

Case study

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)



The Customer

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) was established in 1931 as the School of Agriculture. The school was located on a 220 acre property in Serdang, and offered two programs; a three year diploma, and a one-year certificate course in Agriculture. In 1947, the school was renamed the College of Agriculture Malaya by the then Governor of the Malayan Union. The establishment of Universiti Pertanian Malaysia came about when the College of Agriculture in Serdang merged with the Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti of Malaya. Dr Mohd Rashdan bin Haji Baba, the then principal of the College of Agriculture Malaya, was appointed as the first Vice-Chancellor of the new combined organization. With the first intake of 1,559 students, Univerisiti Pertanian Malaysia had its first academic semester in July 1973 involving three central faculties and one basic division: the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences, Faculty of Forestry, Faculty of Agriculture, and Division of Foundation Studies. In the early 1980s, UPM extended its area of studies to include Science and Technology (S&T). In 1997, the Univerisiti Pertanian Malaysia's name was again changed to Univeristi Putra Malaysia by former Prime Minister, Tun Dr Mahatir Mohammad. This was to more accurately represent UPM as a centre for higher education, especially in science and information technology, facilitating national development in the new millennium.

The Customer

Country: Malaysia
 Industry: Education
 Founded: 1931



The Challenge

- Need for flexible, secure and reliable access to accounting services
- Migrate off unreliable legacy system
- Reduce operational costs including maintenance
- Implement high performance and highly reliably mission critical infrastructure

The Solution

- Migrate SAGA database to a comprehensive Fujitsu infrastructure solution
- Efficient and streamlined system operation
- WinTel (windows and Intel) based servers

The Challenge

As one of Malaysia's largest users of Standard Accounting for Government Agencies (SAGA), UPM maintains a strong focus on ensuring the university's staff and students have the necessary access to accounting services. Regarded as customers, the staff and students require around the clock IT support and a secure environment to update the relevant financial and audit information in SAGA.

As such, providing access to all key university systems from any location, at any time, on any device, in a highly secured manner became a significant challenge for the information service department of the university. In addition UPM decided to move away from the legacy system that the SAGA software was running on, due to its unreliability and high operational costs. The decision was made to rip out the legacy servers and migrate the SAGA application to a complete Fujitsu solution combining PRIMEQUEST and PRIMERGY servers.

The Benefit

- Reinforce reliability of mission critical infrastructure
- Improve efficiency and cost performance of servers
- Expand staff and student access to accounting systems
- Increase security of confidential data
- Reduce operational and maintenance costs

The Solution

The SAGA system handles a tremendous number of transactions daily from concurrent users. UPM needed a system that could handle this efficiently without fighting for resources or becoming sluggish. The SAGA system is essential for the university to function effectively and is relied on by students and staff to perform vital electronic accounting tasks including e-university (e-forms), asset management and mobile cash billing.

UPM consulted with a number of vendors to address the challenge and where impressed with the level of commitment Fujitsu demonstrated and the high level of reliability built into Fujitsu technology. In combination with Fujitsu's SELECT partner, Fujitsu put together a solution that really impressed UPM. Fujitsu and the SELECT Partner discussed directly with the university MIS team the need to migrate their entire legacy system to an open source environment, allowing them to lower the costs associated with migration and maintenance. The solution would combine the capabilities of; Fujitsu PRIMEQUEST 1800E2, Fujitsu PRIMERGY CX400S1 Multi-Node Server Enclosure, Fujitsu PRIMERGY CX250S1 Dual Socket Server Node, Fujitsu PRIMERGY BX900S2 Blade Server and Fujitsu PRIMERGY BX920S3 Dual Socket Server Blade, to deliver a comprehensive outcome.

Leveraging a collection of whitepapers and benchmark data Fujitsu demonstrated how robust the systems could be and UPM was pleasantly satisfied with the results.

Furthermore with the Fujitsu systems inbuilt Intel® Xeon® processors, the solution was able to easily meet the university's requirements for reliability and price performance.

The Benefit

By migrating from the legacy system, UPM was able to construct a platform that would improve the reliability of one of their most important mission critical systems. With the new Fujitsu infrastructure in place, UPM realized twice the performance of the previous servers, delivering a greater return on investment by allowing the universities systems to be more efficiently and securely accessed. UPM also improved staff and student productivity with an increase in reliability and performance, reducing the overall operational expenditure in terms of maintenance and support.

Products and Services

- Fujitsu server PRIMERGY CX400S2x1
- Fujitsu server PRIMERGY CX250S2x3
- Fujitsu server PRIMERGY BX900S2x3, BX920S3x25
- Fujitsu Mission Critical Server PRIMEQUEST 1800E2x3

Conclusion



PRIMEQUEST 1800E2



PRIMERGY CX400 S2



PRIMERGY BX920 S3

UPM was very pleased with Fujitsu's commitment towards the whole process and were amazed at how easily they worked with the university's MIS team. Fujitsu delivered on all of UPM's expectations, and are confident of the great relationship they will share with Fujitsu moving forward.

About Fujitsu

Fujitsu is the leading Japanese information and communication technology (ICT) company offering a full range of technology products, solutions and services. Approximately 170,000 Fujitsu people support customers in more than 100 countries. We use our experience and the power of ICT to shape the future of society with our customers. Fujitsu Limited (TSE:6702) reported consolidated revenues of 4.4 trillion yen (US\$47 billion) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2013.

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