case STUDY

TRAVIS CREDIT UNION

Client: Travis Credit Union

Industry: Financial Services

Technologies: Oracle® RAC
Oracle® Data Guard
Microsoft® SQL Server™
VMware® SRM™

Challenge:
TCU needed to update and consolidate their critical systems in order to gain a complete picture of their members in order to fully understand and support those members' needs.

Solution:
TCU engaged with House of Brick to provide best practices and reference architecture for running Oracle RAC workloads on VMware infrastructure to create a highly available environment for their core systems.

TCU partnered with House of Brick to take advantage of their Managed Consulting Services. First, the House of Brick MCS team worked with the TCU team on the implementation of VMware Site Recovery Manager (SRM). TCU also engaged the MCS team to provide a comprehensive health check of their core environments including their database, virtualization, and hardware/storage layers.

Results:
TCU consolidated their business applications and now has a very stable, high performing platform from which to manage and provide their member services. This allows a truly holistic view of their members' data and interactions with TCU, which in turn allows them to be better advocates and offer an enhanced member experience.

TCU Consolidates Systems and Significantly Improves Stability and Performance

The Company

Travis Credit Union (TCU), one of the United State's largest credit unions, has been successfully serving its members since 1951. TCU, which serves 177,000 members worldwide, is among the top 100 credit unions in the US and currently has assets totaling more $2.5 billion. TCU is a leading financial institution in Solano, Merced, Yolo, Napa and Contra Costa counties, and has 23 branches serving 12 counties in Northern California.

The Challenge

Travis Credit Union used a model of searching out the best of breed solutions for various disciplines within their organization. So while they were using top technologies, over time this method led to a complex environment that required more and more time spent integrating these systems and less time evaluating the data from a holistic perspective. This made it difficult to get a truly complete picture of a member, therefore making it more difficult to fully understand, and truly support, their members' needs.

With an emphasis in delivering the best customer service and suite of financial services to their members Travis Credit Union needed to modernize its infrastructure and applications. Therefore, TCU began an extensive effort to upgrade several critical applications. One of the main criteria for this new integrated system was that it needed to be Oracle based in order to leverage their existing investments in a strong, virtualized Oracle infrastructure.

The Solution

Travis Credit Union chose House of Brick because of their breadth of experience with virtualized Oracle systems, their work with emerging technologies and relevant techniques, and their philosophy of acting as a partner who offers knowledge transfer and mentoring to their clients.

TCU partnered with House of Brick Technologies to develop a reference architecture that would position the company to leverage an existing investment in virtualization, with a focus on reliability and scalability.

They decided on a suite of powerful applications to meet their needs: Oracle RAC on VMware (vSphere), EMC storage, and VMware Site Recovery Manager for disaster preparedness.

House of Brick
TECHNOLOGIES

> *While we rely heavily on our highly talented internal team, the deep pool of exceptional resources that HoB brings to bear provides a great breadth of expertise to our resource arsenal. We have a very powerful, robust, and intelligent team supporting our critical operating environments.*
>
> **Craig Beaudry**
> **VP, Enterprise Applications**

During their first engagement, TCU engaged with House of Brick to provide best practices and reference architecture for running Oracle RAC workloads on VMware infrastructure to create a highly available environment for their core systems.

Capitalizing on the success of this initial project, TCU partnered with HoB to take advantage of their Managed Consulting Services. The House of Brick MCS team worked with the TCU team on the implementation of VMware Site Recovery Manager (SRM). During this time, TCU also engaged the MCS team to provide a comprehensive health check of their core environments including their Oracle and SQL Server database, virtualization, and hardware/storage layers.

House of Brick's MCS team has been pivotal in facilitating TCU's optimization and protection of their database and virtualization layers and in providing education and mentoring for the TCU team.

The Results

TCU consolidated their business applications and now has a very stable, high performing platform from which to manage and provide their member services. This allows a truly holistic view of their members' data and interactions with TCU, which in turn allows them to be better advocates and offer an enhanced member experience.

"Through our ongoing partnership with House of Brick's Managed Consulting Services, we are improving our internal expertise, which will enable us to sustain and improve our environment as we continue to move forward," said Craig Beaudry, VP, Enterprise Applications.

WHY VIRTUALIZE BCS?

Below are seven reasons why you should consider virtualizing your Business Critical Systems (BCS).

1. Cost Reduction
2. Optimize Licenses
3. High Availability
4. Near 100% Reliable Disaster Recoverability
5. Product Development Process Optimization
6. Test/QA Process Improvement
7. Security Considerations

VIRTUALIZATION AND CLOUD COMPUTING FOR BUSINESS CRITICAL SYSTEMS

House of Brick is the recognized industry leader in the virtualization of business-critical systems. Having consulted with dozens of the Fortune 500 companies, as well as many SMB enterprises, House of Brick has the experience and expertise to make the virtualization of your business-critical applications and systems successful. House of Brick provides an array of consulting services focused on virtualization and cloud technologies.

The professionals at House of Brick are on top of the latest developments in hardware, software applications, networking and data security.

They can provide comprehensive consulting services and act as mentors to your IT staff, or play a larger role in your daily operations through their Managed Consulting Services program. Whether your needs are immediate and temporary or forward-thinking and long-term, the House of Brick team stands ready to provide the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery services essential to keep your business running.

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T E C H N O L O G I E S