

IT Infrastructure Case Study



Ensuring System Availability For Mission Critical Applications For A New England Based Hospital

The Customer

Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, Connecticut, is a premier provider of integrated healthcare services in northeast Connecticut. Serving the region for more than 120 years, the hospital offers acute and general medical and surgical care, including a 24-hour emergency department.

For over 20 years, Day Kimball hospital has relied on Innovative Information Solutions to provide technology solutions to address its IT challenges.

The Situation

Day Kimball utilized custom applications on a single IBM Power system. The system was required to be continuously available for all medical staff to access the critical information they need 24X7. They realized that having only one production server was a single point of failure.

The Challenge

Among the many challenges that Day Kimball Hospital faced included difficulties in performing maintenance on their applications, system hardware and completing backups within an acceptable backup window. It was a challenge to find the downtime necessary to upgrade their Power (AS/400) firmware, IBM i operating system

and vendor applications to maintain supported levels. It would be catastrophic should the system fail or be compromised.

“The people at Innovative are always there for us,” said Odile Romanick, Chief Information Officer. “Every time we upgrade our system, we rely on their expertise to make sure we have the storage and computing capacity we need. Whether it’s researching a technical issue with IBM or repairing a disc, they take care of us.”

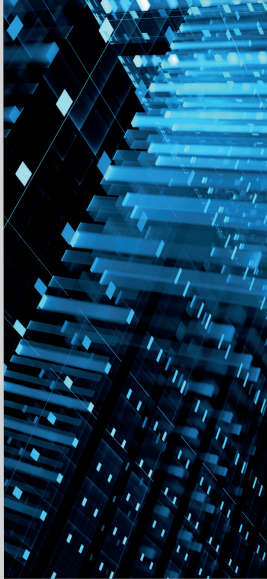
The Solution

After careful evaluation of Day Kimball’s environment and specific requirements, Innovative designed a High-Availability Disaster Recovery solution involving a second IBM Power System (AS/400) and Vision Solutions MIMIX Application Level Mirroring software. The Vision Solutions Software was tuned to take advantage of newer features that will help Day Kimball maintain a role-swap ready state, allowing switching applications from the source to the target system.

“Our IT Infrastructure is replicated-real-time. We have zero loss of data and our down time is in minutes if we have to failover,” Odile Romanick, CIO.

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Odile Romanick, Chief Information Officer



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The Results

Day Kimball now has the most robust business continuity solution, allowing rapid role-swap between production and target HA/DR systems, enabling IT staff to perform periodic role-swap test and system and application maintenance. There's zero data loss and exposure RPO is zero. Day Kimball has always been able to failover and has never experienced a disruption. Customer now maintains all their O/S firmware and applications at the supported levels. They do their backups off their target HA box so that their main production system is available 7x24.

The High-Availability and Disaster Recovery solution that was installed 20 years ago is still in place today. The hospital has upgraded their Power Systems technology 4-5 times over the last 18 years and uses this solution for all migrations, and conversions to new technology seamlessly with no disruption in operations. They are now in compliance and they have the reporting capabilities to demonstrate that they can failover and this is performed on an annual basis.

About IBM i:

IBM i is a fully integrated and optimized combination of relational database, trusted object-based security model, integrated networking and the storage management capabilities required to run business applications. The integrated SQL standards-compliant DB2 for i database includes advanced database management utilities.

About MIMIX DR:

MIMIX DR replicates changes in real time to a recovery server residing on-site, off-site, or in the cloud. In the event of an outage, mission-critical data and applications are protected right up to the point of failure and are fully recoverable.

About Innovative

Since 1989, Innovative Information Solutions has been providing best-in-class technology solutions to companies and organizations in a broad range of industries. We partner with the most trusted and leading-edge technology providers to deliver customized, cost-effective solutions in the areas of IT Infrastructure, Application Performance, Business Continuity, and Security.



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