Server Strategy

Server Strategy Overview
Your organization’s server strategy forms the backbone of your information domain. The servers you select are contingent on the type of data you require to manage your business, and how you need to present, store, and retrieve that data.

Server performance and scalability are a function of unique workload characteristics that can vary significantly across operating systems, processors, memory, and other internal components. A server strategy seeks to identify the correct components to match the characteristics of your organization’s information requirements.

Server Strategy Benefits
A server strategy can greatly increase utilization and efficiency of your organization’s IT environment by correctly matching server characteristics with workload characteristics. This optimizes the allocation of server resources, and is a prerequisite for server consolidation and server virtualization.

Ensuring that workload characteristics are fully understood and deployed through an effective server strategy ensures that subsequent efforts to optimize performance through consolidation and virtualization complement an optimal environment, rather than mask its inefficiencies.

Offerings
- Workload characteristics assessment
- Operating systems assessment
- Server components assessment

OUR PROVEN METHODOLOGY
We help you arrive at an optimal server strategy by working with you to understand your workload characteristics, and translating that into the right operating systems, processors, cores, threads, cache, input/output components, and power requirements.

We further help you understand differences that range from monolithic and dedicated environments to multi-tiered and multi-threaded environments. Through our review, plan, design, implementation and operations phases, we align your business goals to ensure the right people, processes and technology are in place.
Success Stories

INTERNET BASED RETAILER
Summary
Client needed a server strategy that would allow them to meet their forecasted growth over the next three years in a seamless and non-disruptive fashion.

Challenge
Client was experiencing constant growth and was forecasting an inability to meeting user demand with respect to client experience and response times within two years. They needed a server strategy that would ensure their ability to continue serving their client base in accordance with their existing service metrics.

Insight Solution
Insight incorporated advancements in server technology that will allow the client to increase their business, significantly, on their existing footprint through consolidation, and potentially achieve the same goal on a reduced footprint with a combination of consolidation and virtualization.

NATIONAL MANUFACTURER
Summary
Client maintains an intranet application portal for their employees on a UNIX environment that is nearing end-of-life and consumes significant operational costs. The client wanted to increase computing resources while reducing footprint, operational, and capital costs.

Challenge
The client is operating their application platform on an aging server infrastructure and has not been able to take advantage of advances in server and portal technology that may be able to help them achieve productivity gains and cost reductions.

Insight Solution
Insight’s strategy presented the client with options that included consolidation on servers across processor and operating system architectures, along with virtualization options. With Insight’s assistance, the client was able to plan for a full assessment of their server and portal options, providing them with the ability to perform an ROI analysis on each.

REGIONAL ENERGY COMPANY
Summary
The client operates Oracle on a UNIX platform and wanted to ensure they were deploying most optimal combination of server and operating system in their environment.

Challenge
Client was evaluating server/OS platforms to run Oracle and had very specific I/O and performance criteria. They needed a vendor that could analyze their current environment, benchmark Oracle on various UNIX platforms, and develop and deploy a solution that makes sense.

Insight Solution
Insight’s strategy assisted the client in determining requirements and standards with which to evaluate various UNIX platforms. Insight also assisted in validating benchmark criteria for selecting the most optimal combination of server and operating system for Oracle, and leave room for future growth of the application. Insight’s position as a vendor neutral provider of hardware, software, and integrated solutions benefited the client in that they could select an optimal operating environment, based on objective criteria, and free of vendor bias.

ABOUT INSIGHT
Insight is a technology solutions provider serving global and local clients in 190 countries. Today, thousands of clients, including more than 80 percent of the Global Fortune 500, rely on Insight to acquire, implement and manage technology solutions to empower their business. Insight provides software and licensing services globally. In addition, we offer a comprehensive portfolio which also includes networking, hardware and value added services for our clients in North America and the U.K. We are aggressively expanding our global capabilities by introducing new offerings, including hardware and services, to meet emerging needs for our clients worldwide.