

Delivering custom materials-handling solutions

With increasing regulations and ever-changing business requirements, Nol-Tec needed a simpler, more agile way to keep pace with the evolving demands of customers across a range of industries.



Manufacturing

Worldwide

Business needs

With an IT infrastructure plagued by underperforming servers and inconsistencies across platforms, Nol-Tec Systems opted for VMware Cloud Foundation running on PowerEdge servers for its software-defined data center. This provides the power, flexibility and adaptability to meet customer demands and deliver innovative solutions for a range of needs.

Solutions at a glance

- Dell EMC PowerEdge R740xd servers
- VMware Cloud Foundation
- VMware vSphere
- VMware vSAN
- VMware NSX
- VMware SDDC Manager
- VMware Workspace ONE

Business results

- Exceptional agility and consistency to adapt to changing business requirements
- Less time on routine management, and more on strategic projects
- Exponentially faster performance for the most demanding needs
- Software-defined data center deployed in days, rather than weeks

More

time for value-add projects



Exponentially

FASTER

performance



Software-defined data center deployed in

DAYS rather than weeks



Nol-Tec Systems' customers are constantly dealing with changing government regulations and engineering requirements. EPA standards. OSHA regulations. Sustainability concerns.

A leader in pneumatic bulk materials-handling and other complex environmental solutions, Nol-Tec must continually evolve and innovate to meet customer demands in heavily regulated industries ranging from food to power and pharmaceutical to biomass. Unfortunately, Nol-Tec had an aging IT infrastructure that couldn't deliver the necessary performance and wasn't consistent across platforms. In addition, as a relatively smaller business with limited resources, Nol-Tec also needed a timesaving, simpler way to keep its IT infrastructure up to date.

"We had various management interfaces for the different platforms," says Dustin Plank, IT manager at Nol-Tec. "This made it hard to adapt to our organization's needs. Keeping up with business demands was difficult—we needed more up-to-date systems that would allow our team to continue to perform well."

Engineered for agility and consistency

After reviewing various options, Nol-Tec turned to VMware Cloud Foundation powered by Dell EMC PowerEdge servers. Cloud Foundation is a cutting-edge cloud platform that combines all the components needed to deploy and manage a software-defined data center (SDDC) in a standardized hyperconverged architecture.

This lets Nol-Tec take full advantage of modern server, storage, networking and security with VMware's vSphere, vSAN and NSX—for exceptional agility, consistency and simplicity.

"VMware Cloud Foundation provides a private cloud with all the capabilities of a public cloud, but it runs in our own software-defined data center," Plank explains.

To power its Cloud Foundation environment, Dell EMC PowerEdge R740xd rack servers were the obvious choice. With an ideal mix of performance and scalability, PowerEdge servers offer a flexible, adaptable architecture to keep pace with growing workloads.

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Dustin Plank,
IT Manager
Nol-Tec Systems

"We chose Dell EMC PowerEdge servers because they have the best integration in the industry with VMware Cloud Foundation," remarks Plank. "It was a no-brainer—we knew we'd never have to worry about incompatibility issues on the hardware level with firmware and drivers."

Nol-Tec currently relies on PowerEdge servers to run its general workloads and, together with VMware Workspace ONE, to support its Horizon-based virtual desktop infrastructure—which hosts CAD workstations for engineers as well as desktops for admin and sales staff. Additional R740XD PowerEdge servers located at their headquarters are used for backup and a DR location.

Often, Nol-Tec's engineers start projects with customers at remote sites. "The IT requirements our employees need to do their jobs are made possible by our VMware Cloud Foundation and PowerEdge servers," Plank notes.

The VDI solution—running on Cloud Foundation and PowerEdge servers—was also indispensable as the company responded to the COVID-19 outbreak while maintaining service and support for their valued customers.

"Our Horizon/Workspace ONE VDI solution, Cloud Foundation and PowerEdge servers played a critical role in allowing our company to be 100% remote," Plank continues. "Our Executive Team is very happy with our investment in the technology."

Big benefits for a small organization

One of the key benefits is how Cloud Foundation's integrated software helps Nol-Tec accomplish big things, thanks to simplified implementation and management.

With the assurance of VMware Validated Design, all updates have already been vetted and approved when Nol-Tec receives them. This eliminates the time that Plank's small team would otherwise spend sifting through technical documents to ensure that a particular version will work properly.

"Essentially, we can just push a button and roll out the updates," comments Plank. "This enables our people to spend less time updating and managing systems, and more on strategic projects across the organization."

In addition, Cloud Foundation and PowerEdge servers level the playing field. "As a small organization, we get a private cloud in our own data center, but with the ability to move to the public cloud when we choose," Planks relates. "Plus, with Cloud Foundation on-premises, we'll be able to utilize the same interface to move workloads to a public cloud and efficiently manage both the public and our private cloud."

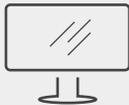
"Best of all, our new IT infrastructure runs exponentially faster on PowerEdge servers," concludes Plank. "It's like comparing a Ferrari to a Pinto."

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