

## CASE STUDY

Healthcare

# Virtualisation saves time, money and energy at Northampton General Hospital

“Under the umbrella of Fujitsu, this project has made our lives so much easier”

Mark Gilkes, Northampton General Hospital



### The challenge

The technology estate of Northampton General Hospital (NGH) includes 1500 PCs, 300 laptops, 300 desktop printers, 75 servers and 11 terabytes of storage. As part of ongoing efficiency projects, NGH began to look at the data centre elements of this portfolio.

Initial research suggested three key issues: space within the hospital data centre, energy costs and too much time spent on routine administration tasks.

### Solution

The IT department at NGH compiled a business case for a virtualisation and consolidation project that could deliver savings of over £435,000.

Northampton General Hospital (NGH) is a medium-sized district general hospital, located close to the centre of the town of Northampton. Serving a local population of 360,000, NGH has an annual turnover of more than £170million, over 600 beds and 14 operating theatres.

## Solution components

- 8-10 PRIMERGY blades

## Customer benefits

- Time taken for routine tasks and restoration has drastically reduced
- Significant reduction in energy consumption
- Server builds and re-builds are much faster
- Physical footprint of servers cut within the data centre
- Savings of over £435, 000

### The project

The project was put out to tender via Catalyst system and won by a joint bid from Fujitsu and healthcare specialist Tracline.

Working in association with the procurement team at NGH, the technology department chose Tracline and Fujitsu because of an established relationship and clear added value.

Following a comprehensive system design and specification programme lasting 18 months, implementation began in January 2008.

Mark Gilkes, Northampton General Hospital, who oversaw the project, explains: "At this point we had only had a little exposure to virtualisation and it was clear Fujitsu and Tracline could expand upon that.

### A record of success

Consolidation as a result of virtualisation will cut 75 rack servers to 8 - 10 blades. This will drastically cut the physical footprint of servers within the data centre.

Routine tasks such as changing tapes and back up previously took two or three hours a day. In the case of a server going down, successful system restoration was measured in days. Virtualisation is drastically reducing both of these figures. Server builds and re-builds are much faster, reduced from 14 weeks to two hours.

Mark Gilkes comments: "The productivity benefits of this project are crystal clear – we are looking at gaining an extra man day per week, which means we can spend that time on improving the technology that underpins so much of the patient care here at NGH."

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