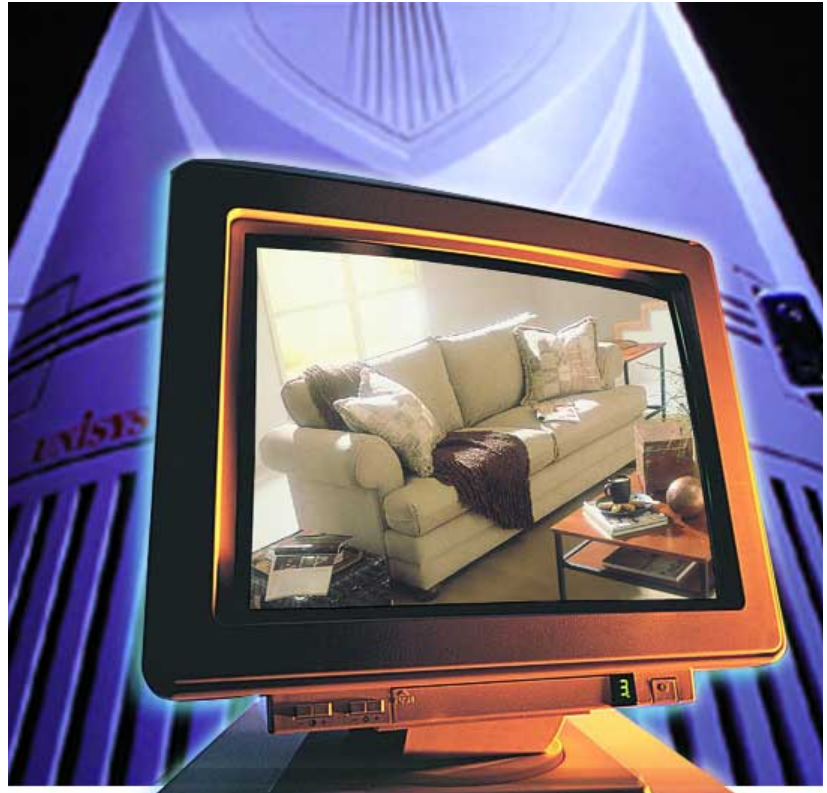


LA-Z-BOY

Positioned for success with the ES7000

UNISYS

LA-Z-BOY



Challenge

To consolidate a rapidly growing environment, provide unified access to mission-critical applications, and reduce total cost of ownership for the enterprise.

Solution

The Unisys e-@ction Enterprise Server ES7000 running Microsoft Windows 2000 Datacenter Server and an EMC storage area network.

Benefits

Reduced total cost of ownership and better data sharing throughout the enterprise, increased levels of server availability, and the flexibility to scale applications to future business needs.

Ever since it introduced the recliner to the living room in 1928, La-Z-Boy has become a household name – literally. Over the past few decades, the La-Z-Boy brand has become synonymous with the haven of comfort and relaxation where millions of people seek refuge after a hectic day. La-Z-Boy, the largest manufacturer of reclining chairs in the world, has expanded its product line in recent years to include 10 operating divisions, which manufacture an assortment of furniture for the home, business, hospitality and assisted living markets. La-Z-Boy continually seeks ways to maintain high standards of quality management across a growing number of business locations. The company has more than 50 locations across the United States and in four foreign countries.

Fewer servers lying around

As a large decentralized corporation with an “exploding” server population running its business-critical applications, La-Z-Boy realized a year ago that some behind-the-scenes IT improvement was needed. Their first priority was to implement a Corporate IT department from its headquarters in Monroe, Michigan, that would provide unified access to enterprise-wide applications across infrastructure and divisions. The second goal was to reduce the number of people needed to run the server environment. La-Z-Boy chose to consolidate 12 of its existing SQL servers running Web services and in-house file and print applications onto one centrally managed server – the Unisys ES7000. Consolidating servers helped stop the exploding server



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problem and established a method for reducing the total cost of ownership across the entire enterprise.

"La-Z-Boy has a growing technology environment," explains Gary Clark, Director of Corporate IT Services. "To provide flexible and scalable services to our 10 different operating divisions, we want to deliver a platform for enterprise initiatives to drive down the total cost for all the different manufacturing divisions, while still allowing each to maintain its individual uniqueness."



Accessibility with ease

La-Z-Boy selected the Unisys e-@ction Enterprise Server ES7000 because of the beneficial features of the server's Cellular MultiProcessing (CMP) architecture. For example, the CMP architecture helps users take full advantage of the system management and flexibility features of the Microsoft Windows 2000 Datacenter Server operating system. These advantages include the ability to add processors and reconfigure partitions as business needs change. The ES7000 has the scalability to run two 4-processor partitions, which La-Z-Boy needed and provides the ability to expand up to 32 processors in the future.



La-Z-Boy also opted to include data center consulting and support services and an EMC Storage Area Network (SAN) solution from Unisys for its Lawson payroll applications and to consolidate data and the number of physical servers in its environment. "We didn't feel that the other providers had the true shared memory design that the ES7000 had," states Clark. "High-speed messaging between partitions as well as the ES7000's capacity to share data and avoid replication between partitions were key to our server and data consolidation project's success."



Flexibility for long-lasting comfort

La-Z-Boy expects reduced costs from administrative, maintenance, and operations perspectives by providing redundant connections to data on the ES7000 and SAN technology. "With the flexibility we have gained in this new environment, we can change our configurations in an expeditious manner and attain both our goals – operational excellence and velocity," says Clark.

La-Z-Boy expects the ES7000 to last twice as long as their older, single-function servers. "The CMP architecture allows the ES7000's capacity to grow and expand with the company, making it easier to add corporate applications and move forward with our data centralization goal," says Clark. "It's our expectation that the ES7000's longevity will be 3 to 5 years longer than our older server platforms."

The ES7000's CMP architecture affords La-Z-Boy a number of value-added benefits, including significant bandwidth for application availability and direct memory access between partitions. "We saw jumping on the CMP 'bandwagon' as an opportunity to align La-Z-Boy with the industry standard of what server technology should be," asserts Clark.

Learn more about CMP-based Unisys ES7000 technology at:
www.unisys.com

Visit the La-Z-Boy Web site at:
www.lazboy.com



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