

We Fit Your IT Infrastructure Challenges

Applied Engineering's talent, technology and adaptability will help you conquer your challenges.



Cost-effective

We'll help you reduce your hardware acquisition costs by utilizing virtualization, increasing system utilization, and by properly planning for the future.

Manageable

We help simplify hardware and software support contracts, and also help with all of your installation and configuration needs.

Leading Brands

We work with world-class partners such as Oracle, Dell, and HP to provide broad market solutions from X86 platforms through high end UNIX systems. We'll help you find the solution that fits your goals and your budget.



Dependable

Our flash, disk and tape storage solutions are easy to manage and work with virtualized environments. Let us help select the right storage for you!

Utilization

Are you out of available storage? Our technical team will help you optimize your storage for better utilization with storage virtualization.

Leading Brands

We offer and support innovative and established storage from leading providers such as Oracle, Pure Storage, Nimble Storage, Data Direct Networks and others. Balancing performance, services and cost will provide you the best fit for your current and future storage needs.



Security

We'll help you with your security goals such as data encryption requirements and enterprise level antivirus solutions. Our team will help implement, train and support you long after the sale.

Preparation

We'll help you with disaster recovery solutions to help prepare for a loss of data from a natural disaster.

Leading Brands

We provide network solutions from leading partners such as Brocade Networks, Arista Networks, and Mellanox, for all of your high performance ethernet and fiber channel needs.

Applied Engineering is the only firm with the talent and technology to fit your project, your process and your culture.



Issue

UT Dallas started down the VDI path in 2002 when Engineering IT Manager John McConnell realized that managing 400+ physical desktops, 16 different gold images and a wide range of applications took too much of his IT staff's limited resources. McConnell recently managed the implementation of 250 Windows 7 virtual desktops accessed by VMware View, which succeeded in improving both IT efficiency and increasing student, faculty and staff service quality.

At UT Dallas, the desktops being served by the installation are also called VDIs. Their VDI environment supplies users with their VDI desktops. For the tech-heads, their implementation is based on VMware View, as compared to Citrix XenDesktop or Microsoft VDI/Hyper-V, with software from Liquidware Labs to provision and manage their desktops. View then delivers that desktop to the users or labs.

Solution

When McConnell arrived at UT Dallas in 2000 he had a desktop PC connected to all his peripherals including two 22" displays. Beginning in 2002, McConnell installed 60 Sun Microsystems Sun Ray clients in two engineering labs to replace aging Sun workstations. Those labs ran on a single large Sun SPARC-based server and presented a Solaris desktop to the engineering students. McConnell had a Sun Ray allocated to him but he connected very rarely and only via the Sun Ray client on his desk.

Later, in 2010, UT Dallas replaced their SPARC-based client server with Intel-based Blade servers running VMware's vSphere Hypervisor and View. Throughout 2012 and 2013, McConnell and his department tested new software from Liquidware Labs, VMTurbo and NoMachine and began installing Samsung's All-In-One 22? Teradici-based PCoIP thin clients. Soon after McConnell added Teridici's APEX 2800 server off-load cards in their hosts to improve video performance. Then, McConnell began to implement 10Zig's second generation dual-display Teradici-based zero clients. This allowed users to connect larger 27" monitors enabling students to have plenty of desktop space to develop their electrical and mechanical designs.

McConnell also purchased iPads (VMware View offers desktop access from many devices, including iOS and Android), and gave his laptop up to one of his staff. "I haven't looked back," said McConnell. "My main workstation includes the same two 24" monitors, but now they're connected to a thin client not much bigger than a cable modem that offers audio, high resolution dual output video, and even support for my USB devices. Applied has been a great partner to work with and they have helped us throughout this whole process. They've has done a great job of helping us evaluate different server, storage, networking and software solutions in addition to being our preferred Sun/Oracle partner for over 10 years."



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