

DOT FOODS PREPARES FOR GROWTH WITH TURBONOMIC



Autonomic Application Performance



Reduced User-Generated Alerts



Increased Team Productivity



SITUATION

Founded in 1960 by Robert and Dorothy Tracy, Dot Foods is now the nation's largest food industry redistributor. Offering more than 105,000 products purchased from 650 manufacturers, Dot Foods delivers to distributors in all 50 states and more than 25 countries. Headquartered in Mount Sterling, Illinois, Dot Foods has more than 4,500 employees and 11 locations.

Eric Ellerman has been with the company for more than twenty years, and as Network Manager he is responsible for the central data center at Dot Foods headquarters, providing services to all locations and employees. Over the last two decades, Ellerman and his team have made major improvements in their environment, upgrading their hardware and expanding their virtual footprint. Ellerman leverages VMware vSphere® ESXi™ 5.5 across his environment, utilizing HP BladeSystem servers, HP 3PAR StoreServ and Kaminario K2 All-Flash Storage Arrays.

During this time, the IT team at Dot Foods began a major virtualization initiative, hoping to dramatically increase their already 70 percent virtualized environment. "Our virtual environment was growing, but we couldn't measure what our current utilization was," said Ellerman. "We were upgrading our hardware, but every move we made was purely guesswork." The team needed better insight and control over the workings of their data center, they needed something that would allow them to make changes with confidence.

"Turbonomic goes way beyond alerting, it actually takes the actions necessary to keep our environment healthy and running properly."

– Eric Ellerman, Network Manager, Dot Foods

COMPANY

Dot Foods

www.dotfoods.com

CHALLENGES

- Inability to guarantee performance of mission-critical applications in a quickly expanding and increasingly complex virtual environment with existing tools
- Inconsistent Quality of Service (QoS) and disruption of virtualized workloads
- 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

DOT FOODS PREPARES FOR GROWTH WITH TURBONOMIC

“We looked at different tools from a number of vendors that would generate lots of alarms, but didn’t go beyond alerting,” said Ellerman. “What attracted us to Turbonomic was that it could take action to correct issues and prevent them from happening in the first place. We are now able to use our existing vCenter tools for monitoring and Turbonomic for automating the actions that help us get the most out of our environment.”

“We brought Turbonomic into our environment during a period of expansive growth,” said Ellerman. “Turbonomic helped us plan and prepare for nearly everything, from our transition from vCenter 4.1 to 5.5, to increasing our virtual footprint from 70 to 85 percent and our hardware refresh.” Throughout all this growth, Ellerman has used the platform to assure the performance of all mission-critical applications, impacting every aspect of the business from dispatching and supply chain management to inventory and financials.

CAPACITY PLANNING

“The planning function has been the most impactful,” said Ellerman. “When I go into the Turbonomic appliance, I’m able to look at our current capacity, see how much headroom we have and simulate additions to the environment. When I know big projects are coming I use the tool to get the specific resource requirements and actions needed to meet our future needs.”

CUSTOMER SERVICE

“I always say a product is only as good as what you can get out of it,” said Ellerman. “And the support organization at Turbonomic has been helping us get the maximum return out of our investment in the platform. They are quick to respond and are an incredible resource for me and my team.”

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

- *Autonomic platform drives real time performance across a diverse environment*
- *Realized value within days of deploying Turbonomic*
- *Maximized utilization of data center infrastructure*
- *Reduced time spent monitoring and manually resolving issues*
- *Planned for major virtualization initiatives, hardware refreshes and data center growth*

“Having Turbonomic has changed my day-to-day entirely. I used to spend a lot of time worrying about capacity. I’m dramatically less worried now because I know I am in control.”

Eric Ellerman
Network Manager
Dot Foods