

Case Study

Server upgrade for trusted test equipment supplier



Test-Meter.co.uk is one of the most **well known and most trusted sources** for test and measurement equipment in the UK, as well as a trusted supplier to thousands of customers in Europe and Asia.

The organisation takes pride in supplying the right **test and measurement equipment** to their ever-growing database of customers. They continuously strive to provide factual and impartial advice taking the customers application, requirements, and budget into consideration.

The challenge

Over recent months, CT had been receiving regular automated reports that the customers servers were beginning to run low on available storage space. Due to the age of the servers, increasing capacity by adding or replacing hardware would be very expensive and the availability of parts limited.

Another issue of aged servers is that the underlying operating system for the virtualisation platform **no longer receives critical or security patch updates.** This could potentially leave an organisation at risk from cyber-attack.



The solution

Rather than replacing expensive hardware parts on an old server that is starting to run out of storage, CT recommended that Test-Meter considered replacing both the primary and secondary servers.

A meeting was arranged with the customer and the solution consultant, to discuss the current infrastructure and Test-Meters future requirements. This was to ensure that the replacement hardware was suitable for the next 5 years and allowed for important business growth.

CT also recommended new Windows operating systems were installed to ensure the company were supported by Microsoft for critical and security updates. CT worked to ensure all tasks were completed quickly and efficiently also working closely alongside 3rd party software providers to ensure that there would be no surprises during the installation of the new hardware and software.





With another large, and daunting, server upgrade and migration looming, I turned to Central Technology to project manage the task which included the purchasing of the relevant hardware and upgraded software packages. As always, the team at Central Technology were thorough in all proceedings from the early planning stages right through to deployment. The smart planning and deployment, using our replication server as a temporary primary DC, meant that the downtime was so minimal we did not even notice the switch over to the new hardware and VM environment.

In addition to the brand-new servers, we also requested a new updated firewall/router with automatic internet fail over deployment. This allowed both our internet connections to be seamlessly hot swapped should one ISP go down. A final task was to migrate an old CRM software system which was installed on our previous VM's. Unfortunately, support for this system was unavailable from the manufacturer so extensive work was required by CT's engineers to enable the migration of the software and its connecting SQL database to take place.

The entire Central team kept me informed every step of the way from the early planning meetings and the plan of action to the final deployment of the hardware and latest software. Without any doubt, Central Technology are one of the most professional IT companies I have ever dealt with. I will not hesitate to involve them with any future projects we may have.

Steve Jackson

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