

CASE STUDY

COUNTRY OR REGION:

United States

INDUSTRY:

Energy, Utility

JACKSONVILLE ELECTRIC AUTHORITY – HP SERVER CONSOLIDATION AND DATABASE UPGRADE

CLIENT SUMMARY

JEA, established by the City of Jacksonville in 1895, is the largest community-owned utility in Florida and the eighth largest in the United States. With multiple generating plants and net generating capability of 2,361 megawatts, the JEA electric system currently serves more than 360,000 customers in Jacksonville and parts of three adjacent counties. JEA's water system serves more than 240,000 water customers and 186,000 sewer customers, or more than 80 percent of all water and sewer utility customers in our service area.

CHALLENGE

JEA was faced with the problem of running their applications on unsupported versions of Oracle RDBMS, which Oracle no longer provided patches for. Also, the support costs for their HP 9000-series servers were very high, and these costs were scheduled to increase significantly over the next few years due to the aging hardware.

SOLUTION

The Idea Enterprise Architect (EA) Team was assigned the task of investigating the best way to consolidate the HP servers to reduce support cost and to determine how best to upgrade the Oracle databases without impacting the applications. A study was conducted that identified which applications could run on a newer version of the Oracle RDBMS without actually upgrading the applications that interfaced with it. The study also drafted a road map plan for JEA on how best to upgrade those applications that could not interface with a newer version of the RDBMS.

The HP consolidation portion of the project looked at how best to consolidate the servers and which databases and applications to shift around. The end result was a \$400,000 annual saving in support cost and several retired servers.