

The Japan Research Institute, Ltd.

Business Process Optimization

SPARC Enterprise Adopted as a High Performance Virtualization Platform

Industry	Total Information Services
Hardware	UNIX server SPARC Enterprise M5000 / UNIX server PRIMEPOWER 450, 250 Industry Standard Servers PRIMERGY RX600,RX300 / Disk Storage Systems ETERNUS3000 ETERNUS LT130 Tape Library
Software	SAP ERP 2005

Requirements	Solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Slow system response affecting HR/Accounting operations.■ Inflexibility in dealing with escalating workloads.■ HR/Accounting operations were hindered slow overnight batch processing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Customers appreciated the dramatically improved performance; due to multi-core/multi-thread SPARC64 VI processors.■ Consolidation onto one server, allowed server resources to be upgraded just by adding CPU/memory. With max. 4 hardware partitions and Dynamic Reconfiguration (DR), server resources can be added while the system remains up and running.■ Shorter batch program execution times ensured online transaction processing time. Even at max. workload, batch program execution shrank by 75%. Plus the ETERNUS3000 based data backup is now able to complete after just a few seconds of normal process interruption.

"I value SPARC Enterprise's scalability of up to four independent systems. With such reliable and flexible hardware partitioning, we can adapt to business environment changes, and also flexibly consolidate servers."

For business agility and optimal IT investment, the Japan Research Institute, Ltd. (JRI), a leader in the IT services industry, decided to slim down its business processes. They consolidated their mission critical systems on a SPARC Enterprise M5000 for high performance and scalability.

Installation Background

Optimizing business processes at a knowledge engineering company

Founded over 40 years ago JRI, under its corporate message of "Knowledge Engineering" is a key opinion leader in Japan and continues to develop in three business areas: Think Tank, Consulting Services and Systems Integration.



Fumito Watanabe
Deputy Director
Information Systems Dept.
The Japan Research
Institute, Ltd.

Since joining the major financial holding company, Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG) in 2003, JRI has also been tasked with planning SMFG's IT strategy. To adjust to this new business role, JRI has split itself into a Systems Integration company, known as "Japan Research Institute Solutions", and a Think Tank / Consulting company under

the original company name.

During these business changes, JRI continued to optimize its business processes. This required reconstruction of its mission critical systems.

Fumito Watanabe, Deputy Director of the Information System Dept. talks about the background. "After multiple system extensions our mission critical systems were complex and outdated. As a result, maintenance costs became a heavy burden. Raising business efficiency would give us the chance to shrink server operation costs and broaden system use."

Installation Point

Key to success: High performance and scalability of SPARC Enterprise M5000, and Fujitsu's rich experience in Solaris integration

JRI had three reasons for business process optimization: The first was to slim down its business operations.

"Unifying accounting and HR, in terms of applications and operation, was the key to success. We used standard software functions for unifying accounting and HR. Through such unification, we expected costs reduction in internal operations and system administration," says Mr. Watanabe. The second was to strengthen internal controls.

The third was to reduce risk such as escalating operational costs due to the heavy workloads.

"I had received requests for quicker server response. An outdated system would leave the system at risk. So we decided to upscale the servers," continues Mr. Watanabe.

In implementing the business process optimizations above, JRI stipulated three major platform requirements.

1. Continued use of Solaris in moving from the former servers. This would avoid application migration failure.
2. Improved performance to enable quicker response
3. Server consolidation in line with slimming down the business processes

After through performance and price comparisons, SPARC Enterprise M5000 was chosen as the system platform.

"Fujitsu has rich experience in Solaris integration. I expected higher performance for all application areas to be upgraded. I also expected that the multi-core/multi-threading processor

SPARC64 VI would handle both light and heavy workloads swiftly. Due to Fujitsu's rich expertise with mainframes I also had confidence that SPARC Enterprise would have the right performance even for high back-end system processing," says Mr. Watanabe.

Fumito Watanabe also thinks platform scalability was a decisive point in the server consolidation.

"I value SPARC Enterprise scalability of up to four independent systems. With the reliable and flexible hardware partitioning, we can adapt to business environment changes, and also consolidate servers flexibly."

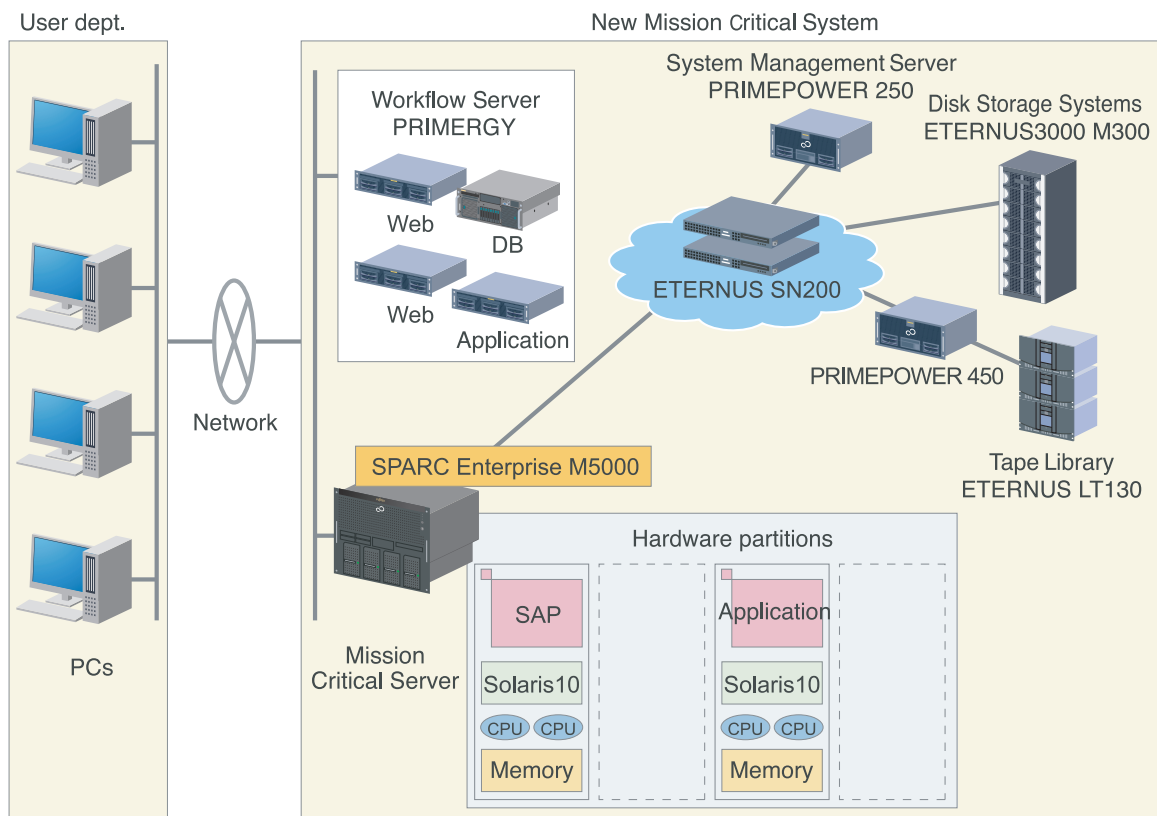


Katsuyuki Hosoda
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System Development
Dept 5
Development Group 2
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Installation Process

Key to success : Harmony of development and operation teams

The project took two years in two stages. In the first year, JRI upgraded the platform temporarily to a PRIMEPOWER 450 to improve performance. In the second year, a SPARC Enterprise M5000 was introduced for business process optimization. To succeed with this project in such a short



period, JRI formed a tight collaboration between all teams on the project.

Project manager Katsuyuki Hosoda, talks about the key points of success. Specifically the tight collaboration between the development and operation teams. "As a first step, we drew a line on the roles and responsibilities of each platform development and operation team. This project included accounting, HR, workflow, and other applications. Leaders of the specific development teams and the operation team continuously communicated on how best to achieve the solution. Requests from operation and development teams were responded swiftly with alternative measures and proposals. Through frank, professional and cost-conscious discussions the development and operation teams built solid relationships and shared goals for success of the project."

Reliability of the SPARC Enterprise M5000 was essential for an on-time launch. On this Mr. Hosoda comments. "During development, platform problems never happened, so we were able to pour all our energies into development. The platform's performance and reliability added to the efforts and skill of the development teams, and was an important factor in the timely success of the project."

Shimpei Yamane from the Information System Dept adds. "I appreciated the support from Fujitsu and Fujitsu FSAS in upgrading to Solaris 10 and related validation tests."

Further development

Increased investment effect from server consolidation

On April 2008, the new mission critical system went live using the consolidation server, SPARC Enterprise M5000, with secure and reliable storage consolidation provided by ETERNUS3000, and an ETERNUS LT130 tape backup device. Just three months after system commencement, JRI were convinced of their success.

Shimpei Yamane states. "I heard from the operation teams that server response had improved. Overnight batch processing times had been reduced by 75%, so daytime online transaction processing was never affected by batch programs. Plus data backup completed in just a few seconds due to the Advanced Copy functions of ETERNUS3000. Overall the burden on system administrator was especially reduced. We now expect to flexibly scale-up the system using Dynamic Reconfiguration to reassign CPU and

memory resources while in the server is in operation."

Mr. Hosoda gives his perspective on this project. "While HR operations have become easier with the new system, I know there is still room for improvement and lots left to be done with this first project. We must review the functions already delivered

and then tackle enhancements. Based on a solid relationship, the development and operation teams can continue to improve the system together."

Mr. Watanabe gives his perspective on the platform. "We have created a server consolidation platform. We must make the most use of it and shrink costs as we go forward together."

The Project was called VEGA an acronym which expressed the win as a shared Victory by Equal Goals All. Using such goal sharing, JRI expects to continue its forward progress with the support of Fujitsu and SPARC Enterprise.



Shimpei Yamane
Information System Dept.
The Japan Research
Institute, Ltd.

Customer Profile



The Japan Research Institute, Ltd.

Address : 16 Ichiban-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0082, Japan
Established : 20th Feb. 1969
Capital : 10 billion yen
Employees : 1,800 (4,700 Consolidated)
Business
Details : Systems Integration
(for SMFG, and other credit card companies)
Consulting services and Think Tank
(Research, policy proposals and business planning)

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