

Bassetlaw District Council

Overview

Bassetlaw District Council is located in North Nottinghamshire; the two main areas of population are Worksop and Retford with nearly 108,000 inhabitants. The main IT department is located within the District offices in Worksop, an additional IT facility is located in Retford Town Hall with a number of smaller sites throughout the district. None of the remote sites have on site IT personnel and all IT activities are managed from the IT Department in Worksop.

Project Background

Bassetlaw District Council IT Department identified a requirement to consolidate their existing server farm, provide a secure and resilient data storage and management solution that would fulfil their projected data requirements for the next three years and be capable of further upgrades as data requirements dictated. The base hardware and software solution needed to be capable of further upgrades without the need to replace the complete system in the foreseeable future.

A further consideration was the need in the medium term to provide a Disaster Recovery facility with data being replicated to a second site at Retford.

Alpha was chosen as the system integrator as we provided the most cost effective long term solution and demonstrated both the technical expertise and provided proven solutions at reference sites with similar requirements.

“The combination of storage consolidation and server virtualisation is the biggest step forward in the 32 years I have been in the IT Industry”

-Nigel Barratt, IT Technical Services Manager

Solution

Alpha supplied and installed a NetApp FAS 270 with 8TB disk space in November 2006 which was followed by a second project based around VMware in April 2007. A third Project for disaster recovery has recently been completed.

The council is now looking to increase its return on investment even further by utilising NetApp SnapLock for archiving of their new document management system. This will utilise the existing NetApp storage infrastructure and simply requires application software.

Results

Considerable savings in management time, administering storage and servers combined with VMware quoted as providing 50% savings on power and air-conditioning costs.

Benefits

1. Ease of management
2. Ease of Storage provision
3. Cost and time savings on administration
4. No new racks, servers or storage required
5. 25% savings on air-conditioning costs
6. 35% savings on Annual Power Consumption
7. Now have a DR site which will eventually save £10,000 per year

About Alpha

Alpha is a leading supplier of data management solutions. Established in 1981, Alpha provides its UK wide customer base with the peace of mind that their data is safe.

Maximising return on your investment from data management implementations takes experience, commitment and a passion for excellence. Alpha makes it simple and affordable for customers to implement enterprise class data management solutions all through a single, experienced provider.



Platinum Partner

