



St.George Bank credits IBM UNIX® with significantly reducing its IT infrastructure costs.

St.George is Australia's 5th largest bank and one of the top 15 publicly listed companies in Australia, employing over 7,500 people.

Its national operations span all aspects of the financial industry including retail banking, institutional & business banking, and wealth management.

Critical to the success of St.George is the company's ability to build and sustain close customer relationships and deliver innovative banking solutions.

In line with this strategy, St.George have recently consolidated their IT infrastructure onto IBM System p5™ servers. The investment has enabled St.George to significantly reduce their IT infrastructure costs and deliver a flexible IT platform, from which they can more rapidly respond with unique and innovative products and services.

“Over a period of 2 years, St.George had expanded to 90 UNIX systems, many of which did not have the capacity to grow with applications. So scalable hardware became important to us. Also, as the number of servers grew, more people needed to be added.”

We went from 90 servers down to 2 IBM UNIX servers, increased overall utilisation rate to over 50%, and significantly reduced our costs based on licensing, annual maintenance and hardware.

Because scalability is possible with so much power, we have reduced the need to upgrade licensing at such a quick rate. In fact, today, we are back to a total number of licenses that we had 2 years ago ... we have probably saved the cost of the machine again in the savings we have made in licensing costs.

Moving from the older UNIX environments to AIX® was very simple and migration happened much quicker than we planned for.

In addition, we have gained enormous benefit in performance. The POWER5™ chip outperforms others by 3 to 4 times. Applications that took 8 hours have come down to half an hour.

Our bang for buck is far better.”

John Abbott, Senior Technical Specialist (UNIX), St.George Bank

THE KEY POINTS

St.George Bank:

- Consolidated from 90 servers down to 2 IBM System p5 servers
- Significantly reduced IT costs
- Increased overall utilisation rate to over 50%
- Found migration to be simple

DISCLAIMER: This customer story is based on the information provided by St.George and illustrates how this organisation uses IBM products. Many factors have contributed to the results and benefits described. IBM does not guarantee comparable results elsewhere.

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