



Test & Computer Services Ltd

Validating Application Performance when Extending Data Centres

Case Study



Challenge

A well known high street retailer was looking to move their replication data centre away from their main data centre. Their current setup consisted of both data centres being situated in the same building with a high risk to business continuity in the event of a major issue. They had the opportunity to move to a new data centre that was 65km away from the main data centre. The challenge was to prove that the customers applications would work reliably over the distance and to test to see if they could extend the distance even further.

Solution

GCH deployed a storage protocol analyser and a delay emulation device between the key systems that would be connected over the fibre optic links between the data centres. Initially the connections were monitored without any delay to give a baseline of the response times and performance of the applications. The systems were then monitored while increasing the delay on the links in steps to determine the effect of the latency on the applications. The delay was increased past the 65km requirements to test for future configurations and to test for diverse rooted fibres that may be longer than the 65km between the data centres.

Outcome

After carrying out a week of testing and fixing some non latency related minor issues that were discovered when analysing the links, it was confirmed that the applications worked with the added latency and would keep working even if the distance was increased up to 100km. The client was satisfied that the proposed solution would work and proceeded to plan the move to the new data centre.

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24 Years of Experience