



Arrow Energy powers up IT for the future

Success with HPE 3PAR storage leads to a complete HPE data centre transformation

Objective

Migrate and update data centre to handle future growth requirements

Approach

Reviewed solutions from multiple suppliers, including a comprehensive business capability statement

IT Matters

- Improved responsiveness of applications
- Delivered flexibility for catering for future application and storage requirements
- Reduced IT management overheads through utilisation of HPE services

Business Matters

- Enabled organisation to confidently support current business requirements and future expansion
- Allowed Arrow Energy to get back to focusing on its business, not on managing its IT infrastructure
- Delivered infrastructure upgrade with minimal disruption to the business



Faced with the need to migrate and update its data centre, Arrow Energy chose HPE 3PAR StoreServ storage to deliver the capacity and flexibility it needed. Success with 3PAR led Arrow Energy to also select Hewlett Packard Enterprise technology for its server and end-user needs, all delivered by HPE through a turnkey implementation service with 24 hour ongoing monitoring and management using HPE Critical Watch Center.

Challenge

Preparing for rapid growth

Arrow Energy is one of Australia's leading integrated energy companies. Wholly owned by two of the world's largest oil and gas companies, Shell and PetroChina, its core business is focused on the exploration, extraction and use of coal seam gas, which is a naturally occurring process that produces a comparatively clean burning gas which is commonly used to fuel electricity generation.

Rapid growth, including a proposed liquefied natural gas facility in Queensland with its resulting demand for new IT projects, presented Arrow Energy with the challenge of needing to relocate its data centre to larger premises. That led Arrow Energy to survey the market to find a storage partner that could deliver flexible options for its highly virtualised environment.

“It’s a good partnership with Hewlett Packard Enterprise. They understand where we want to get to and help us get there and they are very professional and easy to deal with.”

– Edmund Lim, technology architect, Arrow Energy

“We were also due to refresh our IT data centre,” says Edmund Lim, technology architect at Arrow Energy. “So we took this opportunity to not just relocate the data centre but refresh the whole ICT infrastructure as well.”

Solution

Storage is just the beginning

Lim says one of his key requirements for storage was multi-tenancy and that led him to investigate HPE 3PAR StoreServ storage.

“The ability to have one consolidated infrastructure interested me,” Lim says. “We never know what is going to happen in the future. There may be PetroChina Systems or Shell Systems that need to leverage our infrastructure.”

The need for persistent storage was also something that appealed to Arrow Energy and was something Lim knew would be delivered with HPE 3PAR StoreServ storage.

“We are trying to build something for the future,” adds Lim.

Another benefit was HPE 3PAR StoreServ Adaptive Optimization Software, which delivers service level optimisation for virtual and cloud data centres to reduce cost and risk while increasing agility.

“We have a lot of applications that are pretty random in their activity and adaptive optimisation and the ability to scale between three tiers of storage was one of the few reasons that we chose HPE 3PAR StoreServ,” adds Lim.



As part of its response HPE delivered a comprehensive business capability study that outlined the full extent of technology and service solutions that it could offer Arrow Energy.

This lined up with the company's own desire to reduce its focus on managing its IT infrastructure in favour of handing much of that work to a third party supplier. This led to the selection of HPE as the key supplier of server infrastructure within the new data centre, being the lead supplier for a subsequent refresh of its desktop and notebook fleet.

Furthermore, HPE was chosen by Arrow Energy to deliver the upgrade as a turnkey solution and to provide ongoing management and monitoring via its Critical Watch service.

To ensure the management and stability of its new environment, Arrow Energy selected HPE Proactive Care Service, which gives Arrow Energy access to advanced HPE technical expertise, proactive activities to help prevent problems from occurring, and rapid support for hardware and software to help quickly achieve return on their IT investment.

Benefit

Improved performance and management

Since implementing HPE 3PAR StoreServ Lim says he has witnessed improvements of between 50 and 100 per cent in performance across a number of Arrow Energy's applications.

"Some mining applications which used to take quite a while are up to 1.5 times faster," Lim says. "Microsoft® SharePoint is also a lot more responsive now that we have moved into the new storage system."

Lim says the entire migration has been delivered with minimal disruption to the business, thanks to utilisation of a HPE turnkey implementation. Ongoing service is provided via HPE Matrix Operating Environment Software for managing Arrow Energy's heavily-virtualised server environment and HPE Critical Watch Center services provide continuous remote monitoring, notification, escalation, vendor dispatch, performance reporting and administration of IT infrastructure and processes.

Customer at a glance

Hardware

- HPE BladeSystem c7000 Enclosure with Gen8 Blade Servers
- HPE 3PAR StoreServ V400
- HPE ProLiant DL360 Gen8 SIM Servers
- HPE ProLiant DL360 Gen8 Media Agent backup servers
- HPE Brocade 8/80 SAN Switches
- HPE MSL8096 Tape Backup
- HPE StoreOnce 4430 Backup Appliance

Software

- HPE Data Protector
- VMware SRM & vCenter

HPE services

- HPE Proactive Care Service
- HPE Matrix Operating Environment
- Turnkey Implementation Service
- Critical Watch service for 24 x 7 monitoring and management of the IT environment

“We try to let the experts manage our infrastructure, which is why we engaged Hewlett Packard Enterprise end-to-end.”

– Edmund Lim, technology architect, Arrow Energy

By engaging HPE to deliver these services, Arrow Energy can now direct its efforts in focusing on its core business, with HPE having delivered a solid, robust technology platform that is fully-supported and monitored on a 24 hour basis.

“It’s a good partnership with HPE. They understand where we want to get to and help us to get there. They are very professional and easy to deal with,” adds Lim. “We try to let the experts manage our infrastructure which is why we engaged HPE from end-to-end.”

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