

Inmarsat Deploys Network Appliance to Consolidate Windows, UNIX and Exchange Environments

"Since deploying Network Appliance, the cost savings have been huge for Inmarsat"

NetApp[™] Inmarsat, the total communications network company, has invested in disaster recovery and business continuance solutions from leading enterprise storage solution provider Network Appliance, Inc. to streamline and consolidate its Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Exchange, and UNIX environments. The installation has been vital to Inmarsat's ongoing business continuance by maintaining availability of mission-critical applications and enabling the infrastructure to scale as the organisation grows. Deploying Network Appliance storage solutions represents the first step in Inmarsat's enterprise-wide effort to ensure access to and availability of reliable business-critical data across its infrastructure of more than 400 seats in its London office and 500 people worldwide using the Network Appliance solution. To date, the storage solutions have overcome Inmarsat's email uptime challenges and consolidated 26 Windows servers, enabling redeployment of some of these servers, as well as dramatically reducing backup windows. Inmarsat is also able to remotely access and recover servers by mirroring data between its central London and remote disaster recovery (DR) sites.Mr David Bushnell, IT operations and network manager at Inmarsat commented on the deployment, "Through our own research we became convinced the Network Appliance solution would meet our objectives and since implementing, we continue to be surprised by the extra benefits that are available to us, such as the ease and cost efficiencies of our migration from Windows NT 4.0 to 2000, as well as a simplified upgrade option for Active Directory Services. The Network Appliance mirroring capabilities have also added a number of benefits to our business continuity plans [BCP] by placing our main Oracle databases onto the system for replication to our BCP site, without the requirement of expensive fibre WAN connectivity."For Inmarsat to manage successful backup, disaster recovery and business continuance, the implementations needed to be failsafe, making tape storage a last resort. "The time needed to recover data from tape had become totally unacceptable and we were unable to provide the 24x7x365 data availability essential to our business. The Network Appliance solution has completely overcome these issues by providing rapid recovery of data and mailboxes without our ever needing to resort to tape," Bushell said. "Server proliferation has become a key business issue for many companies," said Mr Tim Pitcher, vice president Northern Europe for Network Appliance. "Managing and maintaining the huge costs associated with continuous uptime and determining how best to scale the business efficiently and economically are ongoing organisational challenges. Inmarsat is a leading company that excels in the delivery of global mobile communications and we are thrilled that Network Appliance solutions are helping address key technology challenges and implementing successful mission-critical business processes."The Inmarsat deployment includes Network Appliance storage systems using Network Appliance software SnapManager for Exchange and SnapMirror. In addition to the Windows, UNIX and Microsoft Exchange consolidation, the solution will fulfil Inmarsat's disaster recovery and business continuance strategy by mirroring data between its offices in central London and its remote DR site. In addition, Inmarsat is contemplating future Network Appliance data management solutions across its satellite operations with regards to implementing a unified storage solution across the Inmarsat corporate arena. Notes to Editors About Inmarsat Limited Inmarsat Ltd owns and operates a unique global mobile satellite network and delivers its communications solutions through a worldwide network of approximately 260 distributors and other service providers operating in over 80 countries to end users in the maritime, land and aeronautical sectors. Inmarsat Ltd has a portfolio of mobile satellite solutions, including voice, fax, intranet and Internet access and other data services. Inmarsat Ltd has more than 22 years of experience in designing, implementing and operating satellite networks. At the end of June 2002, approximately 250,000 terminals were registered to access Inmarsat Ltd's services. Inmarsat Ltd is also supported by partners in the fields of equipment manufacture, software provision and systems integration. Inmarsat Ltd is a subsidiary of Inmarsat Ventures plc. Inmarsat is the exclusive global partner of the FIA World Rally Championships Visit http://www.inmarsat.com for more information.About Network ApplianceNetwork Appliance is a world leader in unified network storage solutionsfor today's data-intensive enterprise. Since its inception in 1992, Network Appliance has delivered technology, product, and partner firsts that continue to drive the evolution of storage. Information about Network Appliance solutions and services is available at www.netapp.comNetApp is a registered trademark and Network Appliance, The evolution of storage, and NearStore are trademarks of Network Appliance, Inc. in the U.S. and other countries. Oracle is a trademark of Oracle Corporation. Microsoft is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation. 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