JPS Composite Materials Builds VDI on Tintri VMstore™

VMstore

JPS Composite Materials is a major US manufacturer of mechanically-formed glass and aramid substrate materials. Aramid fibers are a class of heat-resistant and strong synthetic fibers that are used in a wide range of applications, including: printed electronic circuit boards; advanced composite materials; civilian and military aerospace components; filtration and insulation products; specialty commercial construction substrates; medical, automotive, and industrial components; and soft body armor for civilian and military applications. Headquartered in Anderson, South Carolina, JPS Materials operates three manufacturing locations in Anderson and Slater, South Carolina and Statesville, North Carolina.

The Challenge: Storage Cannot Support VDI Expansion

JPS Materials upgraded from individual servers to its current SAN environment several years ago. "When we originally started virtualizing, we put in an EMC SAN," noted Brian Green, IT Operations Manager for JPS. "It performed adequately for the few servers that we had, but when we started adding virtual desktops, we quickly found out that the IOPS capability of the EMC box was insufficient. Our distributor, Net3, suggested we look at VMstore™ since they were using the systems for their own cloud and were very happy with the performance."

Greenville, South Carolina's Net3 Technology is a leading Cloud services provider that delivers best-in-class IT cloud-based, and service management solutions in the most cost-efficient, fast, and reliable manner. Net3's team has more than forty years combined experience in the managed services sector, providing its customers with big business support and services with a small company personalized approach, and ensuring every client gets the service and solutions that best fits its IT infrastructure needs. "We felt that VMstore was the perfect solution for JPS Composite Materials since they needed a high-performance solution that would allow them years of growth without needing a forklift upgrade. These are some of the reasons that we have utilized VMstore as a foundational technology in our cloud, PvDC," says Hudson Denney, a partner at Net3 Technology.

The Solution: Tintri VMstore T620

After receiving the glowing recommendation from Net3, the JPS IT team decided to test the VMstore systems. "We were impressed with the throughput and compression ratios we received with VMstore systems," Green reported. "Based on the results of our tests, we knew they could easily handle the number of virtualized desktops we wanted for our environment."

JPS materials' IT team then purchased a Tintri VMstore T620 for the Anderson, South Carolina data center. "Net3 did the initial setup and configuration of our VMstore systems," noted Green. "The entire process took just a few minutes. There were some switching and cabling issues we had to get in place to provide sufficient bandwidth to the unit, but that had nothing to do with the VMstore box itself. Once we started migrating data over to VMstore, it was a really simple and fast process."

The Results: Improved Performance, Fast Application Response

JPS Materials is now running sixty virtual desktops on the VMstore systems. "We have been very pleased with the improved performance of our VDI environment," Green reported. "We now have plans to add at least another sixty desktops during this fiscal year. The virtual desktops are now being used by nearly everyone in our organization, from our employees on the shop floor to our accounting professionals. Our end users really appreciate the fast application response they are getting with VMstore and VMware virtual desktop environment."

Challenges

- Existing storage performance was inadequate for new VDI environment

Solution

- Tintri VMstore T620

Results

- Simplified storage management
- Higher IOPS for virtual desktops
- Shortened VM builds from twenty minutes to just five

Tintri
Intelligent Infrastructure

The difference between standard infrastructure and Intelligent Infrastructure was readily apparent. "The VMstore systems are much easier to manage than our old legacy systems," noted Michelle Williamson, network administrator at JPS Composite Materials Corp. "Having one huge LUN really reduces system complexity. Net3 helped us with the initial deployment, but now we don't have to think about the systems any more. We just know they're running flawlessly and there aren't a lot of extra things we have to do to keep them happy. Our IT department is very resource-constrained, so ease of management is a huge advantage for us."

"The VMstore systems are very reliable," added Green. "We haven't had any downtime or reliability problems with the units. We can also perform non-disruptive upgrades during the day with VMstore. We used to have to take our systems offline with the old legacy platform. As a result, we could only conduct upgrades at night or over long weekends. Providing thin clients to end users at our remote sites also simplifies desktop support. If we ever have a hardware failure, we can just replace the virtual desktop with a new one in just minutes."

"We haven't had the need to call Tintri Support yet, since the systems are so reliable," said Green. "We did get a call from them out of the blue one day. They said they were looking at our configuration and noticed that there were a couple of changes we could make that would increase the speed of building VMs. We made the changes and performance immediately improved just as they said. It used to take twenty minutes to build VMs or spin up a new server or desktop, now it's just a five-minute process. We have been very impressed with Tintri's proactive support."

"We have been talking with Net3 about implementing a new remote disaster recovery site in the near term," Green concluded. "I would like to have a second VMstore unit in our North Carolina facility for backup and DR. We originally purchased VMstore because our distribution partner Net3 recommended the solution to us. They love their VMstore box. We are pleased to report that we have obtained the same impressive results and great experience as they have."

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>
> *Michelle Williamson, Network Administrator, JPS Composite Materials Corp.*

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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