

Belgian Royal Meteorological Institute Gains Infrastructure Reliability with Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization

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Belgian Weather Forecaster Selects Red Hat Virtualization Technology and Achieves Cost Savings and Minimizes Downtime

RALEIGH, N.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Red Hat, Inc. (NYSE: RHT), the world's leading provider of open source solutions, today announced that the Belgian Royal Meteorological Institute (KMI) has migrated to Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization. This deployment is expected to provide considerable cost savings by optimizing the efficiency of the organization's existing servers.

KMI provides weather forecasts by analyzing large amounts of meteorological data. Due to the nature of its services, KMI relies heavily on its IT environment and therefore requires a highly available, around-the clock infrastructure. An advocate of open source solutions, it had been a satisfied Red Hat Enterprise Linux customer for six years before deciding to virtualize its systems and applications on Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization.

The aim of the project was to optimize the organization's use of technology resources and simplify the execution of activities, including systems management, testing developments, migration and new applications introduction. KMI chose Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization due to the benchmark results achieved with the solution's Kernel-based Virtual Machine (KVM) hypervisor technology.

Migration to Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization will allow KMI to optimize the use of its IT resources, lower costs and minimize server downtime. The virtualization platform supports DNS servers, DHCP, webmail, an FTP production server for exchanges with KMI customers as well as a server for the Zimbra Collaboration Suite, which provides email, calendar and contact management.

"Thanks to Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization, we expect to not only be able to realize good cost savings, but also enjoy a very high standard of IT performance, in compliance with our strong open source views," said Emmanuel Strobbe, systems engineer at KMI. To migrate to Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization, KMI had to bid farewell to several UNIX and Microsoft Windows servers. Its new Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization for Servers platform supports KMI's virtual servers that run on Red Hat Enterprise Linux and Microsoft Windows software, such as Windows login-server, Windows domain server with Active Directory and an antivirus server for Windows updates. The hardware consists of a cluster of four Dell PowerEdge R710 servers with EMC NX4 storage.

The switchover to a virtualized infrastructure will be executed in phases and should be completed by the end of 2012. The operational team already uses the new software for weather prediction and experimentation.

Additional Resources

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Red Hat, Inc.
Kerri Catallozzi, 919-754-4268
kcatallo@redhat.com

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