

Measurement Specialties, Inc.

Measurement Specialties is a global designer and manufacturer of sensors and sensor-based systems. The company's products are used as embedded devices by original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) or as stand-alone sensors for test and measurement to provide critical monitoring, feedback and control input. Measurement Specialties' sensors measure temperature, pressure, force, position vibration and humidity, and the company's technology is at the heart of many everyday products, such as airplanes, household appliances, and medical equipment.

The Situation

Measurement Specialties' world-class engineering team consists of engineers in the United States, Germany and China who work collaboratively on product development and design every day. In fact, these far-flung engineers frequently work on AutoCAD designs for the same product line. It's critical that engineers can upload and download these large design files quickly to-and-from servers in the United States. But Windows file sharing was so slow over the wide area network that some engineers requested an FTP (File Transfer Protocol) server for file sharing.

The company wanted to dramatically cut file transfer times but did not want to replicate the data across three continents. Replicating data in three places would be too expensive, time-intensive to deploy and complex to manage.

Measurement Specialties also monitors its sales and operations performance very closely every day. A large amount of data from the company's ERP system is updated, replicated and delivered to the entire senior management team twice a day. The timely delivery of this information is critical because the company must make key business decisions based on the latest data. However, due to the very large files, the process was much slower than end users desired.

Several years ago, Measurement Specialties was suffering from degrading network performance, experiencing multiple days of downtime quarterly, from a particular carrier. The company turned to Virtela to deliver an MPLS network with DSL backup solution featuring very high availability. Given Virtela's track record of excellent performance and customer support, Measurement Specialties decided to work with Virtela to help solve slow application response time issues.

"I didn't realize that I'd need a seatbelt; everyday tasks like mapping drives and querying folders on remote servers are smokin' fast—easily 25 times faster with Virtela's application acceleration service.

Virtela has radically improved one of our most critical business applications, which puts the latest sales and operational data in the hands of the management team twice daily, shaving the process by two hours a day. That's clearly accelerating our ability to make key business decisions."

- Bob Andreini, Global Director of IS/IT, Measurement Specialties



Industry Focus

Manufacturing

Size

2400 employees; Headquartered in Hampton, Virginia with US offices in California, Ohio, and Massachusetts; Six international sites in China, Ireland, France, Germany, and Switzerland.

Challenges

Slow response times in sharing files among engineers in different countries working on designs for the same product line. Long daily process to deliver key management reports worldwide.

Solution

Virtela's cloud-based application acceleration service

Bottom Line

Virtela improved file sharing response time from two minutes to 5 seconds for the engineering team and shaved two hours off the process to update, replicate and deliver sales and operations data to the management team. This improved overall business productivity and decision making.

Virtela Solution

Virtela initially provided its cloud-based application acceleration service, delivered from the Virtela network, to support Measurement Specialties' end users in the US and Europe. The service, which did not require deployment of any application acceleration devices at the offices, was activated within 30 seconds. End users noticed response time improvements almost immediately.

Measurement Specialties saw a 25x improvement in response times for file sharing applications, including day-to-day copying of files back and forth, mapping drives and navigating folders. End users experienced their typical two-minute process reduced down to five seconds. This has significantly improved the product development and design process within the engineering team. Although the greatest pain was felt within the engineering team, other groups in the company also now benefit from faster application response times for intra-company collaboration and communications.

On top of that, the management team now makes decisions more quickly based on the most up-to-date sales and operations performance information. Business intelligence data is more readily available and delivered on time.

Based on the immediate improvements in many aspects of its business between the US and Europe, Measurement Specialties has decided to activate Virtela's cloud-based application acceleration service for the rest of its offices around the world.

The Bottom Line

The service has improved the productivity of engineering teams working in different regions of the world and has allowed the management team to make decisions more quickly based on the latest information. Additionally, many other organizations in the company are now able to more efficiently communicate and collaborate on a daily basis. For \$5 per day per branch office, Measurement Specialties can activate the service for desired locations within minutes and achieve up to 25X faster application response times for key applications, while eliminating the need to deploy, manage and maintain expensive application acceleration devices at their offices. The service also eliminated the need to replicate and house data in various offices around the world.

Who We Are

Virtela, the world's largest independent managed services company, offers award-winning managed services including MPLS and IP-based Virtual Private Networks (VPNs), Security, Application Acceleration, Remote Access, and Infrastructure Monitoring and Management, to some of the most competitive multinational companies in the world. Offering services in 190 countries, Virtela integrates and manages best-of-breed service providers through partnerships with 500+ carriers, to address the unique needs of its customers.

Virtela is headquartered in Denver, Colorado, with Global Network and Security Operations Centers in Denver; Mumbai, India; and Manila, Philippines. For more information, please visit www.virtela.net.