



Infrastructure for the oil and gas industry

Cegal data centers supply vital support to the global oil and gas industry with Cisco servers.

“Client projects can require a big jump in compute levels. Now, we are able to serve them much faster. We have the framework in place and just add extra blades.”

Eirik Madland, Operations Director, Cegal

The volatility and challenges of the oil and gas market require rethinking, innovation, and technology to ensure cost efficiency and optimize available resources. Cegal assists customers in developing business value through technology. With three operating data centers in Norway, and one data center in the Netherlands, Cegal relies on Cisco to insure secure and stable operations.

Challenges

- A need for improved self-service
- Concentrate management in a single stack
- Cut administration time and overhead costs

Cegal is a leading provider of IT and geoscience solutions to the oil and gas industry. It has over 340 employees, of which more than 50 are highly-skilled geoscientists. This unique combination of expertise puts Cegal in an excellent position to fill the gap between IT and exploration and production.

Focussing on stable and secure solutions, Cegal delivers systems that are highly reliable. The data center infrastructure is part of its core and needs to be state-of-the-art, easy to deploy, and managed at a reasonable cost level.

The Cegal infrastructure was stable, however it was time consuming and resource demanding to maintain. For example, patches and upgrades had to be done manually. “It affected everyone,” says Dag Ydstebø, senior IT Architect in Cegal.

Case Study | Cegal

Size: 340 employees

Data Center Location: Norway and the Netherlands

Industry: Oil and Gas



Cisco UCS ensures an easier way of working with touch-of-a-button, problem-free management.

Solutions

- Cisco UCS blade servers for improved performance and agility
- Cisco UCS Director for automated IT operations
- Cisco UCS rack mounted servers for high-end VDI workstations with 3D graphics

Ensure manageable data centers

Over time Cegal has used Cisco® data center's products, such as switches and routers. The upgrade included installing Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®) blade servers. To have Cisco provide integrated management across the complete data stack was an important advantage.

"Cisco got skilled technicians to answer our questions," says Jan Livar Espeland, Senior IT Architect. "The products were easy to understand, but we did need clarification on some matters and Cisco provided top notch customer service."

Improve control with an unbroken view

Cisco UCS Director and Manager is easy to control and provides an unbroken view across all data centers in Norway and the Netherlands. It further supports 750 IT applications and 120 clients.

With Cisco UCS Director it's easy to apply upgrades at the push of a button, moving server workloads without touching the hardware. From day one Cegal experienced improved control, especially when performing a live migration of 1500 virtual servers from the old infrastructure to the new Cisco system.

Improve ways of acquiring and installing

The servers were installed with help from Cisco partner Datamatrix, and Cegal made use of Cisco Capital® financing for the purchase.



Each server hosts up to **80** virtual machines.



Results

- Able to deploy new servers quicker, from two weeks to three or four hours
- Significantly reduced fault rates, from several a week to three or four a year
- Reduced space and power needs by approximately 66 percent

In a better position to assist clients

Due to large-scale customer growth, before the upgrade it used to be a struggle to get systems in place within a reasonable timeframe. The new infrastructure reduced these challenges.

“Today operations are automated, and it’s easier to deploy services and move server workloads. The result gives us a better position to assist our clients,” says Arve Osmundsen, Business Development Manager in Cegal.

Moving to self-service

Cegal plans to offer self-service hosting in the future. Product development teams often need virtual machines for a short period. With Cisco this is now achievable.

Products & Services

Data Center

- Cisco UCS B200 M4 Blade Server
- Cisco UCS C240 M4 Rack Server
- Cisco UCS Director

For More Information

To learn more about the Cisco solutions featured in this case study, visit www.cisco.com/go/datacenter

For more information about financing Cisco technology, visit www.cisco.com/go/capital

Information about Cegal can be found at www.cegal.com



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