

Morris James LLP

Company: Morris James LLP

Industry: Legal

Headquarters: Delaware (USA)

Solution

- EMC Proven™ Solution, EMC VMware for Exchange
- EMC RepliStor
- EMC NetWorker for Microsoft Applications
- EMC CLARiiON CX3 model 20

Deployment Environment

- Microsoft Exchange 2007 and 2003
- VMware Infrastructure, VMware ESX Server 3.5, VMware Virtual Center 2.5

“EMC RepliStor is a terrific product. It has simplified my offsite disaster recovery implementation. Also, failing over is very simple, and failing back is just as easy. In the legal industry, e-mail is the most critical data. EMC RepliStor’s Exchange module has made realtime replication a breeze. The replication speeds are extremely fast in our VMware environment.”

Christopher J. Kudlick
Senior Network Engineer
Morris James LLP

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Morris James LLP virtualizes its IT environment with Microsoft Exchange and VMware while deploying disaster recovery and added value to the business

Company Profile

Morris James is a multi-specialty law firm headquartered in Wilmington, Delaware with additional offices in Newark and Dover, Delaware. With over 50 lawyers, attorneys work across legal disciplines and use the depth of their collective knowledge of Delaware law and their daily experiences in Delaware courts to provide clients with creative solutions and outstanding service.

Challenge

When the firm sought to reduce costs while enabling growth, it looked at virtualization. Virtualizing their IT environment would enable this busy law firm to grow without the need to expand to a larger footprint. An added benefit included expanding their current disaster recovery strategy that has been part of the long-term business plan.

Solution

To address these issues, Morris James deployed four servers with VMware® ESX Server™ 3.5, one server with VMware Virtual Center 2.5, and one server with EMC® NetWorker® 7.4. On the four ESX Servers, Morris James runs approximately 50 virtual machines with a mixture of Microsoft Windows 2003/2008 servers. The four ESX Servers and the NetWorker server connect to the EMC storage using redundant 4 GB fiber links through two redundant Brocade SAN switches. The EMC NetWorker 7.4 server handles the daily backups to disk and to tape. An EMC CLARiiON® CX3-20 with approximately 5 TBs of storage supports their consolidation and virtualization needs.

“VMware has provided us with a really flexible and robust infrastructure. We can now deploy new servers and applications in minutes rather than days and routine management is so much simpler. By leveraging the benefits of virtualization, we have been able to start working on new initiatives that we would never previously have been able to consider,” said Christopher J. Kudlick, Senior Network Engineer, Morris James LLP.

Highlights

- Reduced downtime due to hardware failure and maintenance
- Transformed IT infrastructure and enabled virtualized disaster recovery deployment
- Enabled the migration to Microsoft Exchange without downtime by having been fully tested in a virtualized environment and minimizing the likelihood of post-conversion issues

Results

Consolidating to a VMware-based EMC SAN not only provided tangible data center efficiencies, but also an infrastructure for Morris James to deploy future user-enhanced services such as EMC RepliStor®-based disaster recovery and seamless, non-disruptive application upgrades. The ease of deployment enabled acceleration of their disaster recovery expansion from 2009 into 2008.