CASE STUDY

IBI Builds its Financial Services DR Site with the Nutanix and Mellanox Solution

BACKGROUND

Israel Brokerage and Investments (IBI) is Israel’s leading independent investment house, servicing private and institutional clients in both local and international markets. Over the years, IBI has developed IT systems to support a range of services from trading and investment banking to various other financial products. With a flourishing business, IBI needs to keep pace with business demands while running IT systems efficiently.

IBI completed a merger with Migdal Capital Markets in July 2015, at which point they had to move certain services to a new remote backup and disaster recovery (DR) site, and update their cloud infrastructure. The new corporate-wide DR site is located in a data center in Herzliya. It has served as the backup and disaster recovery site for the VDI environment operating on the company’s main site in Tel Aviv. At both the primary and DR sites, IBI sought to ensure business continuity and regulatory compliance, while also reducing costs, by replacing expensive legacy systems with a more efficient and scalable platform.

THE NUTANIX AND MELLANOX SOLUTION

IBI surveyed the latest technologies and solutions, and confidently selected the Nutanix enterprise cloud solution integrating Mellanox high-speed networking products. The remote site build-out was completed by DnA IT.

A Nutanix 16-node cluster was used to build a complete virtual environment, including databases, application servers, and end-to-end trading platforms. To support high speeds and high efficiency, Mellanox 10GbE switches are used to connect Nutanix appliances. Validated as Nutanix Ready for Networking, the Mellanox 12-port SX1012 switches are a perfect fit for Nutanix deployments such as the one at IBI.

The SX1012 switch provides the right port count for small Nutanix cluster of 4-8 nodes and can easily expand to 48-port 10GbE connections by using breakout cables. Its unique half-width form factor allows the user to install two SX1012 switches side-by-side in a 1RU rack space to achieve high availability (HA) with optimal rack space utilization. The SX1012 switches are also closely integrated with Nutanix in automated networking management, which eliminates manual operations for network configurations and VM migrations.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hyperconverged platform to consolidate the complete infrastructure into a single rack
- Scalable infrastructure growing seamlessly with business needs
- Flexible and high performance Mellanox switching to fast backup and access with no disruption to business
- Highly availability and native data protection ensuring business continuity and completely meeting regulatory compliance requirements
- Consumer-grade simplicity and fully automated management for maximal operation efficiency

“...the VDI environment is very critical infrastructure and therefore it was important for us to choose a technology that combines reliability and performance... Mellanox’s advanced and fast technology was integrated in this project, to ensure that high availability and maximum performance is maintained at all times”

Meir Toby
VP of Information Services
IBI
With the Nutanix and Mellanox solution, the entire infrastructure consumes less than half a rack, a quarter of the power consumption, dual lines of communication at the same cost, and dramatic performance improvements, compared to the expensive legacy system which contained two server cabinets full of servers, storage, backup and networking components.

“The VDI environment is very critical infrastructure and therefore it was important for us to choose technology that combines reliability and performance,” said Meir Toby, VP of Information Systems, IBI.

“The Nutanix platform combines virtualization, compute, and storage with management, monitoring, and operational intelligence. It reduces complexity, saves physical space and lowers energy & heating costs, while enabling growth without sacrificing performance or security.”

Toby added, “Mellanox’s advanced, high-speed networking technology was integrated into this project, to ensure that high availability and maximum performance would be maintained at all times.”

As stated by Oshri Sharon, CEO of DnA IT, “Nutanix and Mellanox together form an ideal, distributed web-scale solution designed that prevents bottlenecks and time delays. As a result of the project, IBI now has a full DR site characterized by high performance, cost savings, fast communication, ease of maintenance and data protection options.”

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**About IBI**

The investment house IBI is one of the oldest in Israel, with managed assets totaling NIS 40 billion. Which provides tens of thousands of clients with portfolio management services, provident fund management, study funds, mutual funds, institutional brokerage, independent trading on the stock exchange, underwriting and a range of services for institutional customers and corporations. To learn more, visit: [www.ibi.co.il](http://www.ibi.co.il)

**About Mellanox**

Mellanox Technologies is a leading supplier of end-to-end Ethernet interconnect solutions and services for enterprise data centers, Web 2.0, cloud, storage and financial services. More information is available at: [www.mellanox.com](http://www.mellanox.com).

**About DnA IT**

The company focuses on marketing and implementing infrastructure solutions for enterprise data centers based on “key” projects, including all hardware, software and professional services for organizations in Israel. The company is a representative of Nutanix in Israel. [www.dna-it.co.il](http://www.dna-it.co.il)

**About Nutanix**

Nutanix delivers invisible infrastructure for next-generation enterprise computing, elevating IT to focus on the applications and services that power their business. Using Nutanix, customers benefit from predictable performance, linear scalability and cloud-like infrastructure consumption. Learn more at [www.nutanix.com](http://www.nutanix.com) or follow up on Twitter @nutanix.