

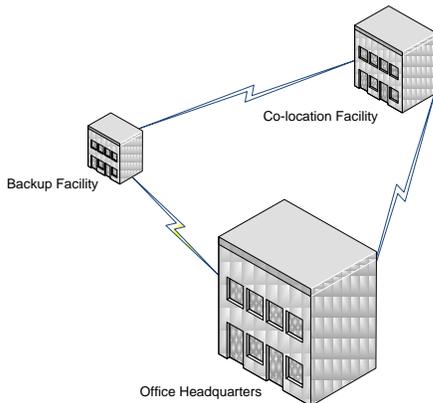
Case Study - Data Center Migration

Premise

Integrated Management Services (IMS) was contracted by a large law firm located within the Northeast to migrate its primary data center from the Firm's Office Headquarters to an offsite co-location facility.

Project Challenges

- Install a 10 Gbps dark-fiber ring to ensure business continuity and facilitate data replication between the Firm's headquarters, backup site, and co-location facility
- Manage vendors to complete implementation of key storage and network appliances
- Formulate extension application, NAS, SAN, and file server migration plans
- Develop resource schedules, while accounting for team interdependencies and constraints
- Migrate 173 servers, both physical and virtual, as well as the Firm's storage appliances, without disrupting business operations or end user performance



Business Challenge

Delivering applications to business end-users is the core service driving all IT departments. The demand for the efficient and effective delivery of IT assets is constant, but firms' budgets are routinely slashed as businesses cope with current economic conditions.

In order to combat the increasing dissonance between these conflicting forces, the Firm sought to migrate its primary data center. Re-locating assets to a co-location facility substantially lowers operating costs over time, as savings associated with power and space compound. In addition, migrating to an offsite location, as opposed to housing critical assets within firm headquarters, provides the added benefit of increased business continuity assurance.

However, planning for the installation of a private fiber ring, migration of data center components, and allocation of firm-resources, while accounting for application interdependencies, provided an insurmountable challenge for the firm to complete in isolation. IMS delivered the necessary expertise to facilitate the project's execution.

Solutions

- Managed network of vendors to successfully complete the on-time installation of the dark-fiber ring and new appliances
- Detailed performance baselines were established per business-critical application to ensure an optimal end-user experience
- Developed migration plans that outlined detailed roll-back procedures in the case of a failed application move
- Managed the allocation of over 100 firm resources for the successful execution of the project
- Successfully re-located infrastructure and further consolidated environment by identifying and retiring legacy appliances

Results

The primary data center was re-located successfully on time and within budget. The Firm's end users experienced minimal impact as 0 user support calls were reported.