

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR IMPROVES APPLICATION PERFORMANCE WITH TURBONOMIC



Improved Application Performance



Reduced System Alerts



Real-Time Autonomic Performance



SITUATION

The United States Department of the Interior was established in 1849 to handle the nation's domestic matters and internal affairs. Among its many responsibilities include protecting the country's natural resources and heritage, honoring its cultures and tribal communities, and supplying energy to power the future.

Eric Fahrenbrook is a Project Manager for the Infrastructure Operations Services Group, and has been with the Department since 2012. Fahrenbrook leverages VMware vSphere® ESXi™ across an environment of nearly 500 VMs and upwards of 150 Windows® virtual desktops in the Department's Denver data center. His team manages operations for the Bureau of Reclamation, providing services to more than 8,000 end-users.

With just himself and a contractor in charge of this large environment, Fahrenbrook was struggling to address all the alerts and end-user tickets he received and the constant troubleshooting that followed. Fahrenbrook initially set out on a project to identify the best "monitoring" tool, and what he found was so much more.

"Turbonomic addressed our performance issues immediately, and has kept the system healthy since."

– Eric Fahrenbrook, Project Manager

"Our financial applications were suffering from serious performance issues," said Fahrenbrook. "Once we had Turbonomic deployed, I was able not only to see that for whatever reason our servers were literally starving to death based on disk tiering, but I was able to address the issue right there. I switched the tiering profile, gave Turbonomic control over resource allocation and performance stopped being an issue. I was bought in right then and there."

COMPANY

U.S. Dept of the Interior

www.doi.gov

CHALLENGES

- Inability to control performance of mission-critical applications in rapidly expanding virtual environment with existing balancing tools
- Disruption of virtualized workloads due to resource contention and system congestion
- Inefficient use of virtual and human resources

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

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Fahrenbrook has turned on automation, trusting Turbonomic to keep his system healthy. “Some of our applications are major resource hogs, that’s the kind of thing that Turbonomic has brought under control for us,” said Fahrenbrook. “The actions to assure performance have made it easier to manage the system, even when usage is spikey and hard to predict.”

Now instead of alerts and complaints, Eric is actually receiving compliments. “I’ve received a few emails saying, ‘What happened? Because whatever it is that you changed, it’s so much better.’ It’s a nice change.”

IMPROVING TEAM RELATIONSHIPS

Another issue was inter-team productivity. “App developers would say to us, we need the moon in terms of resources, and our apps aren’t working because you haven’t given those resources to us,” said Fahrenbrook. “We were sorely lacking in being able to prove otherwise.”

“We no longer worry about the dev. team blaming the infrastructure team, or vice-versa,” said Fahrenbrook. “I can easily show them, down to a detailed level, that their applications are suffering because there are too many CPUs on this or that host, meanwhile they are only using 15% of allocated memory. With Turbonomic I’m able to offer them a real solution, not to mention it’s made working together much easier.”

TURBONOMIC SUPPORT

“Support has been stellar,” said Fahrenbrook. “All I have to do is send an email or make a quick call and they get back to me immediately with the answer to my question. The training was great as well.”

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.

RESULTS

- *Intelligently controlled virtualized workloads for improved performance across diverse environment*
- *Improved resource utilization to address performance issues of mission-critical applications*
- *Reduced time spent monitoring and manually resolving issues*
- *Improved team productivity and inter-team relationships*

“Turbonomic has helped us future-proof our environment and assess our capabilities on the spot. I know exactly if and when I need to add resources, and can avoid wasting time and money on what we don’t need. It gives us information we couldn’t have known before with some serious digging.”

Eric Fahrenbrook
Project Manager
U.S. Dept. of the Interior