that runs on the server. There fore, it not only works out of the box but also supports any kind of application without any modification or configuration. Its integrated management features and accompanying software offer pro-active failure alerts and can notify the administrator of an impending failure via a number of methods including e-mail, so there is no longer a need for continuous monitoring.

The Advantages for AL Jazeera Paints

High availability and security

After selecting NEC's Fault Tolerant Servers, Al Jazeera Paints has experienced several key advantages including a reduction of the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), Business Continuity and High availability in terms of access to critical applications.

According to the IT team in Al Jazeera Paints, the running cost of its former system was getting very high in terms of management of critical applications where the new hardware custering sytem allowed an easy administration resulting in a reduced cost of ownership.

A clear example of how Fault Tolerant has improved Al Jazeera operations system refers to the availability of its ERP application which handles all of its financial and sales transactions. With the old system Al Jazeera Paints Group faced a lot of ERP downtime because of server problems which in turn resulted in a loss of transactions and a loss of some sales.

Easy administration

The impact of using Fault Tolerant solution in their activity was easily noticed by Al Jazeera Paints' Staff and had a positive result on their work. Fault Tolerant administration is very easy and allows the Al Jazeera Paints' IT staff to focus more on enhancing the quality of service rather than solving problems.

The result of all of the above is that the administrators at Al Jazeera Paints can now use the time they would otherwise spend implementing and maintaining the cluster, on pro-actively ensuring that the network is in line with the business objectives of the company. This allows the IT department to focus their efforts more closely on managing the info as opposed to its infrastructure.

"The Fault Tolerant servers are really easy to install, implement and administrate. NEC provided us with complete solution through its partner in Saudi Arabia, NajTech. They executed the installation and configuration perfectly" said Mr. Hussain Sherza, IT Manager for Al Jazeera Paints.

According to Mr. Hussain, "This solution provided by NEC proved to be more reliable, especially because the Fault Tolerant servers are based on hardware clustering".