| **Customer:** Manufacturer, First-Aid Products | **Location:** New Jersey | **Industry:** Manufacturing |

Server Upgrades Improve Productivity at Manufacturing Facility

Client Background

For more than 25 years, this client has been offering tried and trusted emergency burn care products for the pre-hospital treatment of burn injuries. As the world market leader, they were first to introduce the water-based gel technology that revolutionized emergency first aid for burns. Products are sold to businesses and directly to consumers. The client was looking to upgrade existing systems to reduce errors and improve performance on the plant floor.

The Challenge

The client was using production servers that were outdated, resulting in poor performance, frequent errors and failing drives. In addition, servers were running on an unsupported operating system that was no longer eligible for updates and security patching. The operating systems were running un-supported/outdated production software that was in need of upgrade.

Our Solution

BMT replaced all the physical servers in production with one, high-capacity Hyper-V server. Remaining servers were converted to virtual systems which significantly reduced costs.

The chosen Operating System for the Host server was Windows Server 2012 R2 Data Center which allows for unlimited licensing on guest servers. This reduces the cost of purchasing separate operating systems for individual servers and allowed us to migrate older operating systems, a requirement in upgrading their production software.

Security was increased by properly setting up users and security groups in Active Directory, replacing the unsupported firewall with a new UTM device which includes Content Filtering, Gateway AV, IPS and other security features. An SSL VPN for up to 52 simultaneous connections replaced an outside facing Terminal Server. Group policies for passwords, lockouts, screen savers and mapped drives were implemented.

Benefits

The client saw immediate improvements on speed and performance with the client-server based applications. The increased performance improved productivity and drastically reduced employee com-plaints and repair requests. The server updates were also pre-requisites for production software up-dates which provided the client with additional capabilities within shipping, inventory, sales and sales tracking.