

Nutanix and Mellanox Empower KNX's Human Resource Solutions Platform

Background

Business expansions, from adding branch offices to offering online solutions, are always challenging for the IT organizations of small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs). They have neither the scale to utilize the complicated and expensive IT solutions that are developed for large data centers, nor the resources and expertise to deploy, optimize, and manage such IT solutions. To remain viable and compete effectively in the Web 2.0 era, though, SMBs require an IT solution that is optimized for their size, is easy to use and maintain, delivers reliable performance, and is scalable for future growth.

KNX found itself in just such a predicament. Its business has been expanding rapidly in recent years, thanks to continued growth of the Chinese economy. Today, KNX has grown into a company with more than 400 employees in 10 cities in China. Their client base is geographically diverse and keeps growing. Providing different human resource-related solutions to meet the varied needs of its clients, KNX has developed a complete suite of HR services in selection, deployment, development, and retention of talent. Moreover, it has also started offering HR-focused online solutions, such as its eHR platform.

To support its current business needs and future growth, KNX has evaluated many solutions for its data center, and ultimately selected the Nutanix hyperconverged infrastructure solution with Mellanox Ethernet switches.

The Nutanix and Mellanox Solution

Nutanix delivers invisible infrastructure for next-generation enterprise computing, storage, and virtualization. By natively converging server and storage resources into the turnkey Xtreme Computing Platform (XCP), which can fit into a single rack, Nutanix has helped small IT organizations like KNX to consolidate their workloads into a simplified data center and gain predictable performance, linear scalability, and cloud-like infrastructure.

To deliver guaranteed performance and simplify network management, the Nutanix scale-out storage solution provides a dedicated storage network fabric. Mellanox's 12-port SX1012 10/40 Gb/s Ethernet switches are the perfect top-of-rack switches for the Nutanix appliance. Able to fit two side-by-side in a 1U rack space and offering full line-rate performance without packet drops and various configuration options for the port count and link speed, SX1012s are easy to deploy and manage and greatly reduce the networking complexity, especially when scalability and enterprise-class reliability are required.

KNX found the Nutanix and Mellanox solution advantageous in the following areas: simple architecture, fast deployment, ease of management, linear scalability, optimized rack space utilization, and unmatched reliability. In particular, KNX was highly appreciative of the excellent technical support and problem solving capabilities of Nutanix and Mellanox in quickly resolving issues during the deployment.

"The Nutanix appliance with Mellanox Ethernet switches provides us with a high performance hyper-converged storage solution. The small footprint and easy deployment of the overall solution also improves our IT efficiency greatly."

Mr. Specter Jiang,
IT Manager, KNX



Key Benefits

- Data center in a rack for small and medium-sized IT organizations
- Hyperconverged architecture, eliminating underutilized infrastructure silos and requiring up to 80% less space and 50% lower CAPEX
- Easy to deploy, manage, and scale, making the underlying IT infrastructure invisible
- Predictable performance for any workload, ready to deliver new applications and services
- Simple configuration and management interface

Conclusion

Nutanix and Mellanox deliver a much-needed turnkey solution for small and medium-sized businesses. This all-in-one solution greatly simplifies KNX's human resource solutions platforms and enables KNX to focus on delivering the applications and services that power their customers' businesses. At the same time, it allows KNX to achieve great reduction in TCO and to ready itself for future business growth.



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