

STORAGE CONSOLIDATION HELPS SAVE ENERGY

Presently environmental protection and energy efficiency is on everyone's lips and many vendors are using it purely for marketing purposes

Words: By Open-E GmbH

►Energy consumption is one of the most important decision making factors for IT managers. Not only is global warming an important issue but increasing energy costs are also moving to the centre of attention.

Energy in data centres get scarce

Industry analysts assume that many data centres will no longer have sufficient energy for the operation and cooling of their highly integrated computer systems within a short period of time. Therefore energy efficiency has become one of the top subjects in Open-E's storage solutions R&D. The solutions of Open-E and their partners have become an important part of the Green IT strategy in the enterprises.

Virtualisation technologies not only support users in consolidating their data on fewer servers but also save energy and maintenance costs by simplifying the IT infrastructures. By increasing the storage utilisation, enterprises can lower their energy costs noticeably. Many enterprises presently only use 30 to 50% of the available storage capacity although a current study of Forrester Consulting has yielded that storage solutions from Open-E can increase memory utilisation by up to 30% and help to reduce the storage growth by up to 20%.

Flash for optimal data security

All Open-E products are based on an operating system which is completely preinstalled and configured on a USB DOM (disk on module). This module is simply plugged into the server system. The pre-installation of the operating system on a USB DOM offers enterprises an extremely quick and simple set up of storage infrastructure. Moreover, downtimes are decreased considerably and the storage installations are extremely safe due to the sequestered operating system. The Open-E storage solutions recognise the hardware automatically and autonomously install the necessary drivers of SAS and RAID controllers, FC HBAs and Ethernet cards etc.



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Data Storage server

The Open-E DSS (Data Storage Server) is a complete IP and FC storage operating system (FC, Fibre Channel) which offers NAS, iSCSI and FC functionality (target and initiator) in one single application with simple operation and high failure tolerance for enterprises of any size. The storage server solution provides a fast, reliable and scalable platform for IP-Storage, offering parallel file access and storage consolidation as well as backup and restore. Other very relevant areas nowadays are also covered by the DDS - virtualisation and replication.

Since the operating system was optimised for dedicated storage and corporate networks, the solution is especially suitable for network infrastructures with many clients or applications with a high storage demand such as multi-video streaming or HDTV, which in addition require high transfer rates and I/O. The support of Windows, NIS or LDAP domains allow an easy enhancement of the available IT infrastructure. The graphical web user interface for administration offers a reliable control of the storage unit and the backup processes of important data.

Conclusion

The solutions of Open-E are a valuable complement in the strategy of the enterprises to get a hold on their energy costs and to optimise the IT infrastructure. Primarily the consolidation of the Storage landscape and the efficient use of available resources are promoted by the solutions of Open-E.