



Peerless Clothing

Peerless Clothing deployed its SAP* environment on SUSE® Linux Enterprise Server, saving at least \$700,000 compared to the cost of a UNIX-based solution. The company also reduced desktop imaging time by 90 percent with Novell® ZENworks®.

Overview

Founded in 1919, Peerless Clothing, Inc. is the largest domestic producer of men's tailored clothing in North America, producing clothing for designer labels including Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren and TALLIA. The company supplies men's tailored clothing to most every major department and specialty store retailer in the United States.

Challenge

Peerless Clothing has doubled its revenue in the past few years and maintaining its business on UNIX was becoming too costly and inflexible. The company needed a stable and flexible platform to introduce many new SAP applications. Consolidating its IT environment as much as possible would also help reduce maintenance and hardware costs.

With three geographically dispersed locations, the IT staff spent much of its time traveling to other offices to manage and update workstations. Imaging a new machine could take up to four hours and tracking its IT assets was a manual, time consuming process. As a result, centralized desktop management was a top priority for the small IT staff at Peerless Clothing.

Solution

When evaluating platforms for its new SAP business applications, Peerless Clothing considered upgrading its HP-UX* environment

running on RISC hardware or migrating to Linux*. After determining that UNIX* would be cost-prohibitive, the company evaluated Red Hat* and SUSE Linux Enterprise Server before selecting a Novell solution. The company worked with Adaris Technologies, a Novell Gold partner, to implement its Linux solution.

"Moving our UNIX environment to Linux made a lot of sense because our staff didn't require a lot of retraining," said Joffrey Bienvenue, IS Infrastructure and Operations Manager at Peerless Clothing. "We looked at Red Hat Enterprise Linux, but found that SUSE Linux Enterprise Server offers better support for open standards."

Peerless Clothing deployed several of its mission-critical applications on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server, including SAP NetWeaver*, SAP business warehouse applications, SAP Enterprise Portal, SAP Knowledge Management, Novell GroupWise® as well as its shop floor application. Using SUSE Linux Enterprise Server and VMware* for virtualization, the IT staff has consolidated its HP* and IBM* servers tenfold.

"SAP systems require a lot of memory so had we gone with a UNIX-based platform, we would have been forced to make a significant investment in new hardware," said Bienvenue. "SUSE Linux Enterprise Server allows us to leverage inexpensive mid-range

Peerless Clothing at a glance:

Largest domestic producer of men's tailored clothing in North America

■ Industry:

Manufacturing/Distribution

■ Location:

Canada

■ Products and Services:

SUSE Linux Enterprise Server
Novell Open Enterprise Server
Novell ZENworks
Novell ZENworks Linux Management
Novell GroupWise

■ Results:

- Deployed SAP applications on Linux platform, saving at least \$700,000 compared to the cost of a UNIX-based solution
- Consolidated hardware by 90 percent
- Reduced desktop imaging time by 90 percent

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Joffrey Bienvenue

*IS Infrastructure and Operations Manager
Peerless Clothing*



“SUSE Linux Enterprise Server allows us to leverage inexpensive mid-range commodity hardware, and by using VMware to virtualize our Linux servers, we can quickly respond to the needs of the business by adding new servers in no time.”

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With SUSE Linux Enterprise Server, the IT staff now has a solid development platform and can take advantage of open source tools and applications. The company also runs Novell Open Enterprise Server, including Novell iFolder®, Novell iPrint, as well as Novell eGuide which serves as its corporate user directory.

“We are passionate about Novell solutions at Adaris and were excited to help Peerless Clothing in their migration to Linux,” said Jacques Sauve, President of Adaris Technologies. “For mission-critical ERP applications and production environments, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server provides superior uptime and stability for a fraction of the cost of a UNIX solution.”

Using Novell ZENworks, the IT staff has created standard desktop images and can now remotely image machines in just 20 minutes. The IT staff can deliver new applications company-wide in days, rather than weeks, and without having to visit individual workstations.

“We wouldn’t be able to maintain a relatively lean IT staff without Novell ZENworks,” said Bienvenue. “Novell ZENworks helps us keep our desktops more predictable and easier to manage.”

The company also uses Novell ZENworks Linux Management to centrally manage its Linux servers and plans to upgrade to Novell

ZENworks Configuration Management to integrate its desktop and server management.

Novell GroupWise provides a solid collaboration platform and the BlackBerry* Enterprise Server for Novell GroupWise makes it easy for BlackBerry users to stay current with their e-mail and calendars, regardless of their location.

“We hear horror stories from our peers that are managing other collaboration packages, such as Microsoft* Exchange and Lotus Notes*,” said Bienvenue. “Novell GroupWise is stable and requires very little administration.”

Results

By deploying its SAP environment on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server, Peerless Clothing has saved at least \$700,000 compared to the cost of a UNIX solution. By virtualizing its servers, the company has also consolidated its hardware by 90 percent and can deploy new servers in a matter of hours.

Novell ZENworks has reduced desktop imaging time by 90 percent and allows a small IT team to keep pace with the company’s growth. The company estimates that its Novell solution paid for itself in the first six months.

“By leveraging Novell solutions, we’re able to support the company’s growth without having to add additional IT resources or make considerable investments in hardware and software,” said Bienvenue. “SUSE Linux Enterprise Server and Novell ZENworks give us the biggest bang for the buck with all the tools we need to deploy, manage and monitor our IT environment.”



Contact your local Novell Solutions Provider, or call Novell at:

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