Scottish Agricultural College selects DataCore SANsymphony-V

Scotland's Leading Agricultural College announces it has settled on SANsymphony-V to add performance and safeguard the NAS Clustered File Sharing capabilities inbuilt within their Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 Platform.

DataCore Software, the industry's premier provider of storage virtualisation software, today announced that its SANsymphony™-V software has been deployed at the Scottish Agricultural College *(SAC)* to fully utilise the Cluster File shares and Network Attached Storage capabilities included within their Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 platform.

This DataCore design architecture allows the system to manage both NAS file sharing and SAN or directly attached storage. The system now spans across 3 nodes; one within SAC's main Edinburgh campus and the other two some 8 miles away within the College's Research and data centre campus. While operational for less than a month, immediately the integrated combination of DataCore and Microsoft has decreased the College's reliance on costly hardware solutions and added a new level of fault tolerance and data protection to its clustered NFS/CIFS file sharing.

The key driver for change for the College came in Autumn 2010 when SAC's existing environment came to end of life; moving from a complex and costly SUN infrastructure in favour of a Microsoft Windows based platform, whilst consolidating storage and eliminating bottlenecks and disruptions

"The DataCore unified storage software layer provides the performance and functionality we require to effectively manage our current and future data requirements and has removed complexity, cost and support skills exposure from our storage infrastructure" - Ronnie McIntyre, IS Infrastructure & Operations Manager, SAC

"Some of the features that attracted us to DataCore's SANsymphony-V were the transparency and ease of management which it offered along with the flexibility

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of design configuration to allow us to build a solution that would match our performance and resilience requirements. As with many organisations we required an agile solution to be able to meet the demands of the business whether generated through strategic / legislative requirements or market opportunities." - Peter Gowler, Infrastructure Systems Architect, SAC

Unified Storage with No Costly Specialty NAS Hardware Required

DataCore's design at SAC employs dual copies of the SANsymphony-V software providing high-availability mirroring and performance acceleration layered beneath clustered file shares (NAS) integral to Windows Servers 2008 Enterprise. SAC can now employ and reutilise any standard storage device for disk space, ranging from standard hard drives to existing external disk arrays offered by the popular storage systems vendors. With the solution, splitting the file share cluster remains across two machines, while the DataCore software runs on two separate servers dedicated to managing the block storage virtualisation.

About DataCore Software
DataCore Software is the industry's premier provider of storage virtualisation software. Its software-as infrastructure platform solves the big problem stalling virtualisation initiatives by eliminating the storage-related barriers that make virtualisation too difficult and too expensive.

For additional information, visit www.cd-datahouse.co.uk/datacore or call +44 (0) 203 287 2075.