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C-EDGE

Dell EMC XtremIO boosts banking system performance and improves customer satisfaction

BANKING SERVICES PROVIDER FACED STORAGE CHALLENGES RELATED TO GROWTH

C-Edge Technologies Ltd. (C-Edge) provides a core banking platform in a Software as a Service (SaaS) model to banks and other financial institutions in India and abroad. The volume of data involved in this endeavor is huge and has been growing rapidly in the last two to three years.

"On one hand, our customers are providing additional services to their customers," says Sunil Singh, Head DC-Infrastructure (Server, Storage, and Database) at C-Edge. "On the other, their account holders are increasing multifold."

As a part of its organizational data policy, C-Edge needs to maintain two copies of the entire data set for each bank that it serves. Copy data management had become overly complicated, to the point where the company was looking for a better approach.

Another major storage-related challenge facing C-Edge was end-of-day (EoD) batch processing on the core banking systems. It was taking so long that it was severely impacting end-of-month (EoM) report generation for each of the banks.

"This is a critical report for our customers as it gives them a snapshot of their business for that month. It has to be generated and shared by the first of every month," says Sunil. In the previous infrastructure, this report was not made available before the third of the month. "To improve this, we made it our goal to reduce the daily batch processing time by 50 percent," Sunil adds.

Another issue for C-Edge is that it needs to keep headroom in its storage infrastructure. This is for insurance in external situations that are not under its control.

"For instance, in June 2014, the division of the state of Andhra Pradesh resulted in one of the largest state run banks being split in two," explains Sunil. "The requirements for space and transaction processing virtually doubled."

ALL-FLASH IS THE WAY FORWARD

The company was finding it increasingly difficult to manage capacity needs and to achieve the fast, predictable system performance its customers were demanding. "Even with our existing high-end flash-based solutions in the data center, the core applications needed better performance," says Sunil.

As customers' workloads increased over time, the traditional method to maintain system performance was by sourcing plenty of storage arrays. This was not a feasible option for C-Edge as it hosts its servers in a third-party data center and wanted to optimally utilize the existing racks.

ESSENTIALS

Industry
Information Technology

Company Size
More than 1,000 employees

Customer Base
More than 160 banks

Business Challenges

- Business growth strained application performance and demanded ever-increasing storage capacity

- End-of-day batch processing and end-of-month report generation processes were taking too long

- Copy data management processes were too complicated

- Storage footprint in third-party data center kept expanding

Results

- Achieved 10 times data reduction

- Reduced EoD batch processing time by 50 percent

- Enabled generation of EoM report on first day of each month

- Simplified and optimized copy management process

- Reduced data center footprint

Solutions

- EMC XtremIO All-Flash Array

Sunil recognized that with the traditional approach, the company would head down an unsustainable path. Instead, he wanted a storage solution that could substantially boost performance and scale, all in a reduced footprint and at a reasonable cost.

Intrigued by flash storage as a way to increase I/O performance while reducing array footprint, C-Edge decided to investigate all-flash storage solutions.

C-Edge evaluated flash storage arrays from Dell EMC, IBM, and HP. After carefully considering these options, the company deployed the Dell EMC XtremIO all-flash scale-out enterprise storage array to deliver massive I/O performance for its core banking solution.

"Although the EoD report performance was comparable in the storage arrays of all three vendors, none could match the data reduction capabilities, copy data management processes, and the performance of XtremIO," says Sunil.

10 TIMES DATA REDUCTION HALTS DATA CENTER EXPANSION

C-Edge's IT team has been amazed by XtremIO's small form factor, which is packed with unprecedented performance, data reduction capabilities, integrated copy data management, and extraordinary ease of setup and use.

With XtremIO, C-Edge has been able to reduce the data center footprint and power consumption as it utilized its existing racks in the data center.

"The data reduction capability of XtremIO is magical," says Sunil. "We can store 60 TB of data in just about 6 TB of physical space— a 10 times data reduction."

C-Edge has also been able to consolidate user acceptance testing (UAT) and production data on XtremIO without any impact on system performance.

"The greatest benefit we have realized from the XtremIO system is the ability to serve our end customers as fast as possible, and with no downtime, for EoD batch processing and EoM report generation."

Sunil Singh
Head DC-Infrastructure (Server, Storage and Database), C-Edge Technologies Ltd.

CUSTOMERS BENEFIT FROM SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE

At C-Edge, the main benefit of XtremIO has been to super-accelerate EoD and EoM jobs. "The greatest benefit we have realized from the XtremIO system is the ability to serve our customers as fast as possible, and with no downtime, for EoD batch processing and end-of-month report generation," says Sunil.

An optimized copy data management approach using XtremIO has helped reduce EoD batch processing time by 50 percent. "XtremIO eliminated the clone synchronization time required in traditional storage arrays," Sunil explains.

With the significant improvement in EoD process, C-Edge can now generate and share the EoM report with its end customers on the first of every month. "Thanks to XtremIO, both EoD and EoM report generation processes run in parallel—quite unthinkable in the earlier infrastructure," Sunil adds.

XtremIO also enabled C-Edge to complete the interest calculation procedure on the first day of every month. "Earlier, we had to run the interest calculation process on the last day of the current month," he notes.

Company Overview

C-Edge Technologies Ltd. is a leading technology and infrastructure service provider to financial institutions in India and abroad. By leveraging the domain expertise of both parent companies and addressing major technology needs of the financial institutions, C-Edge provides transformational capability to the financial services market across the globe.

ALL-FLASH IS A STORAGE GAME CHANGER

XtremIO has made life much easier at C-Edge, starting with the overall reduction in the complexity of the environment. "The inline deduplication provided by XtremIO, coupled with as much I/O as you'd want, has made our lives much simpler," says Sunil.

With XtremIO, C-Edge gained the ability to achieve great ROI while improving the overall service it gives to its end customers.

"XtremIO is a complete game changer in terms of how we actually operate and run storage at an entire enterprise level," says Sunil. "With sufficient storage bandwidth, we plan to offer more business services to our customers in the near future."

CONTACT US

To learn more, contact your local representative or authorized reseller.

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