Moore Concepts

◥◣ VISION®
S O L U T I O N S

"Double-Take Move shrank what would have been a 10 to 15 person-hour migration job to less than one hour, reducing costs from about $2,000 to $200."

— Matt Keynon, IT Consultant.

Project Background

Moore Concepts is an information technology consulting company. One of its services is to help clients to migrate servers. Since it provides these services to a variety of clients, Moore must perform a mix of physical-to-virtual and virtual-to-virtual migrations between varied source and target server platforms. Consequently, the tools and techniques it uses must be flexible enough to handle the diversity of platforms.

Business Challenges

The traditional way to migrate a server is to offload an image of the old server and load it unto the new one. This consumes considerable labor, requires significant downtime and is an error-prone process. Furthermore, it is particularly difficult to move images of VMware virtual servers to a Scale Computing platform, which is a frequent requirement for Moore Concepts.

Moore needed a tool that would automate and simplify the job, thereby significantly reducing the cost, while virtually eliminating the possibility of human error. More importantly, the solution had to minimize the downtime that Moore Concept's clients would incur during the migrations.

Company name:
Moore Concepts, L.L.C.

Headquarters:
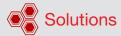The Woodlands, Texas, United States

Industry:
Information Technology

Business environment:
- Employees: <10
- Provides hosting, colocation and IT consulting services to small and medium-sized companies.

Implementation team:
Matt Kenyon and Vision Solutions

Solutions

Moore Concepts now uses Double-Take Move to facilitate migrations.

Double-Take Move copies the entire server, including all data, registry settings and applications from a production server to another server—even if the two use different hypervisors, cloud management layers, storage or hardware. What's more, it doesn't matter if the source and target systems are virtual servers, physical servers, cloud servers or a mix of the three.

Double-Take Move works in the background. While it copies data and applications, users can continue work as normal. Data changes applied while the migration is ongoing are captured automatically and sent to the new server. Once the initial synchronization is complete, Moore or its clients can perform the cutover when it is convenient and without need for a final synchronization. When the new server assumes the production role, the only downtime is the few minutes required to perform the switch.

Matt Kenyon, an IT consultant subcontracted by Moore Concepts, had performed as many as 10 migrations with Double-Take Move. It took only about 10 minutes to install the software on each machine. He completed the installations on his own and required only minimal support from Vision Solutions.

As Double-Take Move automates the migration process, what would have required 10 to 15 employee hours took only about one labor hour or less. The software performs the migration in the background without the need for manual intervention, leaving Kenyon free to perform other work.

Using Double-Take Move, "takes less than 20 minutes per server and it's all automatic," said Kenyon. "It's well worth the money."

Kenyon also found the support available from Vision Solutions to be, "excellent. I spoke to two people at Vision. They were both very knowledgeable. My issue was resolved without having to be escalated. After one conversation I knew all of the technical details of how it worked. The knowledge transfer was excellent."

Results

- Automates migrations and minimizes migration downtime.
- Eliminates the possibility of human errors.
- Shrinks a 10 to 15 person-hour job to one hour, reducing labor costs by 90 percent or more.

Technologies

Software:
- Double-Take Move
- Windows Server 2003 & 2008 R2

Hardware:
- Dell servers
- Scale Computing

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For more information: 1 (800) 957-4511   •   info@visionsolutions.com   •   visionsolutions.com