Tekno boosts IT efficiency with a virtualized environment based on Dell EMC hyper-converged technologies.

Business needs
Tekno group needed to update its technologies, improving the performance and high availability, within a cost benefit suitable to the economic scenario of big challenges.

Solutions at a glance
- Dell EMC VxRail

Business results
- Improves storage capacity and scalability

Increases in IT system performance
Cuts SAP processing time
Tekno Group, a Brazilian manufacturer of pre-painted metal materials, has enjoyed considerable success since its founding in 1939. The company now sells many popular coil coating products throughout Brazil.

But the country is facing economic challenges, and Tekno is struggling to maintain its competitiveness. “Brazil is going through a political crisis, and this really affects the national economy,” says Felipe Carvalho, the group’s IT manager. As a result, Tekno has had to cut costs while continuing to provide the same level of service to customers. “Our main challenge was to maintain performance and high availability of the technologies that support our company. We knew that one of the ways to do this was to invest in a high-tech, cost-effective solution to improve the performance of our internal IT systems,” says Carvalho. These systems include SAP applications, communication tools, information security applications and other solutions that are essential to the company’s operations.

In addition to improving application performance, Tekno needed to evaluate its aging IT infrastructure. “We had to think about a data center refresh,” Carvalho says.

Upgrading the data center with a Dell EMC hyper-converged solution

Tekno chose to upgrade its data center by implementing Dell EMC storage technologies. “We had purchased Dell hardware since 2003, and we had worked on large-scale projects with EMC,” Carvalho says. “We have a lot of trust in Dell EMC technologies.”

Tekno decided to work with Rationale, a long-time technology partner, to implement a virtualized IT infrastructure based on Dell EMC VxRail all-flash hyper-converged infrastructure appliances, supporting the existing Tekno VMware virtualized environment. Dell EMC VxRail appliances integrate a software-defined approach for storage, compute, management, orchestration and data protection. “Rationale broadly understands our technology scenario, and so it’s completely able to support us in this project,” says Carvalho. “Also, we chose the Dell EMC VxRail solution to improve our performance and overall technology environment.” The new solution supports the company’s strategic internal business applications, including SAP. “All our solutions are virtualized using VMware and are set up under the VxRail solution,” says Carvalho.

“We gained significant performance benefits when we upgraded our data center with the Dell EMC VxRail solution. Overall, our applications are performing much better today.”

Felipe Carvalho
IT Manager, Tekno
Boosts system performance, cuts SAP processing time

Tekno has improved the performance of its IT environment through the deployment of its new hyper-converged solution. “We gained significant performance benefits when we upgraded our data center with the Dell EMC VxRail solution,” says Carvalho. “Overall, our applications are performing much better today. Our system processing times have been reduced, which means that the company can perform some tasks faster.”

Increases system productivity

The company’s IT system performance improvement is also directly contributing to improving operational support. “We have seen significant performance gains for applications around operations, information systems, report viewing and the factory floor by deploying the Dell EMC VxRail appliances,” Carvalho says.

With the increase in productivity, Tekno expects to become more competitive in the long term. “As we increase productivity through the performance we’re getting from the Dell EMC VxRail solution, our company becomes more competitive,” says Carvalho. “Even though we have gone through restructuring because of the economic crisis, we know we will be more competitive than ever when the market heats up again.”

“Our scalability is much greater, because the solution is ready for expansion at any time, without affecting the operation.”

Felipe Carvalho
IT Manager, Tekno
Simplifies IT management, improves disaster recovery capabilities

The Tekno IT team can more easily manage its systems and applications now, thanks to the integrated storage, compute and management in its new solution. “Everything is consolidated and unified with Dell EMC VxRail, so management is greatly simplified,” says Carvalho. “That made our team more productive. Even with only a third of the team, we can still efficiently run the company’s IT operations.”

Tekno Group has also enhanced its disaster recovery capabilities by facilitating more redundancy. “In our new data center, we have higher application availability, and we can fail over to a secondary data center in a few seconds if we need to,” Carvalho says.

Scaling to meet future growth

With this solution, the organization is also prepared to expand its storage and computing capacity to keep pace with future business growth. "Our scalability is much greater, because the solution is ready for expansion at any time, without affecting the operation," notes Carvalho. "In the next few years, we will continue to work with Dell EMC and Rationale to foster the solution’s growth according to the needs of the company.”