Denit Upgrades to Tintri VMstore™ for Optimum Storage and Performance

VMstore

Denit is a managed cloud solution provider based in Amsterdam, The Netherlands and has been supplying and managing reliable and secure cloud solutions since 1999. The company's team of more than sixty specialists design, build, and manage custom cloud solutions that contribute to the online success of its customers. Denit is committed to delivering the best services available and utilizes the latest technology in order to achieve successful and satisfied customers.

The Challenge: Outdated Storage Inadequate for Virtualized Environment

The company focuses on Independent Software Vendors (ISV's). It provides a wide range of tailor-made solutions and services, including managed hosting, private, hybrid, and public cloud solutions, Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and managed security. With twin data centers in The Netherlands and Germany, each backed by full redundant Denit-owned stretched network rings spread over three physical data center locations, Denit guarantees 99,999% uptime to customers using Denit certified designs utilizing the twin data center stretched infrastructure.

However, Denit was struggling to reach the desired performance for its virtual machines (VMs) with its existing storage environment. It required a high level of administration, configuration, and skills to support the VMs. Denit frequently had to resort to paying for consultancy services to administer and manage the storage systems. In addition, the systems did not provide visibility at a VM level which made identifying performance issues and root cause analyses a challenge.

The Solution: Tintri VMstore

Denit was under pressure to find a storage solution that could support its virtualized infrastructure. After considering a number of options, including NetApp, Nimble, EMC XtremIO, EMC ScaleIO, Hedvig, Nutanix, VMware VSAN, and Pure Storage, the company opted for VMstore.

The major reason for choosing VMstore was its ability to provide visibility into performance breakdown at the VM-level. "Performance visibility at the VM-level is a key factor with VMstore. It helps to give an insight into the performance of VMs and you can pinpoint where an issue is. If there is an issue with a VM, you can just drill down and find it," commented Daniël Van Wijnen CTO at Denit. "With other storage systems, it can be hard to identify the cause of performance issues. With VMstore, we can see if a VM, but more importantly which VM, is taking up a lot of resources or more than it's supposed to in a matter of seconds. VMstore gives you real-time insight into VM behavior at the storage level."

Denit purchased two VMstore systems to provide the storage requirements for part of its existing workloads and the company immediately experienced the benefits with installation taking less than an hour.

The Results: Performance and Visibility

Van Wijnen is very impressed with the performance of the VMstore appliances. "VMstore's performance and ease of administration has been beyond what was expected," he says. "I would highly recommend it to other people looking for VMware optimized storage solutions."

Another significant benefit was the huge improvement in latency rates provided by the VMstore appliances. "VMstore guarantees that there was no latency impact even with 95% utilization and only a little bit with 100% utilization, which meant we could use all the storage we were purchasing," Van Wijnen says. "That was one of the real decision-making factors for us to go with VMstore."

Challenge

- Existing storage was unable to provide the performance required for virtualization
- Existing storage solution was end of life
- Latency for virtualized database related workloads needed to be lower and consistent
- Effective cost per GB needed to be lowered at consistent SSD performance

Solution

- Tintri VMstore

Results

- Enhanced visibility of performance issues
- Minimal administration required
- No requirement for external consultants
- Better utilization of storage resources

Tintri
Intelligent Infrastructure

VMstore has delivered a storage environment that provides the performance and visibility required to support Denit's virtualized infrastructure. Any performance issues can be quickly identified because VMstore provides visibility at the VM-level. This helps to provide insight into the performance of VMs and to pin-point where an issue could be and do it quickly.

"Increased insight into performance on a per VM-level is a big gain. With VMstore, it can take as little as ten seconds to find the cause. Often, you will find that the issue is within the VM and not within the storage," Van Wijnen says. Rival systems do not provide this level of visibility.

Storage management has been almost completely automated, with impressive savings in time and staff costs. The previous systems required significant administration and configuration resources, often forcing Denit to hire consultants to handle the work. "We don't need to hire anybody now," Van Wijnen says. "We can fully manage everything ourselves. The VMstore appliances just work and operate on their own. They run themselves."

After this initial interview took place Denit has further invested in four additional VMstore units and intends to further expand the use of VMstore within its operations as needed. Aside from being used as storage solution for cloud infrastructure, Denit is due to start using VMstore as the preferred solution for private cloud silos.

Experience Different! For more information on how Tintri VMstore can turbo-charge your business success through a simple, Intelligent Infrastructure, visit tintri.com/vmstore.

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>
> *Daniël Van Wijnen, CTO, Denit*

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