



ERP performance increased by using all-flash storage

IDEC Corporation, a business that manufactures and sells factory automation and control devices and equipment such as switches and safety-related products, implemented Dell EMC PowerMax 2000 as the new storage infrastructure for its ERP system. This has resulted in broad-based improvements in the storage infrastructure's reliability, availability and performance, while also supporting current applications and operating systems



Manufacturing

Japan

Business needs

IDEC was using an aging infrastructure for its basic system. It became necessary to install a new storage system that would support current basic operations in a stable manner, maintain availability and reliability, and increase storage infrastructure performance by at least 20 percent.

Solutions at a glance

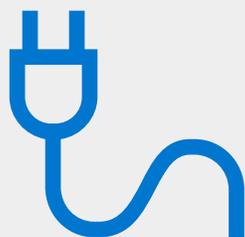
- [Dell EMC PowerMax 2000](#)

Business results

- Broad-based reduction of batch processing time. Processing that took 90 minutes now takes 30 minutes
- Reduction of backup time from 3 hours to 1.5 hours by using Snapshot function
- 80% reduction in rack space needed for the storage system
- Smooth replacement of storage infrastructure implemented while minimizing basic operating system downtime

51%

Reduction in storage system power usage



3x faster

Batch processing time reduced from 90 minutes to 30 minutes



“It is very important that the basic system continues to operate in a stable manner. This means that our first priority was to preserve reliability while continuing to use the current ERP application. Therefore, it was imperative that the transition be implemented without changing the existing operations structure and with a minimal amount of downtime. I believe that we were able to meet these challenges by choosing the Dell EMC PowerMax 2000.”

Kazuyuki Nishimura
Japan IT Center
Infrastructure Planning and Operations Service Team
IDEC Corporation



Making HMI and safety solutions into pillars of business

IDEC will celebrate its 75th year in business in 2020 and, looking toward this benchmark, will be focusing its energies on improving the quality of global management, strengthening coordination between companies within the group, and expanding its global business even further. IDEC aims to grow its mainstay Human Machine Interface (HMI) solutions while also accelerating the development of other mainstay, safety solutions, into a new paradigm for the interface of humans and machines, ‘Safety 2.0.’ IDEC will continue to transform as a unified, worldwide IDEC Group.

The Oracle ERP system, Oracle E-Business Suite (EBS), has been used by IDEC to support its business developments, including the HMI and safety solutions. This ERP system has been applied to all basic operations except human resources. As a new storage system had to be implemented, IDEC acquired the Dell EMC PowerMax 2000 all-flash array with NVMe. It is imperative that the storage system be able to facilitate high-speed batch processing alongside online transaction processing.

As Kazuyuki Nishimura, Infrastructure Planning and Operations, Japan IT Center, IDEC, explains: “PowerMax had just come out, so we were uncertain if we would be able to inspect the system using the actual machines, but Dell Technologies responded to our needs quickly and provided us with the environment within which we could test the actual machines using actual data. Doing so, we were able to confirm the I/O performance and availability directly, which is what led to our decision to implement PowerMax.”

Batch processing speed increased by 3 times, backup time reduced by half

The results of implementing PowerMax were soon evident. First, the time needed for batch processing was reduced by two-thirds: what used to take 90 minutes to process now took 30 minutes. Nishimura explains the effect this had on the business.

“The performance of our previous system only allowed for this batch processing to occur two to three times per day, but after implementation of PowerMax, this rate increased to four to five times per day. This allows us to plan our delivery schedule in advance and thus use our time more efficiently.”

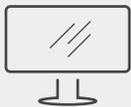
In terms of backups, the time it takes to run a cold backup has shrunk from 60 minutes to 2 minutes, so that in terms of overall time, what used to take over 3 hours now only takes 1.5 hours—almost half the time.

“We use PowerMax’s Snapshot feature. Online backup rates have increased as well. Now we can conduct them on a daily basis, improving the overall continuity of the business.” Nishimura says.



In this way, the implementation of PowerMax at IDEC Corporation has allowed not only the processing performance of the basic operating system to improve, but has also helped reduce the cost and labor of operations management.

“The responsibilities of the information systems department will broaden greatly. Therefore, we see great significance in the implementation of PowerMax in terms of the resources it will allow us to secure for this,” explains Nishimura.



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