



Increasing IT Efficiency with Virtualization

To decrease overall IT infrastructure cost, DIUM chose Open-E DSS V6 for their virtual environment

The Task

As an educational institution, the Informatics Department of Universidade do Minho (DIUM) wants to provide staff and students with a hi-tech environment by using innovative IT solutions. Up till now, the university's teaching groups, like the Computer Communications Group played a major role in establishing the Internet in Portugal. DIUM wants to continue this trend by educating students with the use of the latest technologies. To achieve this goal they needed new machines for testing operating systems and applications. When choosing the appropriate solution, DIUM was faced with the following challenges:

- » Limited budget
- » New machines couldn't use more space and power
- » Avoid the use of expensive Fibre Channel boards
- » Superior performance

The Solution

Usually, superior performance and a limited budget don't go hand in hand, but DIUM picked a solution that offers both. How did they do it? DIUM simply chose a virtual infrastructure. The virtualization solution integrated DIUM's overall IT infrastructure and with the help of Open-E DSS V6, the Informatics Department was able to achieve superior performance at a reasonably low price. In addition to a great price, Open-E DSS V6 provided what they needed: NAS, automatic failover, local backup, volume replication and support for multiple file protocols.

About DIUM

The Informatics Department at the University of Minho (DIUM) is based in Braga, northwest of Portugal and comprises of 52 researchers and 10 staff members. The department's mission is to disseminate knowledge, both applied and fundamental, in the areas of computer science and information technologies, with a particular emphasis on software engineering, communications and computer networks. The courses taught at DIUM have a continued national recognition, which is expressed by the substantial demand by both prospective students, as well as by the major employers.

About Open-E

Open-E, Inc. is a pioneering leader and developer of IP-based storage management software. Open-E®DSS V6™ is aimed at the SMB and SME markets. It is a robust, award-winning enterprise storage application which offers excellent compatibility with industry standards (vast variety of supported hardware), and is easiest to use and manage. Additionally it is one of the most stable solutions on the market and an undisputed price performance leader.

Open-E counts for over 27,000 installations in Fortune 500 organizations world-wide in over 100 countries for over a decade and received numerous industry awards and recognition. Thanks to its reputation, experience and business reliability, Open-E is an esteemed technological partner of industry-leading IT companies.

For further information about Open-E, its products and partners, visit www.open-e.com.



The Result



António Aragão, Informatics Department System Administrator:

“Virtualization turned out to be a perfect solution for our needs. Thanks to Open-E DSS V6, a network switch and a common server, we were able to solve our storage problem. Now, we have access to storage via iSCSI and NFS. All this for a fraction of the cost – doesn’t get better than this!”

The Hardware Setup

- » 1 Motherboard Tyan Tempest i5000VS S5372-LH
- » 3ware 9650SE-8LPML
- » 1 CPU Xeon E5310@1.60Ghz
- » 8 disks of 1TB (HDS721010CL) on RAID6
- » 6GB RAM
- » 1 disk for Open-E DSS V6 (HDS721025SLA380)
- » 4 Intel NICs 1Gbit

