

Aviza Technology supports global operations with Oracle EBS on IBM System x



Overview

■ **Challenge**

To resolve systems reliability and performance issues and migrate the company's global IT infrastructure across one common, universal platform

■ **Solution**

Migration of Oracle E-Business Suite and Oracle Database to a high-end IBM System x™ solution with IBM System Storage™ N5200

■ **Key Benefits**

Improved systems availability and performance while enabling new levels of IT flexibility

Running a global business is no small feat in today's competitive environment. But Aviza Technology has been rising to the challenge since its founding in 2003. With approximately 700 employees worldwide, Aviza designs, manufactures, sells and supports advanced semiconductor equipment and technologies for the global semiconductor industry.

"Our biggest challenge is serving the world 24x7 with reliable hardware and software," says Dale Spencer, vice president of information technology and corporate services at Aviza. From the company's headquarters in Scotts Valley, CA, Aviza provides IT services to offices in 9 countries across Europe and Asia.

Aviza had been running Oracle E-Business Suite (EBS) on Sun Solaris-based systems, but end-of-life issues began affecting the company's ability to meet its service and availability goals. "We started having some errors and unexpected failures that resulted in downtime," Spencer explains. "When you have a worldwide business, you have to resolve these issues around the clock."

A cost-effective solution

Aviza was looking for a cost-effective solution that would resolve the reliability issues, provide better performance and enable new levels of flexibility across the company's global IT infrastructure. To meet those goals, the company chose an IBM solution that includes IBM System x3850 and System x3950 servers with the high-end IBM X3 chipset, and IBM System Storage N5200.

"We evaluated a number of other vendors, but we were concerned about uptime, maintenance and the need for specialized skills," Spencer says.

"We were comfortable working with IBM. They were very informed, and they did a good job of laying out the options for us."

“IBM System x has exceeded our expectations around reliability and performance.”

– Dale Spencer, vice president of information technology and corporate services, Aviza Technology

Aviza has a two-tier Oracle configuration, with the production application running on one x3850 4-socket server and the database running on one x3950 with 16-sockets—both driven by Intel® Xeon® dual-core processors. An N5200 provides 2.4 TB of data storage. The development environment has six test instances running on five x3850 servers, with a second N5200 providing 7.2 TB of data storage. IBM Premier Business Partner Sycomp provided installation and support services.

Exceeding expectations

Aviza saw immediate benefits from the solution; in fact, Spencer reports, “IBM System x has exceeded our expectations around reliability and performance.” Spencer and his team are also pleased with the scalability that the System x technology enables. “We may end up with three or four tiers at some point,” he explains, “and this equipment lends itself to that.”

Spencer says the migration from Sun to IBM System x went extremely well. In addition to migrating from Sun to

IBM and from Solaris 6 to Red Hat Enterprise Linux® 4, Aviza upgraded from Oracle EBS 11.0.3 to 11.5.10 and from Oracle Database 8i to 10g. Aviza runs a full complement of EBS components, including all financials, manufacturing, order management and service modules.

Although the reliability and performance improvements are felt across the company, Aviza’s finance group in particular appreciates the new systems. The department’s monthly cost roll-ups used to take anywhere from eight to 18 hours to run, and now they take less than four.

“We’re getting positive comments from everyone,” Spencer says. “And with the IBM solution, we’re a lot more flexible than we were before.”

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