


Planet Tunisie builds an e-mail infrastructure that scales at best price-performance, based on Sendmail Mailcenter™ on Linux-based HP ProLiant servers.



"Going from an open solution with non-structured data to a centralised e-mail system based on LDAP was a complicated migration. The Sendmail Professional Services team made sure the HP ProLiant servers running Linux were designed and configured to adequately handle the anticipated volume. The results have been great – these systems have never gone down."
Mohamed Garbouj, General Deputy Manager, Planet Tunisia



Challenge

- Smooth migration of existing open source e-mail system avoiding any single point of failure for all 28,000 subscribers
- Ability to scale user base to 50,000 e-mail users
- Facilitate future system enhancement (e.g. implementation of new services such as web mail and filters)
- High availability - delivery of superior service, even during system maintenance, upgrades and large-capacity expansions
- Integration of billing system into e-mail infrastructure
- Professional installation and support
- Cost-effectiveness - maintain a competitive per-user cost

Solution

- The solution comprises industry-standard HP ProLiant servers and server clusters, built on Sendmail Mailcenter, the complete, proven, end-to-end e-mail application software solution that routes incoming and outgoing messages to the correct destinations. LifeKeeper for Linux from SteelEye was deployed as the software managing these clustered systems, providing the highest availability. Comprehensive installation and support services enabled internal knowledge transfer.

Results

- Beyond the main objectives of simplified support and administration of the e-mail infrastructure, Planet Tunisie gained a stable, reliable platform with highest security including anti-virus scanning at the gateway and anti-spam filtering at three levels.
- The Sendmail e-mail infrastructure on HP servers delivers a dependable business e-mail service and the ability to easily grow in future.
- The combined solution of HP and Sendmail provides a smooth migration path with minimal risk. ProLiant servers provide high performance with the fastest and most reliable I/O subsystems. Sendmail software powers over 60% of all e-mail domains.
- This reliable solution offers best price-performance under Linux.
- In just 13 days, Planet Tunisie achieved a new system that can scale easily to meet future needs and support 50,000 users. In the same period, it also converted existing data and simplified its management tasks.



Planet Tunisie's new e-mail backbone needed to scale easily with the anticipated growth from 28,000 to 50,000 e-mail subscribers, and to allow for easy implementation of new services such as web mail. In addition to maximum security, high availability would give Planet Tunisie the competitive edge. The open industry-standard platforms and Linux-based technological solutions provided by Sendmail, SteelEye and HP fulfilled the requirements at a minimum cost per user.

Prepare for future growth

Planet Tunisie is one of the two private Internet Service Providers in Tunisia. The company was founded in 1997, and provides Internet access by telephone lines (RTC), analogue and digital leased lines, X-25 lines and lines RNIS. The business focus of Planet Tunisie is Internet access for private subscribers. The current user base is above 20,000 customers and is rapidly growing. After 6 years in the market, Planet Tunisie has achieved massive market share: it has 60% of the home user market and 70% of the corporate market.

Easy administration with maximum security and control

Planet Tunisie was the first national ISP in Tunisia. From inception, the company used Sendmail open source to build its infrastructure. The complete infrastructure was created in-house and based on open source. The system was founded on BSD V7 for mail boxes and a Sendmail open source-based relay server to manage e-mail traffic and provide POP3 e-mail access to its customers.

With Planet Tunisie's rapid growth, high availability and professional services became business critical. A user base of 28,000 e-mail accounts and anticipated growth to 50,000 customers drove the decision to re-build the

infrastructure. The old system was difficult to configure and featured poor stability with frequent outages. In addition no commercial services or support were available, and the infrastructure did not allow integration with the billing system. Additionally, the infrastructure was not scalable for future growth.

Planet Tunisie was looking for a stable, proven solution with high availability and wanted to ensure knowledge transfer from professional services providers to its own personnel for implementation, migration and ongoing support activities.

The chosen solution was a combination of industry-standard servers from HP, Sendmail software solutions and high-availability SteelEye capabilities, delivered by Sendmail and SteelEye professional services providers.

The complete migration took only 13 days.

Planet Tunisie's choice of HP and Sendmail enables Tunisia's leading ISP to offer extended services to its customers while maintaining a cost-effective, scalable infrastructure.

The solution allows Planet Tunisie to maintain market leadership by delivering high-availability e-mail services to customers, along with transparent billing and messaging management.

Hardware

HP ProLiant DL380 G3 packaged cluster – a simple and affordable cluster solution providing high performance and availability:

- Dual next-generation DL380 G3 servers plus the HP Modular Smart Array 500 or MSA1000
- Pre-packaged, cost- and space-effective fixture offers the most affordable Microsoft® Windows®, Netware and Linux® clustering solution
- High-availability uptime for business-critical applications – ideal for remote locations or rack-mount environments running alongside other ProLiant servers
- For more information visit: www.hp.com/server/proliant/highavailability

HP ProLiant DL360 servers – industry-standard, easy-to-use servers providing essential availability and concentrated, 1U power for space-constrained installations:

- Lead the scale-out environment and handle greater workloads – well suited to web applications and hosting, Citrix and terminal services, and high performance technical computing applications
- More intelligent fault resilience per U than ever before – includes optional hot-plug (1+1) redundant power
- Impressive performance and unmatched features in a compact, reliable 1U design

Sendmail - the full power of e-mail

Designed for carrier-scale environments, Sendmail Mailcenter unifies administration, user access and messaging components to make e-mail systems smarter, more convenient to use and easier to manage and scale. Mailcenter is a combination of Sendmail products and services intended for the most rigorous messaging environments. It supports heterogeneous mail, offers accessibility from inside the firewall and across the Internet, and scales from thousands to millions of users requiring minimum administrative and financial resources. What's more, it adds scalability and security by protecting the message server from direct exposure to the Internet through the inclusion of the Sendmail Message Access Proxy, an SSL-enabled message store multiplexor. User provisioning, administration and preferences are centralised on an integrated LDAP directory driven by graphical applications included in the Sendmail Directory Service.

Combined strengths for Planet Tunisie

The chosen solution was a combination of industry-standard servers from HP, Sendmail software solutions and high-availability SteelEye capabilities, delivered by Sendmail and SteelEye professional services providers. The complete migration of 28,000 subscribers took only 13 days.

Planet Tunisie's choice of HP and Sendmail enables Tunisia's leading ISP to offer extended services to its customers while maintaining a cost-effective, scalable infrastructure. Planet Tunisie moved smoothly to the next stage of growth by migrating existing data and enabling scalability.

Partnership that results in lower TCO

Sendmail, HP and Intel® have come together to provide the only complete messaging solution based on the leading industry-standard platform, with world-class Internet mail products and unmatched mail expertise. Implementation on ProLiant servers under Linux results in highest performance at a fraction of the cost of RISC-based systems. The result is maximum performance, security and reliability, with impressive price-performance.

Contact Information

HP
www.hp.com/linux
www.hp.com/server/proliant/highavailability

Sendmail - The full power of e-mail
www.sendmail.com

Planet Tunisie
www.planet.tn

You can get more information on how you can profit from and work successfully with Hewlett Packard from a customer adviser in your nearest HP branch, or in the internet at <http://www.hp.com>.

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