ASPIRUS WAUSAU HOSPITAL AUTOMATES AND EXPANDS INFRASTRUCTURE WITH TURBONOMIC

Assured Performance for EMR Workloads

Eliminated Contention-Based Outages

Control Over Rapidly Growing and Complex Environment

ASPIRUS
Passion for excellence. Compassion for people.

COMPANY

Aspirus Wausau Hospital
www.aspirus.org

CHALLENGES

- *Inability to control performance with native hypervisor monitoring tools*
- *Inability to quickly respond to problems*

TURBONOMIC SOLUTION

- *Turbonomic intelligently and automatically senses changes to application demand and adjusts infrastructure supply in real-time to improve utilization and ensure service delivery*

SITUATION

Aspirus is a non-profit, community-directed health system based in Wausau, Wisconsin, delivering a wide range of health services to a diverse customer base across the state and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Aspirus Wausau Hospital, the anchor of the system, is a 321-bed facility, known for its world-class cardiovascular program and was recognized by Becker's Hospital Review as one of the "100 Great Community Hospitals" in 2013.

Jesse Kozikowski, Server Analyst of Aspirus Wausau Hospital, has more than fifteen years of experience with server management and is a seasoned professional within the VMware ecosystem. In an attempt to better manage his infrastructure, Mr. Kozikowski trialed a variety of free monitoring tools, and stumbled upon the Virtual Health Monitor.

Virtual Health Monitor (VHM) is a perpetually free, hypervisor-agnostic monitoring tool provided by Turbonomic that identifies performance, efficiency, and compliance risks across the virtual environment and distributes alerts to administrators.

"We didn't have dire problems per se, but once we saw what it could do, we wanted the real thing."
– Jesse Kozikowski, Server Analyst

Kozikowski used VHM to identify risks across Aspirus' virtual estate, which required manual troubleshooting and reconfiguring. For a full year, he managed his environment in this manner, until Aspirus underwent significant growth beginning in 2012. This growth included both an upgrade from HP servers to Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS), as well as organic growth in the number and size of virtualized workloads.

In February of 2013, Aspirus purchased Turbonomic. Deployed across two data centers on Aspirus' Wausau campus, Turbonomic controls 900 VMs running on 63 hosts.

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Above the abilities of VHM, Turbonomic not only identifies performance, efficiency, and compliance risks across the environment, but also automates the specific remediating actions required to eliminate them in real time.

TURBONOMIC AND ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS

By mandating computerized provider order entry (CPOE), the Aspirus IT staff has been able to increase adoption of Electronic Medical Records (EMR) while also meeting Meaningful Use objectives. Servicing fourteen counties in Wisconsin and a portion of Michigan, Aspirus leverages Epic to input and manage extensive data for patients across the system.

As both the virtual environment and the healthcare industry grow increasingly complex, few things have become as important as the efficient management of electronic health records (EHR). An important example of the automation offered by Turbonomic, Aspirus automates all sizing and placement recommendations pertaining to Epic workloads. Aspirus prides itself on providing care providers with the latest in information technology to enhance their ability to deliver high-quality patient care, and has been able to do so more efficiently since utilizing Turbonomic.

TURBONOMIC FABRIC INTEGRATION

Kozikowski also piloted Turbonomic's integration with UCS. During the pilot, Kozikowski was alerted to the fact that there was a cooling issue in one of the UCS blade centers, and because of Turbonomic, was able to identify exactly when and where the cooling issue started.

Kozikowski visited the specific chassis in which the warming was taking place, and by rearranging the forced air floor tiles under the blades, permitted the system to cool to its desired temperature.

RESULTS

- *Eliminated contention-based outages and degradation through accepting recommendations for optimal allocation of resources*
- *Optimized hardware purchases through What-If Capacity Planning*

"Turbonomic helped identify performance issues we hadn't even realized were holding up our system, and automate the appropriate solution."

Jessie Kozikowski
Server Analyst II
Aspirus Wausau Hospital

ABOUT TURBONOMIC

Turbonomic delivers an autonomic platform where virtual and cloud environments self-manage in real-time to assure application performance. Turbonomic's patented decision engine dynamically analyzes application demand and allocates shared resources to maintain a continuous state of application health.

Launched in 2010, Turbonomic is one of the fastest growing technology companies in the virtualization and cloud space. Turbonomic's autonomic platform is trusted by thousands of enterprises to accelerate their adoption of virtual, cloud, and container deployments for all mission critical applications.