Zetafax - Server Virtualization

Server virtualization support provides the option to include Zetafax as one of a number of multiple server applications sharing hardware.

Overview

Server virtualization brings the possibility of sharing hardware between multiple server applications, each application believing it is running on its own computer, with no risk of one application causing another to fail.

Disk intensive applications can be matched with CPU heavy ones in order to get the maximum out of each piece of server hardware.

Lower running costs

Although it can be difficult to justify switching from functioning hardware, the savings to be had from server virtualization are substantial when a hardware upgrade is already required. Some businesses are even accelerating their server replacement cycles thanks to the promise of lower ongoing running costs from virtualized servers.

How it works

The server applications and their virtualized operating systems access the underlying hardware through a virtualization layer. Communications hardware is typically not supported in this virtualized world, and so any server application that needs to use such hardware requires an alternative approach.

IP messaging

IP-based communication is available to programs running in a virtualized environment. However, fax servers cannot access fax boards from their virtualized environment, and it is best to switch to using Fax over IP (FoIP) so that the IP connection can be used instead. This brings with it a need to use alternative hardware to connect to the telephone network (PSTN): typically a FoIP-capable internet gateway or IP-based telephone switch (PBX).

The switch to using IP for all electronic messaging brings other benefits, too. It's easier to configure load balancing and failover as there is no longer a need to have duplicate hardware and communications links for each server. Instead, a communications server coming on line just picks up the relevant IP connections for its electronic messaging – usually automatically.

Also, there should be no further need for planned hardware downtimes because server applications can be migrated to alternative hardware very easily. Server maintenance can now take place in business hours rather than over evenings and weekends.

Benefits

Share hardware between multiple server applications

Lower ongoing running costs for new servers

Easier configuration of failover and load balancing

Straightforward migration of fax server to alternative hardware

Supported platforms

Zetafax currently supports VMware ESX and ESXi, and Microsoft Hyper-V.

Support for new products is continually added. Please check the system requirements for the latest information

Next steps

For further information call Equisys Sales or speak to your reseller. Alternatively visit www.equisys.com to find out more.

System Requirements

For details of supported platforms and other system requirements, please visit:

www.equisys.com/zftechinfo

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