



Server Virtualization Assessment Service

Understand the Feasibility of Server Virtualization:

Commence a strategy to reduce your physical infrastructure, dramatically lower costs. »



Overview

This Server Virtualization Assessment Service is designed to evaluate the impact and feasibility of consolidating server resources into a virtualized infrastructure. It provides the necessary information for an organization to begin to develop a strategy that reduces the physical server farm. A well planned and executed Server Virtualization strategy offers IT and the business unprecedented flexibility in the management of data center assets and provides cost benefits and savings of both physical and human resources.

The Corporate Technologies Server Virtualization Assessment Service evaluates an organization's current server infrastructure to determine the readiness for Virtualization. The assessment is an important step that helps IT determine the feasibility of Server Virtualization within a specific infrastructure environment. It provides a complete evaluation of the cost, benefits and advantages of migrating to a virtualized infrastructure. By analyzing the existing IT environment, Corporate Technologies identifies those IT assets that are candidates for virtualization and provides the guidelines for the move from a physical infrastructure to a more efficient and cost effective virtualized infrastructure.

This assessment is the initial component of the complete Virtualization Solution Suite offered by Corporate Technologies. The Suite includes Server, Desktop, Storage and Networking virtualization services. The Suite provides a full range of assessments, workshops, proofs of concepts, design and architecture assistance, implementation and advanced customization services to help organizations successfully implement a virtualized infrastructure with the highest possible return on the investment.

Customer Benefits

The assessment is an important step that helps IT determine the feasibility of Server Virtualization within a specific infrastructure environment.



Benefits

- › Defines virtualization-ready server assets
- › Estimates potential cost savings of server consolidation
- › Estimates necessary hardware and software requirements
- › Expedites assessment process with Corporate Technologies proven methodologies and experience

Deliverables

Corporate Technologies provides a comprehensive formal document that details server consolidation and virtualization recommendations. We provide recommendations to move forward. The full report includes:

- › A summary of business goals, objectives and findings:
 - Server mapping
 - Assumptions
 - Risks
 - Client specific requirements
 - Resource requirements
- › A description and cost of operating existing environment:
 - Server performance, named servers excluded from consolidation
- › A description and cost of operation for Virtualization scenarios:
 - Forecasts the resultant performance of the target environment after virtualization.
- › A Return on Investment analysis:
 - Quantifies expected payback for proposed virtualization scenarios
- › Architecture recommendations for Server Virtualization:
 - High level architecture of the proposed virtual environment

Requirements

Server Virtualization Assessments are delivered by a Corporate Technologies Senior Solution Architect. Systems engineers can be used to install tools and perform certain analysis functions. The client must have the following for the assessment to move forward:

- › Data Collection Host System:
 - The collector must be hosted on a Windows machine within the company's network that can access target systems for observation and assessment. To discover target machines by using information stored in an Active Directory server, the collector should be installed on a host machine that is within the same domain as the Active

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Directory server. Although every environment is different, a single collector typically uses agent-less discovery to detect and monitor systems. Only one collector can be placed on a host.

› Host System Requirements:

- Windows 2000 (Server or Professional) SP 3, Windows XP Professional, or Windows Server 2003
- Must use the English language version of Windows
- Collectors installed on a Windows XP system on which SP2 is installed, must have the Windows firewall turned off.
- Collectors installed on a Windows 2003 machine, must install the Win32_Product class. This is required to enable the inventory feature to work correctly. Log on as an administrator, and open Add or Remove Programs in the Control Panel. Under Management and Monitoring Tools, look for the WMI Windows Installer Provider.
- WMI (Windows Management Instrumentation) or Remote Registry installed
- Minimum 1000MHz CPU
- Minimum 512MB of RAM
- 2GB of free disk space
- Connection to the Internet with network bandwidth of 20,000 bytes per second during collection
- A current version of MDAC (Microsoft Data Access Components)

Methodology

The Virtualization Impact Assessment for Windows Servers service gathers and analyzes the technical and financial baseline data of an existing server environment and provides the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) comparison of potential virtualization scenarios with the existing environment over the next three fiscal years. The value of server virtualization is based upon the premise that enterprise server virtualization strategies will typically deliver significant cost savings, provide availability and scalability, increase operational efficiency, and service level agreements.

Corporate Technologies Consultants interview the client team to gather business, technical and financial data, which include current Windows Server infrastructure, desired IT environment, growth projections and financial metrics. The agent-less collection module of the data collector toolset is used to gather inventory and performance data on the specific server environment.

Upon completion of the data collection phase, analysis is performed using the capacity planning module of a capacity planner toolset. With the aim of

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decreasing TCO, Corporate Technologies consultants develop virtualization scenarios and explain the technical and financial benefits as they relate to desired business goals. An assessment document, Virtualization Impact Report, describing current and potential virtualization environments is developed and delivered along with a presentation approximately eight weeks after kickoff.

Process

Corporate Technologies will conduct the assessment according to the following process:

- › Pre-engagement Kickoff Meeting:
 - Introduce team and defines roles and responsibilities
 - Schedule start date
 - Review Statement of Work
 - Set expectations and timeline
- › Discovery:
 - Provide a complete review of opportunity
 - Perform Interviews with stakeholders to collect opportunity specific business and financial data
- › Infrastructure Audit and Data Collection:
 - Installation of data collection software and verification of performance data transfer
- › Analysis of Findings:
 - Provide a complete summary of findings
 - Identify all candidates for virtualization
 - Deliver a readiness assessment
 - Define risk areas
 - Summarize high level recommendations and next steps
 - Deliver initial findings
- › Final Presentation:
 - Provide client with formalized document with all complete contents listed in the “Deliverables” section above.

Tools

- › VMware Capacity Planner
- › Corporate Technologies ROI calculation tools
- › Corporate Technologies storage analysis tools

Customer Benefits

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Impact

There is little to no notable impact to customer environment. The Data collection process is agent-less. It collects performance statistics every hour, less than 1% CPU draw and minimal network traffic. The tool requires Internet access to portal server.

Pricing and Scope

- › Corporate Technologies Server Virtualization Assessment is a fix pricing model
- › This service is approximately an eight week engagement for up to two Corporate Technologies consultants which includes documentation and off-site work
- › Please contact Corporate Technologies for pricing information

Our IT Services Expertise

Corporate Technologies Infrastructure Services Group architects, implements, and manages production-quality enterprise computing solutions, and provides clients with enterprise systems engineering expertise in strategic application development, data center solutions, and systems management.

We focus on areas that include email e-discovery and file archiving, virtualization, storage, dynamic data centers, data lifecycle management, plus industry-leading server, storage, networking, and security technologies.

About Corporate Technologies, Inc.

Founded in 1994, Corporate Technologies, Inc. is one of the largest providers of complete IT solutions and services to enterprises in the Northeast. We provide clients with professional services expertise in the areas of IT Strategy, Business Intelligence, and Data Centers, supported by a selective product line, support contracts and services, IT staffing solutions, and financing options.

The company is a top partner with many technology leaders including Sun Microsystems, NetApp, SAP/Business Objects, Oracle, Symantec, VMware, Juniper, and F5 Networks. Its annual investment in R&D and the company's market-leading Technology Lab allow Corporate Technologies to continually evaluate and recommend the best current and emerging technologies.

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