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SITUATION & SOLUTION

This client is a state government department that is the principal tax collecting agency for the state. The department employs over 1,000 staff. There are 5 major divisions including: Alcohol & Tobacco, Compliance, Information Technology, Taxpayer Services, & Local Government Services and 2 main data centers .

The client was upgrading and replacing an existing SAN with a new SAN. Virtually all the data needs to be available during regular business hours and new SAN will replace the existing one. The largest volumes were over 2TB in size. The application servers cannot be down during business hours (M-F 8am-6pm and Sat. 8:00am to 1:00pm).

SOLUTION OVERVIEW

A number of applications and servers were virtualized along with adding the SAN. Since the existing and new SAN were different manufacturers, Multi-pathing software, fabric and user cut-over post migration were all issues.

The key criteria was we could not disrupt users and the users needed paths to volumes on both storage platforms.

The DSN engineering team worked with the client to initially setup and configure the new storage arrays. We then designed, setup and schedule the data migration, including contingency plans.

- EMC & IBM storage arrays
- Brocade fabric
- 40TB of production data
- A # of clustered applications & databases
- Win, VMware, & Unix OS's

ENVIRONMENT SNAPSHOT

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Additionally, several blade centers were added to the infrastructure for virtualizing selected servers during the new SAN platform deployment.

Our migration services included:

- Installation & configuration of new SAN hardware
- Physical to virtual migrations on selected hosts/servers
- Backup policy changes (as requested)
- Data migration & testing