

MCHS Improves Patient Care with Pure Storage

FILLS PRESCRIPTION FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE AND 8:1 DATA REDUCTION

The Challenge: Expand Storage Capacity and Increase Performance Without Huge Capital Spend

Medical Center Health System is proud to be the most comprehensive healthcare provider in the Permian Basin. Founded over 60 years ago, it has grown from one facility into a family of healthcare providers delivering a broad range of advanced medical services to the people of Odessa, Texas and 17 surrounding counties.

In order to better support the doctors and nurses across its hospital and facilities, the IT team at Medical Center Health System (MCHS) sought a storage solution that would ensure faster response times for its rapidly expanding Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp virtual environment. In addition, they wanted to be able to place a storage array offsite at a secondary location to establish a disaster recovery plan.

The Pure Storage FlashArray helps us give our patients better care.

Brad Shook
Director of IT Operations

The Answer: Fast Performance of Pure Storage FlashArray Boosts VDI Deployment

With healthcare professionals requiring the flexibility to access data from anywhere, MCHS is in the process of migrating the entire organization onto virtual desktops. There are over 250 virtual desktops deployed and 450 XenApp users, and these numbers are growing. Currently there is a focus on transforming all of the nursing IT environments from physical to virtual so that nurses can access patient data more quickly and easily.

While expanding the VDI deployment within the existing tiered storage environment, MCHS's legacy disk-based SAN could not provide the necessary performance. A hybrid solution was proving to be too expensive. To solve the speed and cost limitations, the IT team at MCHS brought in the Pure Storage FlashArray for a proof of concept. After installing the product, they immediately experienced the management simplicity and high performance delivered by the FlashArray. "The performance of the FlashArray was incredible," said Brad Shook, Director of IT Operations at MCHS.

The Solution: Pure Storage FlashArray Performance Reduces Wait Times and Helps Doctors See More Patients

The Pure Storage FlashArray has increased the speed of the MCHS IT environment so much so that physicians can now take more time with patients instead of waiting for a system to retrieve information.

"In healthcare speed is everything. Sometimes even half of a second sitting in front of a computer can make all the difference to a patient. With the Pure Storage FlashArray running on Citrix, our doctors and nurses can boot up a system in 9 seconds as opposed to the 54 seconds it took on the old system," said Shook.

Coming from the world of traditional disk based storage, two of the biggest surprise benefits that the IT staff at MCHS has experienced are compression and data deduplication. The ability to store data past the point of the raw capacity of the device was a huge mindset change and enables the organization to store far more patient data than before without having to purchase additional capacity.

"With deduplication levels of 8:1, I can get a faster and easier-to-manage solution for the same price as 1TB of flash in a traditional storage system," said Shook.



SOLUTION

- Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp with Pure Storage FA-420
- Deployed over 250 virtual desktops and 450 XenApp users, with plans to expand

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

- 8:1 data reduction
- System boot time reduced by 6x causing patients to wait 6x less
- Simplified storage management
- Enables healthcare providers to improve patient care

SYSTEM ACCESS IMPROVEMENT

