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COVER STORY

A SMART PATH TO VIRTUALIZATION

By Jeanne Feldkamp, Deb McDonald, Kay Kerr,
and Tom Kolnowski

As server virtualization continues to transform the data center, enterprises have some critical decisions to make. How will they migrate to a fully virtualized environment? How should the IT infrastructure be configured for maximum business benefit? Dell is partnering with other industry leaders to build a flexible, industry-standard approach that helps simplify the transition.

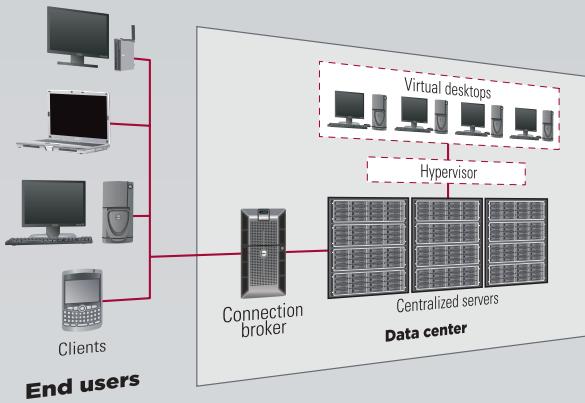
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BEST PRACTICES

GETTING STARTED WITH MICROSOFT WINDOWS SERVER 2008 HYPER-V ON DELL SERVERS

By Ranjith Purush, Sitha Bhagvat, Ryan Weldon,
Brent Douglas, and David Schmidt

Microsoft® Hyper-V™ technology provides a simplified virtualization platform integrated directly into the Microsoft Windows Server® 2008 OS. This article provides an introduction to Hyper-V virtualization, discusses the overall architecture and underlying technologies, and offers guidance on best practices for deployment on Dell™ PowerEdge™ servers.



FLEXIBLE COMPUTING PAGE 26

ADVANCING END-USER PRODUCTIVITY WITH CENTRALIZED CONTROL

By Jeremy Ford and Roberto Ayala

Supporting an increasingly distributed workforce can be a huge drain on IT resources. By enabling a customized end-user experience with server-based control of data, settings, and applications, the Dell Flexible Computing Solutions suite of products and services is designed to simplify management, enhance security, and lower total cost of ownership.

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By Richard Thwaites

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By Andrew Gilman and William Urban

Dell EqualLogic Auto-Snapshot Manager/VMware Edition enables administrators to quickly and easily create hypervisor-aware snapshots of virtual machines—helping simplify data management, enhance scalability of data protection and recovery, and increase application performance.

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By Thomas Cloyd and Romy Bauer

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By Greg Lyon

The new Dell/PAN System combines Dell PowerEdge server technology with advanced Egenera® management software in a simplified, customizable system—providing a highly available, dynamic, flexible platform for next-generation data center virtualization.

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Symantec® Backup Exec™ 12.5 software, part of the new Dell PowerVault™ DL2000 – Powered by Symantec Backup Exec, is designed to provide powerful, simplified backup and recovery for VMware virtualized environments.

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By Shefali Chinni, Omar Sultan, and Nelson Stewart

To help support the I/O requirements of multiple virtual machines in server consolidation and virtualization scenarios, Dell, Intel, and Cisco have teamed up to offer organizations a virtualization-tuned 10 Gigabit Ethernet SFP+ direct attach solution.

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Dell PowerEdge blade servers and Dell EqualLogic iSCSI SAN arrays help the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania quintuple computing power while simplifying management and reducing costs.

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Dell PowerEdge blade and rack servers provide the foundation of a high-density virtualized infrastructure at ALERT Life Sciences Computing—supporting simplified management, high performance, and rapid deployment.

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A high-performance, energy-efficient solution based on Dell PowerEdge blade servers and a Dell EqualLogic iSCSI SAN array provides Optimal Blue with an anticipated 50 percent improvement in application response time.

96 Re-creating the Big Bang

Powerful Dell PowerEdge blade servers deployed in just nine days provide high levels of performance and efficiency to help put the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY) research center on track for a major scientific breakthrough.

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POWERING BUSINESS PRODUCTIVITY WITH DELL OPTIPLEX DESKTOPS

By David Schweighofer

The new Dell OptiPlex™ family of desktop computers is designed to deliver high performance, flexibility, and reliability together with enterprise-class security and enhanced manageability in an environmentally conscious way—helping organizations to maximize employee productivity, simplify management, and lower total cost of ownership.



Dell OptiPlex 960 desktop

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DELL POWER SOLUTIONS ONLINE EXCLUSIVES



Dell TechCenter: Collaborative Resources for Microsoft Hyper-V, Virtualization, and More

By Todd Muirhead

The Dell Enterprise Technology Center (TechCenter) provides a central collaborative environment offering a range of IT resources, from blogs, chats, wiki pages, and discussions to white papers, video demos, and links—now featuring virtualization, Microsoft Hyper-V technology, and other timely topics.



Virtualizing Microsoft SQL Server 2005 on Dell PowerEdge Servers

By Todd Muirhead

To demonstrate how the Microsoft SQL Server® 2005 database platform can perform in a VMware virtualized environment, Dell engineers tested its performance when scaling virtual resources and when migrating virtual machines between physical hosts.



Rethinking the Dell PERC 6 RAID Controller

By André Dumouchelle, Joe H. Trickey III, and John Seward

The Dell PowerEdge Expandable RAID Controller (PERC) 6.1 firmware release introduces multiple features designed to enhance reliability, performance, and ease of use to help organizations meet the challenges of ongoing data growth.



An Overview of Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2008 on Dell Servers

By Perumal Raja P. and Manjunath Narayanan

Designed specifically to help meet the needs of small businesses, the Microsoft Windows® Small Business Server 2008 platform provides an all-in-one server solution offering cost efficiency, simplified data security, and enhanced productivity.

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Streamlined Troubleshooting with the Dell System E-support Tool

By Shruthi Jayatheertha, Lokesh S. Balu, and Ajaykumar C. H.

By automating and consolidating hardware, software, and firmware information into a single comprehensive report, the Dell System E-support Tool can help streamline troubleshooting and accelerate problem resolution for environments using Dell PowerEdge servers.



Maintaining Dell Platforms with Dell Technical Updates

Recent firmware updates for Dell PowerEdge components and Dell PowerVault storage can help improve system functionality and minimize potential problems.



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