



CASE STUDY

Greenpeace UK – Non Profit Organisation

The Project

Spring 2004 – Replace ageing storage system

Greenpeace UK lacked satisfactory storage to support an increasing number of servers. The existing Novell-based infrastructure did not have capacity or scalability to increase storage, thus a more updated solution was required.

The Requirement

New storage for four servers, two Linux-based and two Windows 2000 Server-based.

- The original requirement was to provide a 1500Gb storage solution. However, ArdentA were able to provide very cost-effective infrastructure allowing Greenpeace UK to purchase 2Tb for future expandability.
- It was essential the solution could be easily managed and that additional storage could be added without interruption to service.
- Greenpeace UK wanted to be able to add more chunks of storage of a similar size in the future, i.e. add another 2Tb then another 2Tb etc..
- A new backup solution is to be proposed in order to allow for the new storage to be quickly and reliably backed up. Ideally the solution could integrate into the existing backup manager software.

The Solution

Based upon Greenpeace UK's requirements and the budget that was available, ArdentA chose the **IBM FAST600 Storage Server** as the most appropriate storage solution.

The reasons for this are:

- The FAST600 Storage server could support up to 2Tb in 3U of rack space, providing an instant solution within one physical product to the requirement.
- Without additional licensing, it is possible to add up to a total of 8.2Tb of storage with the installation of EXP700 expansion cabinets.
- Using the Turbo option, which is an upgrade to the FAST600 Storage Server, it is possible to add up to 16.4Tb of high-speed fibre channel storage.
- All the management tools are Java-based, allowing for easy management of the storage server using graphical based tools.
- An IBM Ultrium Tape library with two fibre channel drives was specified in order that the storage could be backed up over the SAN without disruption to the live service. This solution was completely compatible with the existing backup software.

The Results

The installation and configuration of the storage solution was completed smoothly, and onsite training and handover to Greenpeace UK's technical staff were delivered successfully.

Greenpeace UK have since been able to allocate its desired storage to their servers and are in the process of completing the migration from their Novell-based storage to the new SAN.

“ ArdentA's extensive knowledge of Linux and storage networking made them an ideal partner to help us to address our storage issues. The SAN they recommended shows that they understood our needs well. The solution ArdentA has implemented gives us the reliability and scalability as our storage needs grow too. ”

Steven Thomson, Finance and IT Director.
Greenpeace UK.

