



Case Study

Analysis of Server Re-Allocation

A Fortune 500 client looked to decrease operating costs without sacrificing performance Court Square Data Group showed them the way.

Executive Summary

Court Square Group (Court Square) was contracted to provide two business units in a Fortune 500 client with information on server utilization based on several key metrics. This information would be used to suggest ways to re-allocate the servers to maximize their utilization without affecting the level of service experienced by the end users. The ultimate goal of this analysis and re-allocation was to decrease the total number of servers used by the business units and therefore the cost of supporting those servers.

Client Background

The client requested help in consolidating servers for two business units. The servers were aging, running old operating systems and included test, development, and production servers for many applications. Storage devices were designated and allocated to store both UNIX and NT server metric data. The challenge was to reduce the overall number of servers exclusive of validated applications.

Court Square Approach

Court Square provided the necessary project management and strategic technical consulting skills through a team consisting of a project manager and the required technical consultants fully vested in Wintel and UNIX technology. The team developed a detailed work plan under client sponsorship and provided weekly updated on project progress, key milestone achievement, and issue identification/resolution.

The first part of the engagement focused on preparing for the large-scale development of the global engineering scripts. To do this, Court Square followed these steps:

1. Set up storage devices for UNIX metric data and NT server data.

2. Identified several UNIX and Wintel servers in each data center to test the scripts and network activity as well as conduct an impact analysis.
3. Deployed the global engineering scripts to the test servers.
4. After two days of data collection, conducted the network analysis with network support of the centralized data collection on the current network infrastructure.
5. Documented the results in each data center.
6. Submitted all change requests for remaining servers and finalized the data collection deployments.
7. Analyzed and summarized performance and capacity metrics information for designated servers and provided recommendations for each server.

Court Square worked with the business units to categorize their evaluated servers by functional group. Court Square conducted the metric analysis using the model previously developed.

The Results

After initial completion of metrics analysis models and location of additional required server information, a project for 170 servers for one group was successfully completed.

About Court Square

Founded in 1995, Court Square Group provides strategic and professional consulting services to regulated industries.

