

## Burmeister & Wain Energy A/S virtualizes IT with IBM BladeCenter technology



Claus Bering, CIO, Burmeister & Wain Energy A/S

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### Overview

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#### ■ **Challenge**

*To address the IT reliability and capacity needs of a growing energy company*

#### ■ **Solution**

*Deploying a server virtualization solution that includes IBM BladeCenter® and IBM Storage System™ DS4300*

#### ■ **Key Benefits**

*Delivers increased server reliability, improves performance, and provides flexibility and scalability for future growth*

With more than 160 years of energy industry experience, Denmark-based Burmeister & Wain Energy A/S (BWE) specializes in designing advanced Ultra Super Critical (USC) steam boilers and other power equipment for utility power stations worldwide. It is a growth business, particularly in developing countries. BWE predicts that its staff of 100-plus engineers will expand by more than 50 percent over the next three years.

#### **Virtualization solution**

In this kind of business climate, Claus Bering, BWE's CIO, and his IT staff were rapidly becoming aware of the need to upgrade their one-server-to-one-application IT infrastructure.

The company's eight HP servers were being utilized only 10 to 40 percent of the time, and despite their redundant configuration, BWE would experience major outages when a supporting server went down. BWE contacted an IBM representative who proposed virtualization as a solution that could minimize downtime and result in improved performance.

BWE replaced the HP servers with an IBM solution that included an IBM BladeCenter running on three Intel® processor-based HS21 blades and an IBM System Storage DS3400 for storage area network. With virtualization through VMware, the new hardware provides eight virtual servers in place of the eight physical servers. In addition to overseeing and implementing the new hardware, IBM consultants conducted a hands-on training session for BWE's IT employees, including training on IBM Director, an integrated suite of tools that provides advanced systems management capabilities.

## A vision for the future

“The IBM solution is now up and running, and we are happy to see that it surpasses our expectations,” states Bering. The IBM solution was in line with Bering’s mission to increase the reliability of BWE’s IT investment. With the new solution, should one of the blade servers go down, the company’s systems and applications can run on the two remaining blades until the problem has been resolved.

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– Claus Bering, CIO, Burmeister & Wain Energy A/S

The BladeCenter also provides the flexibility to accommodate more physical servers as demanded by future growth. And Bering has not hesitated in looking toward that future. “We are already taking advantage of the flexibility BladeCenter offers,” he explains. “We are currently testing a JS22 blade with an IBM POWER6™ processor. The JS22 blade will be used to support our computational fluid dynamics (CFD) team.”

## Improved reliability and performance

Bering says the virtualization solution offers efficiencies of time and helps reduce costs. He points to the provisioning of test servers is a perfect example: “We often need to set up test PCs, a process that used to take up to an hour. Now we can set one up in less

than five minutes. That can save us up to 10 hours per week. Having the freedom to set up a server without having to think about available hardware is fantastic.”

The new solution also runs faster than BWE’s former systems—a benefit that has not gone unnoticed. “After implementing the new BladeCenter, the daily users of the system definitely saw an increase in performance,” reports Bering.

The training provided by IBM has given BWE’s IT staff confidence in the use of the new solution, as well as the skills to manage ongoing updates and to add virtual servers in the future. In addition, with the inclusion of IBM Director in the new configuration, BWE gained a strong management program to monitor the infrastructure—helping to improve reliability.

The increased performance and reliability of the solution allow IT staff to focus on new development—rather than frantic server fixes—and allow BWE to forge ahead in its core business, the provision of high-tech solutions for the power industry.

## For more information

Contact your IBM sales representative or IBM Business Partner. Visit us at: [ibm.com/systems/bladecenter](http://ibm.com/systems/bladecenter)

For more information about Burmeister & Wain Energy A/S, visit: [www.bwe.dk](http://www.bwe.dk)



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