



American AgCredit

Money for Agriculture

NEWS RELEASE

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Ag Firm Goes Green with IT Updates

American AgCredit Reduces Electrical Consumption Equal to Five Homes

(Santa Rosa, CA) Aug 20, 2008 – The nation’s 7th largest Farm Credit cooperative, American AgCredit, announced today the successful implementation of its virtual server network – resulting in the equivalent of removing five houses from the power grid.

Aiming to reduce capital and operating expenses, strengthen security, ensure business continuity and go green, the project involved consolidating 17 physical servers onto three physical servers through software that converts physical servers to virtual servers via partitioning that server into multiple virtual machines – each with its own virtual processors, memory, networking, and storage.

By effectively simulating the performance of 17 separate physical servers, the project achieved reductions in overall power consumption, cooling requirements, and rack space utilization, resulting in an estimated annual reduction in electrical consumption of 57,218kWh (Kilo Watt Hours). *[For comparison, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, the average home in America uses 11,000kWh a year.]*

Ron Carli, American AgCredit’s President and CEO, points to American AgCredit’s track record of managed growth, both internally and externally. “Our continuing strength lies not only in our customer base and the diversity of financial programs we offer, but also in our internal systems. As we grow, we’re aiming to do it smartly and efficiently.”

In addition to energy savings, the virtualization technology provides many additional benefits including faster deployment of new servers and limiting the need to purchase additional hardware. It also simplifies disaster recovery and provides a faster and simpler testing environment for new software. Further upgrades to software on the servers can now be performed easily and rolled back quickly if there are problems.

According to the Project Leader and Network Engineer Margaret Lyon, further virtualization of servers is planned for the near future.

(more)

“By better utilizing our existing hardware, we will not only reduce electrical consumption and cooling costs, we’ll also save a tremendous amount of rack space in an already overcrowded server room,” she says.

Facilities and Equipment Administrator Holly Scherette, also involved in the planning and implementation of the project, which was launched in January 2008, reports that the firm received an Energy Efficiency Measures rebate of \$3,348.80 from PG&E for converting the system.

About American AgCredit

Founded in 1916, American AgCredit is part of the cooperative nationwide Farm Credit System. American AgCredit specializes in providing financial services to agriculture and rural customers throughout California and Nevada as well as to capital markets customers in 27 states across the nation.

Financial services provided by American AgCredit include production financing, short and long term loans, real estate loans, equipment and vehicle leasing, lines of credit and the Young, Beginning and Small farmer program.

For more information about American AgCredit’s financial services, call 1-707-545-1200 or visit the website at www.agloan.com for a listing of offices by region.

More Information

For additional information about virtualization technology and this project, please visit the following websites:

- [Two and half minute video explaining virtualization](http://www.infoworld.com/video/archives/2007/02/server_virt.html)
http://www.infoworld.com/video/archives/2007/02/server_virt.html

- [PG&E information](http://www.pge.com/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hightech/hteeincentives.shtml)
<http://www.pge.com/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hightech/hteeincentives.shtml>

- [VMware – technology provider](http://www.vmware.com/solutions/consolidation/)
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