

Case Study



Enhancing local council infrastructures

Client: South Worcestershire Local Government Partnership

Industry: Local Government

Partner: EqualLogic & VMware

“Of all the solutions considered, the EqualLogic deployment ADA proposed was clearly the best match to our requirements and the most cost-effective.”

Mac Chivers
ICT Manager
Malvern Hills District Council

At a glance

● Challenge

Under pressure to reduce direct operational costs and enhance their disaster recovery capability, three local councils looked for an affordable SAN-based solution to their diverse and expanding storage requirements.

● Solution

ADA developed a SAN architecture based on EqualLogic PS series arrays, with three tiers of storage providing optimum support for transactional applications, file storage and archiving, and replicated DR data.

● Results

- Flexible replication, recovery, scaling, and load-balancing
- The ability to add further capacity without downtime or disruption
- Unlimited rights to use all software features included

Business challenge

Like all councils, Malvern Hills District Council, Wychavon District Council and Worcester City Council were under pressure to reduce direct operational costs, as well as enhance their disaster recovery capability. In much the same way as commercial organisations are turning to server and storage virtualisation to address such challenges, the councils were seeking an

affordable SAN-based solution to their diverse and expanding storage requirement. Together, they set out to find an IT partner who could specify, configure and implement a solution that would work separately for each Council yet also give them the option to develop joint strategies in the future.

ADA solution

As an EqualLogic preferred business partner, ADA developed a SAN architecture based on EqualLogic PS series arrays.

- Three tiers of storage provide optimum support for transactional applications, file storage / archiving and replicated DR data
- Following a rapid, non-disruptive deployment, each council now manages its own SAN infrastructure based on EqualLogic storage arrays and VMware virtualisation software
- Data replication between two geographically separate locations within each council ensures high-availability and resilience

Results

- Flexible replication, recovery, scaling, and load-balancing
- Straightforward scaling across different generations of hardware to cater for future needs
- Further capacity can be added without downtime or disruption
- Unlimited support and rights to use all software features included within the hardware purchase and maintenance

Technical overview

- Three EqualLogic PS arrays deployed at each site
- RAID levels of 10, 50 and 5, combining performance, resilience and capacity
- Automated performance optimisation
- Data protection with up to 512 snapshots per volume
- Data replication between arrays provides resilience
- Integration with Symantec backup solution



EqualLogic is a leading provider of iSCSI-based, all-inclusive storage area network (SAN) solutions that enable businesses – from Fortune 500 to small and mid-size organisations – to realise the economic benefits of consolidated, self-managing storage.



VMware has established a global network of best-of-breed technology partners to provide the market with virtualisation solutions that meet customer needs and solve the most challenging customer problems. It delivers solutions that help businesses grow and innovate, while simplifying computing infrastructure and minimizing total cost of ownership (TCO).



ADA is one of the UK's leading technology services companies with an enviable reputation for technical excellence, reliability and industry-leading standards. We work closely with manufacturers and partners who represent the best in the IT industry to source solutions that offer lasting advantages. Similarly, our consulting and field engineering services are based on an approach that considers your business environment as well as your IT infrastructure, ensuring that your IT delivers clear business benefits.